

# Athens County Commissioners



15 South Court St.  
Athens, Ohio 45701  
(740) 592-3219  
Visit us at our website:  
[co.athensoh.org](http://co.athensoh.org)

JoAnn Rockhold  
Clerk/Admin. Assistant  
[jsikorski@athensoh.org](mailto:jsikorski@athensoh.org)  
Telephone (740) 592-3292  
Fax (740) 594-8010

Charlie Adkins  
[cadkins@athensoh.org](mailto:cadkins@athensoh.org)  
Chris Chmiel  
[cchmiel@athensoh.org](mailto:cchmiel@athensoh.org)  
Lenny Eliason, MPA  
[leliason@athensoh.org](mailto:leliason@athensoh.org)



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WHO Secretariat of the Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities,

We are writing to express Athens County, Ohio's commitment to joining the WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. Our community is dedicated to creating an environment where people of all ages, especially older adults, can thrive.

Since joining the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities in 2020, Athens County has worked closely with residents and local partners to identify key priorities. Through community surveys, listening sessions, and outreach, we developed the Age-Friendly Athens County Action Plan, which outlines concrete goals, including:

- Promoting resources that support aging in place and advocating for age-friendly housing policies.
- Improving access to transportation through better information and expanded options.
- Strengthening community and health services to ensure that older adults feel supported and engaged.

Athens County is also committed to learning from and sharing with other communities. Through recent partnerships with global peers, including Slovenia and Japan, we've explored innovative approaches to aging that we're excited to apply locally.

We are committed to following the stages of the Age-Friendly Cities process—assessing needs, implementing solutions, and evaluating progress—while continuing to engage with residents and partners along the way.

Thank you for considering Athens County's application. We look forward to collaborating with the Network to make our community an even better place to grow older.

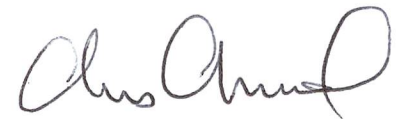
Signed,



Lenny Eliason, President



Charlie Adkins



Chris Chmiel

