

LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

Great Places for All Ages



January 10, 2019

Dear Clayton Kaskell, Chairman Windham Town Council

Town of Windham 8 School Road Windham, Maine 04062

Congratulations to the Town of Windham, Maine for becoming the 318th community to enroll in the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities. AARP's age-friendly network encourages states, counties, cities, towns and rural areas to prepare for the rapid aging of the U.S. population. The network encourages communities to take action and pay increased attention to the environmental, economic and social features that encourage greater age integration and diversity and create a community that supports residents from the cradle through retirement.

Launched in April 2012, the AARP Network of Age Friendly Communities is an independent affiliate of the World Health Organization's Age Friendly Cities and Communities Program, an international effort launched in 2006 to help cities prepare for the growth of the older adult population.

With the age-friendly program, AARP helps participating communities become great places for people of *all* ages by adopting such features as walkable streets, better housing and transportation options, access to key services, and opportunities for residents to participate in community activities. While many communities are adopting these policies without joining the AARP Network of Age Friendly communities, the network provides a structured process to guide community change and helps serve as a catalyst to educate, encourage, promote and recognize improvements that make communities supportive for residents of all ages. Importantly, enrollment in the network provides member communities with the resources to become more age-friendly by tapping into national and global research, planning models and best practices.

You can access AARP's resources in many ways:

- Visit and bookmark our website (AARP.org/Livable)
- Use the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities online tool kit (<u>AARP.org/agefriendly</u>)
- Subscribe to the AARP Livable Communities e-Newsletter (AARP.org/livable-subscribe)

For additional information and support as you move through the age-friendly communities process, contact Bill Armbruster, AARP Livable Communities Senior Advisor, at warmbruster@aarp.org or 585-729-1850.

We look forward to working with you and welcome you to the AARP Network of Age Friendly Communities.

Nancy A. LeaMond

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