



LIVABLE COMMUNITIES  
Great Places for All Ages™



## NEWPORT – AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY INITIATIVE GRASSROOTS COMMUNITY ACTION SPONSORSHIPS

### BACKGROUND

AARP is a national membership organization for people 50 and older with a Vermont state office located in Burlington. AARP is dedicated to enhancing quality of life for all as we age. We lead positive social change and deliver value to members through information, advocacy and service. In April of 2012, AARP launched the Network of Age-Friendly Communities. This initiative is aimed at encouraging states, cities, towns, and rural areas to prepare for rapid aging through increased attention to the environmental, economic, and social factors that influence the well-being of older adults living in the United States.

As our population ages and people stay healthy and active longer, Newport City must adapt to meet the needs of its aging population. The AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities program helps participating communities become great places for all ages by adopting such features as safe, walkable streets, better housing and transportation options, access to key services, and opportunities for residents to participate in community activities. Learn more about AARP's Network of Age Friendly Communities by [clicking here](#). Well-designed, livable communities promote health and sustain economic growth. And they make for happier, healthier residents – of all ages.

The Community Action Sponsorship is a component of the Newport Age Friendly Initiative for grassroots organizations and local leaders to engage in policy change that supports the creation of Newport as a great city for older adults. AARP's participation and investment in Newport advances our efforts to help people live easily and comfortably in their homes and communities as they age, and encourages older citizens to take a more active role and have their voices heard. Initiatives focus on areas such as transportation, walking, housing, caregiving, community engagement, volunteering, social inclusion, and combating isolation among older citizens.

AARP Vermont is committed to collaboration with city government, community stakeholders and residents. This multi-year Age Friendly Community designation of Newport recognizes the assets and opportunities of an aging population and is working to make the city an affordable, accessible and supportive city for people of all ages.

**The Newport Community Action Sponsorships will provide support to groups within Newport that are focused on improving the age-friendliness in the following areas:**

- Affordable and accessible housing options for older residents
- Delivery of services to help older residents age in the setting of their choice
- Increase walkability through outreach and education, sidewalk audits, amenities for walkers, public art installations, improve safe street crossings, and navigation
- Placemaking projects that promote public spaces aimed at improving health, happiness and well-being for people of all ages and ability

- Public transit
- Fostering intergenerational and multi-cultural connections through socialization and community engagement and information
- Increase employment and volunteer opportunities for older adults
- Improve accessibility for disabled residents within buildings and outdoor spaces

**There will be two Community Action Sponsorship grants awarded in the amount of \$2,500 each.** Grants will be one-time funding for a 12 month period starting when the grant is awarded. In addition to funding, groups who are awarded sponsorships will receive technical assistance from AARP staff. This will include advocacy, communications support, and administrative support (when appropriate). Sponsored projects will have the public recognition by AARP, including letters of support, as needed to achieve their goals.

These sponsorships are intended to inspire and support grassroots groups that have a vision for their neighborhood or the city and how it can be improved to meet the needs of all residents.

**To learn more about Newport's Age Friendly Community efforts [visit here.](#)**

**Questions?** If your project does not fit any of the categories listed above but you believe it will advance Newport's Age Friendly Community Initiative, please contact Kelly Stoddard Poor at 802-951-1313 or [kstoddardpoor@aarp.org](mailto:kstoddardpoor@aarp.org) before proceeding with an application.

## ELIGIBILITY

The sponsorship is open to grassroots groups and small non-profits in Newport that are organized to make improvements in their neighborhood or the community.

AARP will not fund the following types of proposals or organizations:

- Partisan political activities
- Studies with no follow-up action
- Publication of books or reports
- Acquisition of land and/or buildings
- Research and development for a for-profit endeavor
- Government entities
- Individuals
- For-profits
- Capital expenditures

## PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must comply with these requirements, including without limitation the eligibility requirements.
- Applicants must submit an electronic application to [kstoddardpoor@aarp.org](mailto:kstoddardpoor@aarp.org) with all pertinent information.

## DEADLINE

All proposals should be **received** by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, April 21, 2017 to be eligible for sponsorship consideration.

## SPONSORSHIP SELECTION

Sponsorship recipients will be selected by a panel of four people with expertise in aging issues, community development, and livable communities.

In general, the projects will be based on the degree to which their goals are consistent with current AARP policy positions and represent a desire to make change through local level activism and advocacy.

More specifically, the judging for the sponsorships will be evaluated based on a weighted point system for a total of 100 overall points. Successful applicants will have:

- Identified a neighborhood or community need and developed a clear plan for translating that need into action (25 points);
- Identified and convened interested individuals into an ad hoc or more formal group to take action on the identified need (15 points);
- Articulated how their plan will advance priorities of the Newport Age Friendly Initiative (20 points);
- Demonstrated an ability to manage funds (10 points);
- Limited opportunities for funding from traditional funders (5 points);
- Timeline presented is appropriate for scope of project (10 points);

Panelists may consider additional factors in the selection of successful applicants including interviews with the selection panel and finalists.

## NOTIFICATION

The potential Sponsorship recipients will be notified by telephone, email or overnight courier. Potential award winners must execute and return a Letter Agreement to the Vermont state office of AARP within seven (7) days of notification. Noncompliance with this time period may result in disqualification, and the Sponsorship Applicant with the next highest score will be selected.

## ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

All decisions of AARP regarding the eligibility of participants and the validity of entries shall be final and binding. All submissions will be judged by AARP whose decisions and determinations as to the administration of the sponsorship and selection of sponsorship recipients are final. All submissions are the sole property of AARP and none will be returned. AARP reserve the right, in its sole discretion, to cancel, or suspend the Sponsorship. Except where prohibited by law, participation in the Sponsorship constitutes the Applicant's consent to AARP's and use of his/her name, street address, city, state, zip code, county, likeness, photograph, video and image, statements made by the Applicants regarding the Sponsorship for promotional purposes in any media without further permission, consent, payment or other consideration.

AARP and its respective affiliates, parents, subsidiaries, agents and employees are not responsible for late, lost, illegible, incomplete, stolen, misdirected, illegitimate, or impermissible submissions or mail; postage due mail; or any other error whether human, mechanical or electronic.