2023 Livable & Age-Friendly Communities Grant Opportunity

With generous support from the DMH-Dayton Fund at The Dayton Foundation, the MVRPC Institute for Livable & Equitable Communities is pleased to announce a funding opportunity for MVRPC member organizations. Grants are available in amounts from $5,000 to $20,000 to support the pursuit of AARP Age-Friendly Communities designation. Size and scope of the community will be key criteria for determining the amount awarded to each community.

AARP Age-Friendly Communities designation is a multi-year planning effort focused on recognizing and enhancing age-friendly, livable aspects of your community. This grant is intended to support new communities joining this program and their efforts in the first year of participation.
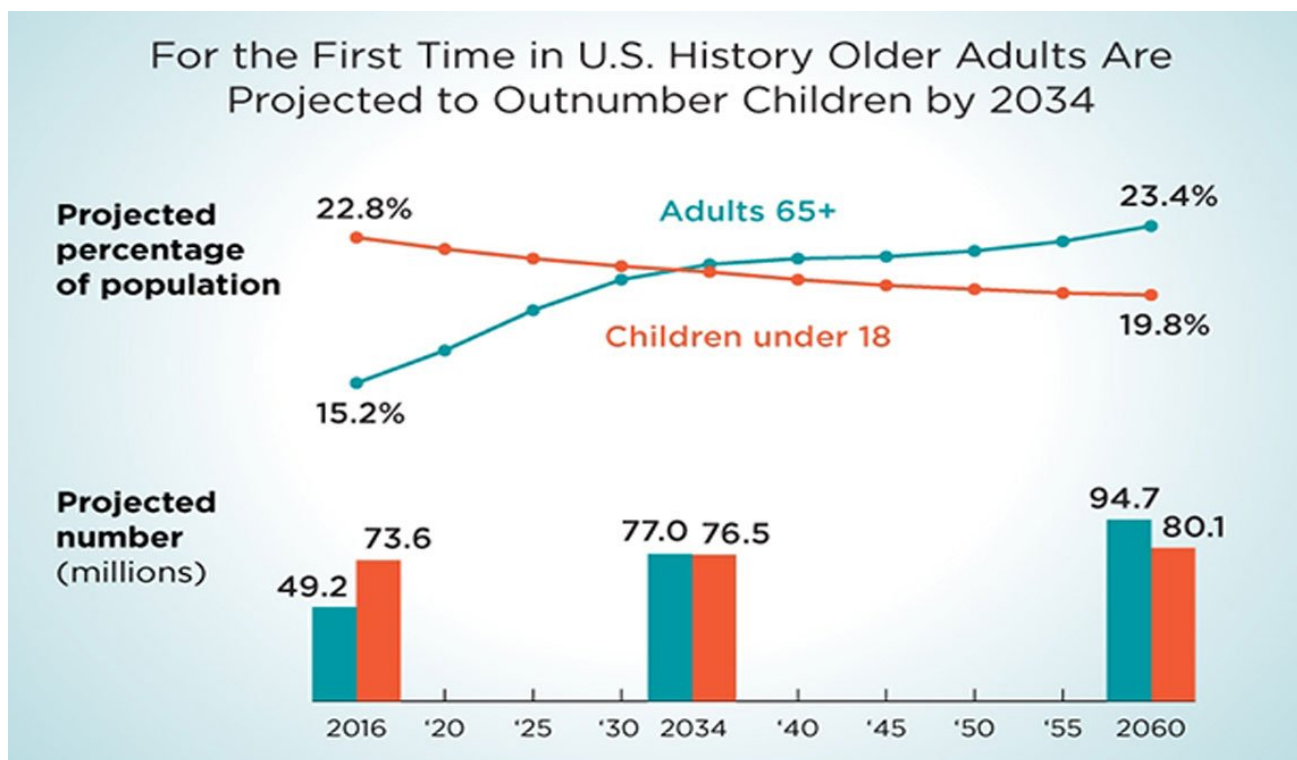
BACKGROUND

CHART FROM THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Fact: The population of the United States is rapidly aging. Per AARP:

- By 2030, one of five people in the U.S. will be 65 or older
- By 2034, for the first time in history, the number of adults older than 65 will be greater than the number of children under 18.

Fact: The Miami Valley region has experienced this age demographic shift sooner than others. By 2020, older adults have outnumbered younger, and experts predict this will intensify for at least the next two decades (statistics derived from Ohio Development Services Agency, Office of Research, 2018).

1

Our communities need to prepare for the rapid aging of the US population, with more attention focused on addressing environmental, economic, and social factors that influence the health and well-being of older adults.

The AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities (NAFSC)

AARP is the US affiliate of the World Health Organization's global network for age-friendly cities and communities. The Network of Age-Friendly States & Communities (NAFSC) helps cities, towns, and states prepare for the rapid aging of the U.S. population. It is not politically motivated or affiliated.

The NAFSC is a national movement of elected & community leaders who have made a *formal commitment* to actively work toward making their town, city, county or state a great place to live for people of all ages. Joining the Network isn't a certification or designation that your community IS age-friendly. Rather it's a public commitment by local leadership to BECOME an age-friendly community. The NAFSC is a program within the larger AARP Livable Communities Initiative. It is hands on, locally determined and directed. AARP engages with elected officials, partner organizations and local leaders to guide communities through the age-friendly network's assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation process. To learn more about the process, watch Age-Friendly Network Training.

Age-friendly, livable communities are places where the built and social environments are accessible to and inclusive of all residents. People of all ages benefit from the adoption of policies and programs that make neighborhoods walkable, feature transportation options, enable access to key services, provide opportunities to participate in community activities and support housing that's affordable and adaptable. Well-designed, age-friendly communities foster economic growth and make for happier, healthier residents of all ages. Age-Friendly livability projects across the country have been successfully implemented in communities of all sizes and in places that are urban, suburban and rural.

Why Become an Age-Friendly Community

- Being an Age Friendly/Livable Community **benefits all ages**. Barriers are removed, projects that result are designed for diversity, and the community becomes more inclusive and cohesive. Age-friendly communities are great places to live, have a family, and grow older in.

- Engaging in the process to become an Age-Friendly Community **enhances social relationships and bonds** among all community residents. It provides opportunities for residents from different backgrounds and ages to interact and get to know each other, thus facilitating community integration. People feel included and involved.

- There are **economic benefits** to engaging older adults. Older adults and people from different backgrounds expand the labor pool and help address labor shortages. Older adults start more new businesses than young adults, helping to grow the local economy.

- There are **social benefits**. Older adults serve the community through volunteering and civic engagement. All of us are social creatures and our lives are improved by the quantity and quality of our relationships and interactions with others. Never more so than now.

- Age-Friendly communities have **healthy and connected** neighborhoods that improve the quality of life for all.

- Age-Friendly communities **have lower public and personal costs** related to illness and health care.

- Becoming an Age-Friendly community brings **opportunities for coordination and collaboration** among all 8 AARP Domains: Housing, Transportation, Communication & Information, Civic Participation & Employment, Respect & Social Inclusion, Social Participation, Outdoor Spaces & Buildings and Community Support & Health Services.

- Many private businesses and corporations, as well as the federal government look at the **AARP Livability Score** as a determinant of where to locate their businesses or programs.

- Having the official designation provides access to **technical assistance, information, resources** and invaluable **connections** to other Age-Friendly/Livable Communities: large and small, rural and urban.

- There are extensive **funding sources specifically designated for Age-Friendly/Livable Communities** on the local, state, national and even international level (Age-Friendly is a World Health Organization designation). Funds range from small

  Challenge Grants from AARP to larger projects for recreation, housing, health, transit, mobility, internet, etc.

Age-Friendly Communities Funding Opportunity

The Del Mar Health-Dayton Fund at The Dayton Foundation is offering a grant opportunity to to pursue Year 1 steps within the context of a larger multi-year planning effort. Size and scope of each community will guide decisions around grant amounts awarded, which could range from $5,000 to $20,000.

How funds are invested will be at the discretion of each community; however, grant recipients must agree to invest at least half for developing a community survey and accompanying listening sessions/focus groups and/or critical research, data analysis and technical assistance to create an action plan for age-friendly livable community initiatives. Funding assistance could also be used for team formation, the engagement of stakeholders and the recruitment of volunteers.

Proposal Deadlines:

All proposals must be completed and submitted on or before the due date to be considered.

Submission deadlines are as follows:

| Proposal Deadline	Decision Date	Grant Period
June 16, 2023	July 31, 2023	Aug 2023 – May 2024

- The funding review process includes a thorough review of the merits of each proposal

- To be fair to all applicants and to permit adequate time for the review process, any proposals received after 11:59 p.m. on the deadline will be not be considered

- Proposals must be submitted by a person authorized by the organization

- If any sections of the proposal are incomplete, a written statement must be submitted explaining the reason(s)

To be Eligible for a Grant, Your Organization Must:

- Be an MVRPC member agency and an eligible tax exempt public agency

- Make a commitment to becoming a designated age-friendly community by joining the AARP/World Health Organization (WHO) Network of Age-Friendly States & Communities

Project Deliverables

- Conduct a comprehensive livability assessment to better understand community members' perceptions, behaviors and satisfaction with elements related to AARP's 8 Domains of Livability framework used by those enrolled in the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities. This assessment process should also explore opportunities to ease disparities and/or advance equitable outcomes for historically marginalized or disinvested populations.

- Prepare and submit a mid-year and final report that captures steps taken/progress and key findings from all assessment efforts, as well as details on how funds were invested.

- Establish a core team of stakeholders/volunteers who are interested in advancing age-friendly initiatives and have capacity to support progress for this program. To learn more about establishing a core team, view the graphic below and review page 10 of Book 1: Roadmap to Livability.
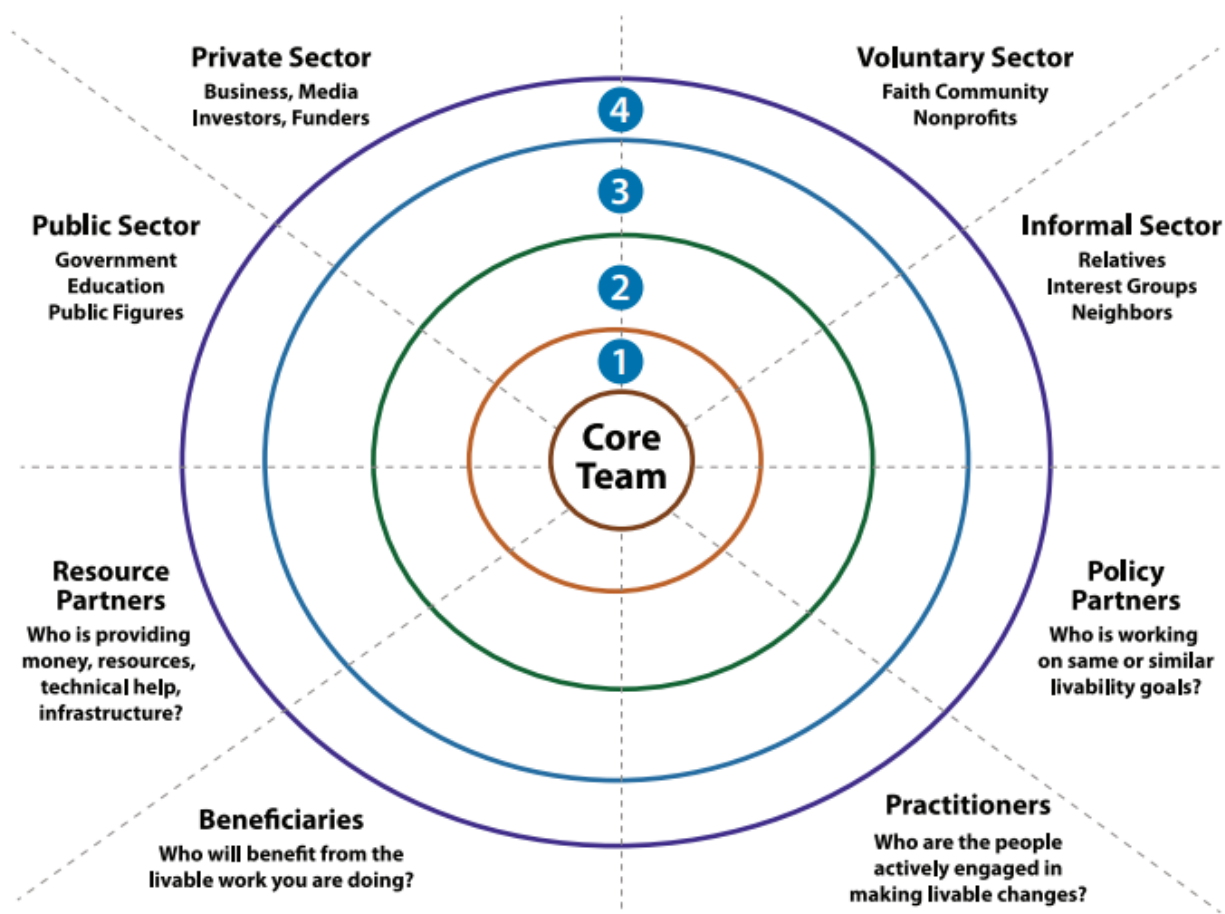
Required Participation in the Miami Valley Age-Friendly Communities Cohort

Successful grant applicants will designate representative/s to participate in the Miami Valley Age-Friendly Communities Cohort for the first year of this program. This cohort of communities will work closely together to advance through the age-friendly designation process and support one another along the way:

- **Year 1:** Conduct a survey & listening sessions
- **Year 2:** Create an action plan
- **Year 3-5:** Implementation
- **Year 5:** Progress / status update

Proposal Guidelines - All proposals are due no later than 11:59 p.m. on June 16, 2023

Step 1: Complete the Project Scoping Outline

Please use an 11 point font and do not exceed 4 pages.

Step 2: Submit Project Scoping Outline and Supporting Documentation

Required documentation for submission:

- Completed Project Scoping Outline

- A copy of the organization's most recently completed audit, including auditor's notes _or_ a balance sheet and income statement covering the agency's most recently completed fiscal year

- Please send all documentation as email attachments (PDF documents preferred) to Donna Kastner dkastner@mvrpc.org. You will receive an email confirmation when your proposal has been received. If there are additional questions about your proposal, MVRPC will contact you.

Final Decision and Notification

- Once a decision has been made, MVRPC will contact you.

- Projects are funded through The Dayton Foundation.

- All funds will be distributed via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). If selected, you will be asked to complete a full application for funds and written EFT Authorization Form from The Dayton Foundation if the Foundation does not already have the necessary information.

- Awarded Grantees will be invited to attend an orientation virtually or at The Dayton Foundation to introduce the program, provide training, define expectations and answer questions.

Additional Grant Expectations

☐ Press Release: each organization receiving a grant is required to publish an acknowledgement of the grant. The publicity may be in the form of a press release, an annual report, a brochure or materials related to the project or in some other means of communication. All public recognition should acknowledge the Institute for Livable & Equitable Communities at MVRPC and The Dayton Foundation. Note: All acknowledgements and any publicity regarding the grant must be submitted to for review and comment prior to publication/release to the public.

☐ Narrative and financial reports: will be required during the grant period to include an interim and final report. Examples of the reporting requirements can be provided upon request. Further detail about required reporting will be provided during the grantee orientation session.

For Additional Information

Contact Donna Kastner, Del Mar Encore Fellow, MVRPC's Institute for Livable and Equitable Communities at dkastner@mvrpc.org

Age-Friendly Initiative Project Scoping Outline

PART 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of Local Government Organization	
Mailing Address	
City, State & Zip	
Phone Number	
Website	
Federal Tax ID	
Point of Contact Name	
Point of Contact Title	
Point of Contact Email Address	
Point of Contact Phone Number	

Please provide a summary of your project proposal in no more than four sentences:

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

ASSURANCES
- ☐ Agency is an MVRPC Member
- ☐ Agency is an eligible tax exempt public agency
- ☐ Agency will commit to becoming a designated age-friendly community by joining the AARP/World Health Organization (WHO) Network of Age-Friendly States & Communities

Application must be submitted only as an e-mail attachment to dkastner@mvrpc.org.
I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all information presented in connection with this application is accurate.

City Manager / Administrator Signature	Date
Mayor/Commission/Board Chair Signature	Date

Age-Friendly Initiative Project Scoping Outline

PART 2: PROJECT SUMMARY

Please summarize your project proposal, including brief, but specific responses to the following: providing a 3-4 sentence paragraph per question

Name of Community	
Anticipated Project Budget	

Tell us why you are interested in pursuing Age-Friendly Communities designation.

Collaboration amongst eligible MVRPC members is encouraged. Tell us more about how you will partner with other communities and public agencies.

What are the current strengths of your community as related to age-friendliness?

What are the areas where you feel your community could be more age-friendly?
It is important to consider engaging early and to establish a core team & stakeholder groups. How will you involve your residents and community stakeholders in this effort?
What strategy for survey implementation and/or community outreach will you use to ensure underserved populations are a part of the effort or captured?
If awarded, who would be the representative/s from your community to participate in the Miami Valley Age-Friendly Communities Cohort? (described on page 4)

OPTIONAL

Please provide a budget if known to help ensure funding meets project needs. If budget is unknown, we will work with you to identify a budget accordingly. If expenses exceed revenues, please explain how difference will be offset with additional funding.

Age-Friendly Initiative Project Scoping Outline	
PART 3: PROJECT BUDGET	
REVENUE	**BUDGET**
DMH-Dayton Fund – The Dayton Foundation	
Other Grants	
Other (include any in-kind support)	
Total Revenue	
EXPENSES (line-by-line breakdown)	**BUDGET**
e.g. Contractor/Consultant	
Total Expenses	
REVENUE LESS EXPENSES	

Accompanying one-page narrative welcome if additional explanation is warranted.