November 5, 2019

Jeff Johnson, Director
AARP Florida
360 Central Ave #1750
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

On behalf of Citrus County, Florida, we are excited about the opportunity to join with AARP and the World Health Organization (WHO) to become an Age-Friendly Community. Along with other selected communities in the nation, Citrus County is committed to promoting policies to make American counties friendly to aging populations. On April 23, 2019, Governor Ron DeSantis announced that the State of Florida has joined the AARP Network of Age Friendly States and Communities, making Florida the fourth state in the nation to commit to pursuing age friendly policies.

Citrus County, Florida has one of the largest populations in the State of people age 60 and older. They currently make up 44% of our population and that demographic is continuing to grow in our community.

To address our changing demographics, our community has partnered with the Florida Department of Health, specifically the Citrus Community Health Improvement Partnership (CHIP) and the Florida Department of Elder Affairs through the Aging Network. The Citrus County Health Department completed a “Community Health Assessment” survey and more recently an “Age Friendly Survey” in November 2018. Several committees currently exist, including the Citrus Community Health Improvement Partnership and Citrus2030 to address issues concerning our community and includes executives, profit and non-profit representatives, funding agencies, policy makers and community representatives as well as the interested public. Several people from those committees will also be a part of the Age-Friendly committee and will involve the community. Our goal is to ensure our community is livable for all ages and abilities and to help ensure everyone has the opportunity to live a long, healthy and full life.
As a participant in the national network of communities, it is the intent of Citrus County, Florida to:

- Include the active engagement of older adults on the Age Friendly committee
- Secure a Board of County Commissioners Resolution to work toward becoming age-friendly
- Establish a Plan of Action that responds to the needs identified by older adults in the community
- Commit to measuring activities, reviewing action plan outcomes and reporting on them publicly

We look forward to working with AARP Florida staff and volunteers to ensure our community has the appropriate infrastructure in place so we can all age with dignity.

Sincerely,

Jeff Kinnard, D.C.
Chairman, Board of County Commissioners
Resolution 2019-096

Resolution Supporting Membership into the World Health Organization (WHO) and AARP’s Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative.

WHEREAS, the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners supports the Florida Department of Health, the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, and the Citrus Community Health Improvement partnership’s Age Friendly Communities initiative to promote healthy aging in Florida, which will improve the health, well-being, satisfaction and quality of life for older adults; and

WHEREAS, The State of Florida has the highest percentage of older adults of any state in the nation, with Citrus County having over 60,000 adult citizens age 60 and over, representing nearly 44% of its population; and

WHEREAS, with the population of older adults in Citrus County projected to continue to increase, our community should actively and continuously engage older adults in planning processes to assess barriers and determine priorities to build a community that is livable for all ages and abilities and help ensure everyone has the ability to live a long, healthy and full life; and

WHEREAS, Citrus County, the Florida Department of Health, the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, and the Citrus Community Health Improvement Partnership all share a vision and responsibility to improve the life of all citizens and collectively build a stronger community for all ages to live, learn, work and play.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners that the Chairman and 1st Vice Chairman, respectively, shall be authorized to sign the Membership Application to join the AARP’s Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities, and authorize electronic submission of the Application to AARP.

THIS RESOLUTION was duly adopted and recorded in the minutes this 5th day of November 2019

CITRUS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Jeff Kinnard, D.C., Chairman

Attested:

COUNTY ATTORNEY

APPROVED AS TO FORM FOR THE RELIANCE OF CITRUS COUNTY ONLY

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