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April 20, 2016

Mr. Jeff Johnson
AARP Florida State Director
400 Carillon Parkway, Suite 100
St. Petersburg, FL 33716

RE: AARP's Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative

Dear Mr. Johnson:

On behalf of the Hallandale Beach City Commission, I am honored to submit this letter of support for our City to be considered by the World Health Organization (WHO) as an age-friendly city through the AARP's Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Initiatives. We care about our residents and especially about our senior citizens, who are living longer, healthier lives. We value their history and wisdom and do our utmost to ensure that there are viable services to meet their daily needs.

Our partnerships are strong in the community with organizations that provide services to seniors. This includes their recreational needs as well as their social and financial stability. Most recently, Hallandale Beach was named one of four Healthy Community Zones (HCZ) in Broward County. This HCZ and the service providers Florida Department of Health, Broward Regional Health Planning Council (BRHPC), Memorial Healthcare Center and the YMCA seeks to improve access to healthy and nutritious foods, opportunities for physical activity, neighborhood designs that increase the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, and improving long-term health by providing access to coordinated patient-centered healthcare. Therefore, I see great value in the AARP Network and am excited to begin establishing the City of Hallandale Beach as an Age-Friendly City.

I look forward to working with the AARP Florida State Office, its members and volunteers, and other stakeholders to create a plan of action that responds to the needs in our community. I have no doubt that Hallandale Beach can be a shining example of Age-Friendliness.

Sincerely,

Joy Cooper
Mayor, City of Hallandale Beach

