



May 5, 2017

Each May, the Administration for Community Living (formerly known as the Administration on Aging) leads our nation's celebration of Older Americans Month (OAM). The 2017 OAM theme, **#AgeOutLoud**, was designed to give aging a new voice—one that reflects what today's older adults have to say.

This theme shines a light on many important trends. More than ever before, older Americans are working longer, trying new things, and engaging in their communities. They're taking charge, striving for wellness, focusing on independence, and advocating for themselves and others. What it means to age has changed, and **#OAM2017** is a perfect opportunity to recognize and celebrate what getting older looks like today.

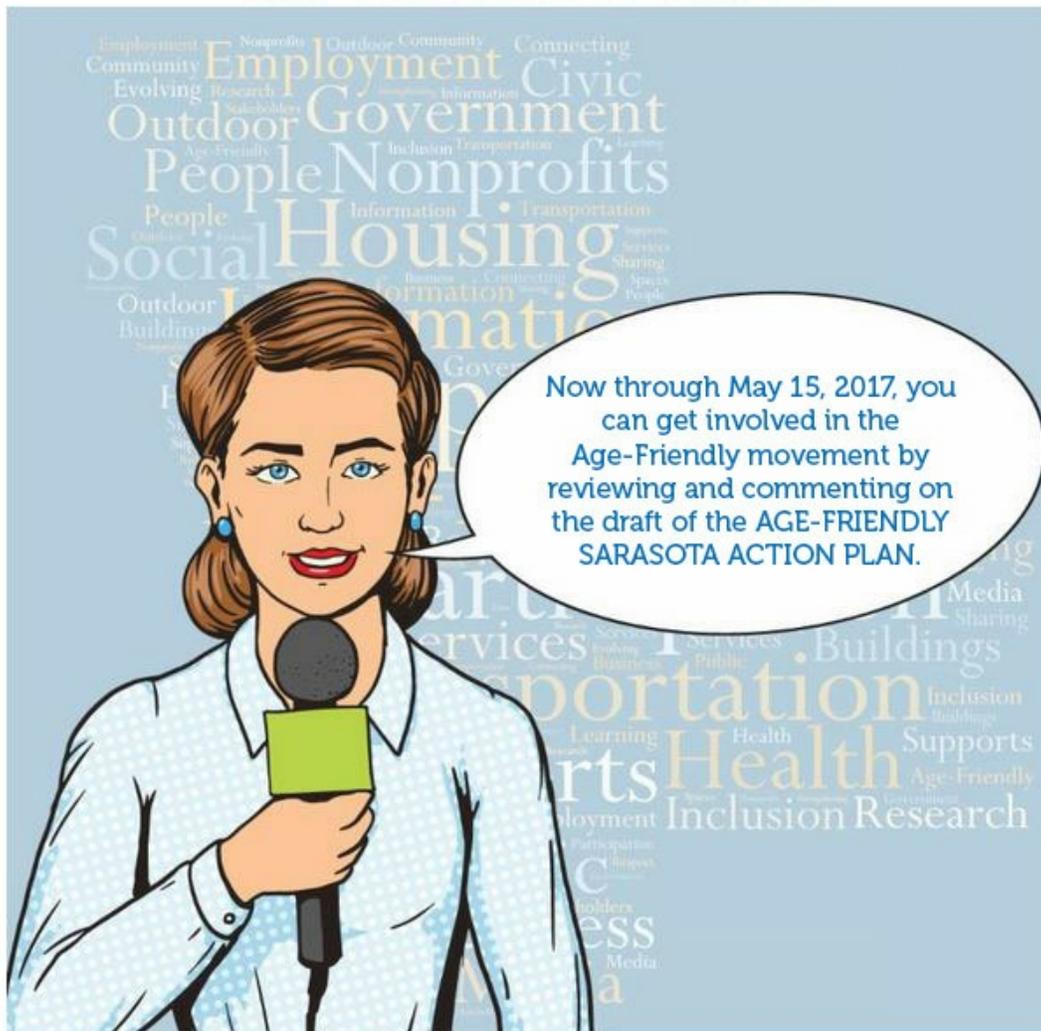
Let's amplify the many voices of older Americans and raise awareness of vital aging issues across the country. Join us as we speak up and out loud for OAM!

Please join Age-Friendly Sarasota and the Sarasota County Seniors Advisory Council for the public proclamation of Older Americans Month by the Board of County Commissioners at 1660 Ringling Boulevard on May 24th at 9am.

[Ideas on how you can support this year's theme](#)



It's Your Time to Share!



CELEBRATING Age-Friendly Sarasota: Age-Friendly Sarasota Action Plan

The creation of an Age-Friendly Action Plan is a requirement of joining the **WHO/ AARP Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities**. The Action Plan is created to identify age-friendly goals and objectives based on the Planning Phase (May 2016 - April 2017) and aims to incorporate actions throughout Sarasota County that are currently underway or will be implemented in the subsequent Implementation Phase (June 2017 - May 2020).

The *Age-Friendly Sarasota Action Plan* represents a synthesis of research findings based on the input of nearly 1,200 Sarasota County residents age 50+ who participated in either focus groups or survey research in 2015 and expressed their perspectives and preferences regarding important community features by domain.

The findings were shared throughout the community with stakeholders

across all **eight domains** and across the following five sectors: business, community (including individuals and small groups), government, nonprofit organizations, and media.

Please let us know your thoughts! [Access a draft of the Age-Friendly Sarasota Action Plan.](#)

LEARN MORE



**AGE-FRIENDLY FESTIVAL:
Admission is free for all ages!**

The Age-Friendly Festival will be a celebration of lifelong well-being in our region. This community event aspires to connect people of all ages. Individuals and exhibitors from businesses, government, nonprofits, and the media will share information on a variety of topics that optimize community assets and enhance quality of life.

The Festival will feature interactive exhibits, food trucks, entertainment, and experiences highlighting:

- Arts & Culture
- Health & Wellness
- Livability Innovations

Exhibition and entertainment space is available at no cost to participants highlighting innovations that promote lifelong well-being.

Please contact the Age-Friendly Sarasota team at info@agefriendly Sarasota.org if you are interested in providing entertainment or being an exhibitor at the **Age-Friendly Festival**.

GET CONNECTED:



Want to share an upcoming event or program related to making Sarasota County Age-Friendly? Email AFS at info@AgeFriendlySarasota.org and share your ideas!

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