In Florida, coordinating and aligning age-friendly efforts into a statewide movement represents the natural progression of work that started nearly 30 years ago. Since its inception, the Department of Elder Affairs has worked with partners across the Aging Network – like AARP – to help foster an environment that promotes well-being for Florida’s elders, enabling them to remain in their own homes and communities.

In the past several years, the movement has gained even more momentum. In 2015, Sarasota County was the first Florida community to join AARP’s Age-Friendly Network; as of June 2019, 29 communities across the state had joined the Age-Friendly Network. In 2016, the first Age-Friendly Sharing Symposium was held, and in 2018 statewide partners began the Advancing an Age-Friendly Public Health System project to make our public health systems work better for older adults. Since taking office, Governor DeSantis has established a number of initiatives to support Floridians living with dementia and their caregivers so they too can live well.

In April of 2019, Florida became the 4th state in the nation to earn the Age-Friendly designation. Through this designation, Florida will continue its efforts to establish Livable Communities across the state where we all can live and live well!

Please visit http://elderaffairs.org/doea/livable_communities.php