

January 2012

Dear New Hampshire Activist:

The **New Hampshire Senior Leadership Series** is now taking applications for **2012** and your name was provided by one of the collaborating organizations as someone who may be interested in this volunteer leadership role. Please review the enclosed information; we encourage you to consider applying to become a valuable member of this Leadership Series.

AARP New Hampshire and the Center for Aging and Community Living at the University of New Hampshire are collaborating to support a series on leadership development for older adults, caregivers, family members and friends **who want to advocate for older adults in New Hampshire**. The goal of the series is to provide support and training in the advocacy and leadership skills necessary to promote livable communities, including community-based systems of support for New Hampshire citizens as they age.

In addition to providing financial resources, representatives from these collaborating organizations are involved in the nomination, application, and selection processes for participants. Many are also involved as presenters or group facilitators.

What You Can Expect:

- Participants will meet four times over an eight-month period and receive intensive training on a wide variety of educational and community topics.
- The Leadership Series strives to teach through a variety of educational methods. We include discussions, web-based learning, small and large group sessions, independent research and application, as well as video and audio resources. Each session combines educational information and direct experience. Professionals in the field, caregivers and family members join together not only to provide information, but to offer strategies for collaboration and implementation as well.
- Upon acceptance to the class, each participant is asked to pay a \$25 contribution to the program; this is the only cost to participate. People needing additional supports (e.g. respite care, transportation, interpreter, physical assistance) will be assisted in every way possible to facilitate their attendance and participation.
- All expenses including hotel, meals, and materials are covered for participants. Reimbursement is available for travel and respite expenses for those who need it.

Testimonials from Senior Leadership Graduates

“Thank you for this opportunity. I hope I can go forth and represent you as well as the Seniors in New Hampshire”

“Great flow and great presenters at all sessions. Very valuable and useful information
“I am very excited about the potential of this Project.”

The 2012 Series will take place in Plymouth, Manchester and Concord. The Series will kick off with an overnight session in Plymouth; remaining sessions are one-day workshops.

We are particularly eager that members of the 2012 New Hampshire Senior Leadership class represent diverse backgrounds, ages, and different geographic regions of the state. Twenty participants will be selected on the basis of their degree of motivation to become well informed about and active in policymaking and systems change for aging New Hampshire citizens. All applications are reviewed by a selection committee that will choose this year’s participants based on the content of the application and the above criteria.

An application form is attached which includes a list of dates, topics, and expectations for participation in the New Hampshire Senior Leadership Series. **Please complete and return the application to: AARP New Hampshire, Attention: Doug McNutt, 900 Elm Street, Suite 702, Manchester, NH 03101 by March 2, 2012.** You will be notified by March 30, 2012 of your acceptance status.

For more information or additional applications, please call Mary Callahan at (603) 621-1020 or email mcallahan@aarp.org.

We look forward to receiving your application.

Sincerely,

New Hampshire Senior Leadership Series Collaborators:

AARP New Hampshire

Center on Aging and Community Living at the University of New Hampshire

