

AARP ND

AARP North Dakota Now Accepting 2026 Community Challenge Grant Applications

The annual program aims to make North Dakota communities more livable for people of all ages

AARP North Dakota invites local eligible nonprofit organizations and governments to apply for the 2026 AARP Community Challenge grant program, now through March 4, 2026, at 4 p.m. (CST). AARP Community Challenge grants fund quick-action projects that help communities become more livable by improving public places, transportation, housing, digital connections, and more.

Now in its tenth year, AARP will double its investment, awarding over \$8 million in grants as part of its nationwide Livable Communities initiative, which supports the efforts of cities, towns, neighborhoods and rural areas to become great places to live for all residents, especially those age 50 and older.

"Through the Community Challenge grant program, AARP North Dakota works closely with local residents, advocates, and policymakers to improve the quality of life for people of all ages, especially North Dakotans 50 and older," said Janelle Moos, AARP ND Advocacy Director. "Many of our past projects have been the launching pad for other community enhancements, and we look forward to doing even more this year to help North Dakota communities thrive."

This year, the AARP Community Challenge is accepting applications across three different grant opportunities. All projects must be consistent with AARP's mission to serve the needs of people 50 and older along with other eligibility criteria.

- Flagship grants support projects that improve public places; transportation; housing; digital connections; and disaster resilience. Awards range from a few hundred dollars to \$15,000.

- Capacity-building microgrants are paired with expert support, webinars, and cohort learning for projects to improve walkability and bikeability; implement safe, accessible home modifications; and disaster preparedness training. Awards are \$2,500.

- Demonstration grants fund projects that encourage replication of exemplary local efforts. This year's focus is on improving pedestrian safety, with funding support from Toyota Motor North

America; expanding high-speed internet access and adoption, with funding support from Microsoft; and housing choice design competitions. Awards typically range from \$10,000-\$20,000, not to exceed \$25,000.

"Over the last decade, AARP has invested in communities to help people of all ages and abilities to thrive," said Nancy LeaMond, AARP Executive Vice President and Chief Advocacy & Engagement Officer. "The impact that our Community Challenge grants have had in cities, towns and counties nationwide is significant, supporting everything from crosswalks and home improvements to increased community engagement while also serving as a catalyst for further action. We look forward to expanding the program and its cumulative results over the next ten years."

Since 2017, AARP has invested \$24.3 million toward 2,100 livability projects – including \$358,172 in North Dakota – across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands through the Community Challenge. The program aims to provide support to all community types, including rural, suburban and urban communities with a special focus on the needs of those 50 and older.

AARP North Dakota works in collaboration with communities across the state, bringing people

together, and providing resources and expertise to help make North Dakota's counties, towns and cities great places to live for people of all ages. In North Dakota, grants have revitalized parks in Grand Forks, supported digital literacy programs, created easier access to outdoor recreation in the Sheyenne River Valley and made community spaces brighter and safer through an array of mural projects.

The Community Challenge is open to eligible 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(6) nonprofit

organizations and government entities. Other types of organizations are considered on a case-by-case basis. Grants can range from several hundred dollars for small, short-term activities to tens of thousands for larger projects.

The application deadline is 4 p.m. (CST), March 4, 2026. All projects must be completed by December 15, 2026. To submit an application and view past grantees, visit www.AARP.org/CommunityChallenge.

AARP, AARP AP Mailbox PO Box 2842, Clinton, IA 52733



Area Church Schedules

STEELE CHURCHES:

St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church – Father Peter Sharpe, 701-475-2333. 1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday, 9:00 a.m.; 2nd and 4th Sundays, 11:00 a.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church

Pastor Jacob DeBoer. 475-2490.

Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.

United Methodist Church

Don Dinger, Pastor. Sunday worship, 9:00

DAWSON CHURCHES:

Dawson Lutheran Church

Pastor Jacob DeBoer. Worship service, 9:00 a.m. at Dawson City Hall

TAPPEN CHURCHES:

St. Paul's Catholic Church

Father Peter Sharpe. 1st, 4th, 5th Saturday: 4:00pm; 2nd Sunday: 9:00 am; 3rd Sunday: 11:00 am

St. John's Lutheran Church (Wisconsin Synod)

Rev. Karl DeMarce. Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.; Sunday School and Bible class, 11:00 a.m.; KSJB Radio Broadcast, 7:00 a.m.; Service on Ch. 26 BEK TV, 6:00 p.m. Sundays

Tappan Cornerstone Church

Pastor Brenda Goodman. Worship service 9:15 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.

CRYSTAL SPRINGS CHURCHES:

Faith Evangelical Church

Rev. Mike Kraemer, Pastor. Sunday School for all ages, 10:00 a.m.; Worship service, 11:00 a.m.

MEDINA CHURCHES:

St. Mary's Catholic

Father Peter Sharpe. 2nd and 3rd Saturday, 4:00 p.m.; 4th Sunday, 9:00 a.m.; 1st and 5th Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

Grace Emmanuel United Church.

Pastor Brenda Goodman. Worship service, 10:30 a.m.

TUTTLE CHURCHES:

English Lutheran Church

Vice Pastor Trish DeBoer - Worship service, 11:00 a.m.; Communion, 3rd Sunday and Festival Days;

Tuttle Community Church

Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

ROBINSON CHURCHES:

Bethany Lutheran Church

Vice Pastor Trish DeBoer - Worship Service, 9:30 a.m.

PETTIBONE CHURCHES:

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

104 Main St. N. Pettibone. Pastor Robert Hill Worship Service, 2nd & 4th Sundays 11:00 am

Redeemer Lutheran Church 123 2nd Ave. NE Woodworth

Pastor Robert Hill Worship Service 1st & 3rd Sundays 11:00 a.m.

STREETER CHURCHES:

Hope Ebenezer Church

Pastor Juwile Nagbe. Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.; Fellowship, 9:00, Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.

STERLING CHURCHES:

United Methodist

Pastor Marlin Sapp. 701-387-4792, 701-955-0005. Worship Service, 8:30 a.m.; Bible Study, Tuesday, 10:00, Sunday School @ 9:45



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PUBLIC NOTICES

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North Dakota newspapers also post public notices that are printed in newspapers on www.ndpublicnotices.com at no additional charge to units of government.