



**MILKEN INSTITUTE**  
CENTER FOR THE FUTURE OF AGING



Dear Mayor:

As members of the Milken Institute Center for the Future of Aging's Advisory Board, we're asking for your pledge to improve lives in your community. In cities across America and the world, a massive demographic shift poses unique challenges and offers unprecedented opportunities. We share the Center's goal: to make our cities work better for older residents and young people as well. Change is needed, and mayors stand at the forefront.

In 2012, the Milken Institute, a nonpartisan, nonprofit think tank, first issued its groundbreaking, data-based Best Cities for Successful Aging ("BCSA") report. In conjunction with the publication of the second edition of BCSA in 2014, the Institute called upon mayors across the nation to sign the Mayor's Pledge. With the upcoming release of the third edition of BCSA, the Institute will again publicly recognize mayors who are leading the way and demonstrating their commitment to positive change by signing the Mayor's Pledge.

Best Cities for Successful Aging measures, compares and ranks U.S. metropolitan areas for their capacity to enable successful aging. Its methodology makes use of publicly available data on health care, wellness, living arrangements, transportation and convenience, financial characteristics, employment, educational opportunities and community engagement.

BCSA has received extraordinary attention from national and local media, public and private sector leaders and a wide range of other stakeholders. Regularly cited in major outlets such as PBS NewsHour, Forbes, Money, CBS, NBC, CNN, USA Today, Yahoo, Next Avenue, and the New York Times, the report has been called "a valuable resource for Americans" by the Wall Street Journal. We expect even greater visibility upon the release of the upcoming report.

The Center is not alone in seeking progress on this issue. Recognizing the power of cities to change the landscape, the age-friendly networks of the World Health Organization and AARP aim to transform communities as they prepare for an aging population. Both nationally and globally, cities are in the spotlight. In its July 2016 double issue, "240 Reasons to Celebrate America Right Now," Time magazine referenced the Mayor's Pledge and highlighted "Cities that embrace all generations" as a reason to celebrate.

Beyond making our cities work for an aging population, older adults should have the opportunity to work for our cities. Older residents improve the lives of all generations through volunteer activity and encore careers across the government, nonprofit and private sectors.

We respectfully ask you to sign the Mayor's Pledge, and we look forward to celebrating your commitment to making your city an even better place to live and age successfully. Thank you.

The Advisory Board  
Center for the Future of Aging

**Arthur Bilger**

Founder and CEO, WorkingNation

**Laura Carstensen**

Professor of Psychology and Fairleigh S. Dickinson Jr. Professor in Public Policy, Stanford University; Director, Stanford Center on Longevity

**Henry Cisneros**

Chairman, Executive Committee, Siebert Cisneros Shank and Co., LLC; Chairman, CityView; Former Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; Former Mayor, San Antonio, Texas

**Pinchas Cohen**

Dean, Leonard Davis School of Gerontology; Executive Director, Ethel Percy Andrus Gerontology Center; William and Sylvia Kugel Dean's Chair in Gerontology, University of Southern California

**Catherine Collinson**

President, Transamerica Institute; Executive Director, Aegon Center for Longevity and Retirement

**Joseph Coughlin**

Founder and Director, Massachusetts Institute of Technology AgeLab

**William Dow**

Kaiser Permanente Professor of Health Economics, School of Public Health, and Director, Center on the Economics and Demography of Aging, University of California, Berkeley

**Ken Dychtwald**

President and CEO, AgeWave

**Marc Freedman**

Founder and CEO, Encore.org

**Linda Fried**

Dean and DeLamar Professor of Public Health, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, Professor of Medicine, Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons; Senior Vice President, Columbia University Medical Center

**Lynn Goldman**

Michael and Lori Milken Dean of Public Health, Milken Institute School of Public Health, George Washington University

**Christopher Herbert**

Managing Director, Joint Center for Housing Studies, Harvard University

**Michael Hodin**

CEO, Global Coalition on Aging; Managing Partner, High Lantern Group

**Jo Ann Jenkins**

CEO, AARP

**Yves Joanette**

Scientific Director, Institute of Aging, Canadian Institutes of Health Research; Professor, Faculty of Medicine, University of Montréal

**Paul Irving**

Chairman, Milken Institute Center for the Future of Aging; Distinguished Scholar in Residence, University of Southern California Davis School of Gerontology

**Becca Levy**

Professor of Epidemiology, Yale School of Public Health; Professor of Psychology, Yale University

**Freda Lewis-Hall**

Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, Pfizer Inc.

**Robin Mockenhaupt**

Chief of Staff, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

**Philip Pizzo**

Founding Director, Stanford Distinguished Careers Institute; David and Susan Heckerman Professor of Pediatrics and of Microbiology and Immunology and Former Dean, Stanford University School of Medicine

**Andy Sieg**

Head of Merrill Lynch Wealth Management; Member, Operating Committee, Bank of America Merrill Lynch

**Rodney Slater**

Co-Chairman, Transportation, Shipping and Logistics Practice, Squire Patton Boggs; Former Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation

**Trent Stamp**

CEO, Eisner Foundation

**Fernando Torres-Gil**

Professor of Social Welfare and Public Policy and Director, Center for Policy Research on Aging, University of California, Los Angeles

**Additional information**

- If you have any questions, please contact Caroline Servat at (310) 570-4632 or [cservat@milkeninstitute.org](mailto:cservat@milkeninstitute.org).
- Please submit your signed Pledge at your earliest convenience by email to [cservat@milkeninstitute.org](mailto:cservat@milkeninstitute.org) or by fax to (310) 570-4601.



**MILKEN INSTITUTE**  
 CENTER FOR THE FUTURE OF AGING



### Mayor's Pledge

I, \_\_\_\_\_, pledge to make \_\_\_\_\_ a city for successful aging:

***To make our city work for older adults, I will take steps to:***

- Ensure that the well-being of our aging population is addressed by each department, agency and division in our city government.
- Make our city safe, affordable and comfortable for our older residents.
- Provide older adults access to resources promoting health and wellness.
- Support employment, entrepreneurship, education and other services to make our older residents more financially secure.
- Offer housing options that suit the varied needs of our older population.
- Improve access to transportation and mobility options for our older adults.

***To provide opportunities for older adults to work for our city, I will:***

- Promote the engagement of older residents in volunteer and paid roles that serve the needs of our city and its residents.
- Call upon higher education and workforce development programs to help older adults refresh their skills, train and transition to a new stage of work focused on strengthening our city.
- Recognize older residents as an asset for our city and celebrate their contributions to improving lives for all generations.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_