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## **Glendale Wins Age-Friendly Community Competition**

**PHOENIX (March 27, 2014)** — The City of Glendale was honored today for connecting people of all ages through intergenerational programs and activities as part of the region’s first age-friendly community competition. The city received the award today at the “All Ages, One Region” conference hosted by the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) at the Glendale Civic Center. MAG Vice Chair Michael LeVault, mayor of Youngtown, presented the award.

“This competition highlights the power of building positive connections between older adults and youth, which result in stronger communities,” said Mayor LeVault. “This is about neighbors helping neighbors by giving a hand up, not a hand out. Our children need the time and insights older adults can share. People aged 65 years plus need to know they still have a valued role in our community.”

Mayor LeVault noted that 20 nominations were submitted communities from every corner of the region. The city of Glendale will receive promotional materials and technical assistance to enhance the good work underway in their community.

Goodyear Councilmember Joanne Osborne, chair of the MAG Human Services Coordinating Committee (HSCC), and Mesa Councilmember Christopher Glover, HSCC vice chair, presented certificates to the remaining four finalists, the cities of Peoria, Scottsdale, Surprise, and Tempe.

“These communities are role models for connecting people across generations. We can all learn from their example,” said Councilmember Osborne. “Through the Greater Phoenix Age-Friendly Network, we can share the lessons learned from the winner and finalists of the competition by spreading good practices throughout the region.”

The Greater Phoenix region as a whole was recognized earlier this week in Washington, D.C. with a “Best Intergenerational Community Award” from Generations United. The flag the region received was re-presented at today’s conference.

Nominations received for the community competition are posted online in the “Community” section at [www.Connect60Plus.com](http://www.Connect60Plus.com). Resources are also available on the website to assist communities in becoming more age-friendly.

The competition was hosted by MAG with support from Grantmakers in Aging, the Pfizer Foundation, and Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust. The nominations were assessed by a panel of national experts in intergenerational programs, aging, and evaluation. Nominations were evaluated for how well they addressed intergenerational elements, including outdoor spaces, transportation, social inclusion, employment, communications, lifelong learning, volunteering, and community and health services.

The review panel included Dr. John Feather, CEO of Grantmakers in Aging; Jennifer Wallace Brodeur, Strategic Advisor, Livable Communities Team, AARP; Leah Bradley, Program Director, Generations United; and Dr. Clarin Collins, Research and Evaluation Officer, Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust. The panel used an evaluation matrix developed by the International Federation on Aging, the New York Academy of Medicine, and Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust.

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