

BROOME AGE-FRIENDLY PROJECT GOALS

- To make Broome County a more attractive and livable community for people of all ages
- To provide optimal access to safe and appropriate housing, health care, community mobility and civic engagement activities that enable meaningful social participation and maximize quality of life
- To foster an inclusive community where people's decisions and life choices are respected
- To anticipate and respond flexibly to the changing needs of our county
- To enhance community partnerships
- To have data to support funding applications for community projects
- To support efforts to achieve the vision of New York State as the first Age-Friendly State in the United States



For More Information or to Find Out How You Can Help Broome County Become More Age-Friendly:



607-778-2411



OFA@BroomeCounty.US



**Broome County Office for Aging
PO Box 1766
Binghamton, NY 13902**



www.gobroomecounty.com/senior/

The Broome Age-Friendly Project



**Creating a Healthy
Community that Supports
People of All Ages**

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WHY BECOME AGE-FRIENDLY?

Broome County's 60+ population is growing: currently it is 24.5% of the total population and will be about 30% by 2025.

Older adults contribute socially and economically to the community.

Most people want to remain in their own homes as they age.

Older adults are an essential part of the community. They give back through volunteering at local organizations, sharing their knowledge and expertise, and supporting our local economy through direct spending on goods and services such as retail, restaurants and health care. According to AARP, persons over the age of 50 control 70% of the country's wealth and make up 51% of consumer spending, so they are a critical part of an area's economic health.

As our population ages and people live longer, our community must adapt to meet the needs of all residents and ensure that the community remains a desirable place to live. Services and planning efforts need to include age-friendly concepts to support healthy aging and independent living. By creating environments that support healthy aging, people of all ages will benefit.

It's time for Broome County to go age-friendly!

WHAT ARE AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES?

Age-Friendly Communities make a commitment to actively work together toward being a great place to live for people of all ages by engaging citizens, professionals, and government in finding creative, workable solutions to community needs.

AARP describes a number of key areas which impact the age-friendliness of communities and contribute to quality of life for residents of all ages:

Community Support & Health Services

People need accessible and affordable health services and appropriate community supports.

Transportation

A variety of public and private transportation options should be available throughout the entire county. Pedestrians need sidewalks and safe, crossable streets.

Respect and Social Inclusion; Social and Civic Participation; Employment

People benefit from being engaged in their community at every stage of life. Communities need a variety of accessible, affordable and fun social activities, intergenerational gatherings, and volunteer and employment opportunities.

Housing

Most older adults want to reside in their current home and may need modifications to age-in-place. There should be a range of housing options suitable for people of all incomes, ages and life stages.

Communication and Information

Age-friendly communities recognize that information needs to be shared through a variety of digital and traditional communication methods to reach all residents.

Outdoor Spaces and Public Buildings

People need public places to gather – indoors and out. Green spaces, seating and accessible buildings can be used and enjoyed by people of all ages.



BRIEF HISTORY AND CURRENT STATUS OF THE BROOME AGE-FRIENDLY PROJECT

2018: The age-friendly planning process began

2019: A Community Needs Survey was completed by 2,157 residents age 55+

2019-2020: Workgroups met to review data and community needs, determine priorities, and create an action plan

2020: AARP approved Broome County's multi-year action plan

2021: Implementation of the action plan is currently underway

Look at the back of this brochure for contact information so you can get involved!