



# State of New York County of Broome Government Offices

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Office of the Broome County Executive  
Jason T. Garnar, County Executive

June 25, 2018

Beth Finkel, State Director, AARP  
750 Third Avenue, 31st Fl  
New York, NY 10017

Dear State Director Beth Finkel,

On behalf of Broome County, I would like to express our dedication to the principles of Age-Friendly Communities, and our desire to join the AARP and WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. Broome County is committed to addressing the needs of our aging population, with significant personnel and financial resources dedicated to this goal.

Like much of the nation, our county is seeing a significant increase in our aging and retiring populations. 2010 Census data shows individuals age 60 + make up a higher proportion of the population in Broome County (22%) than they do in the state and national populations (19%; 18%). These population trends are expected to continue, leading to increased demand for efficient and effective services for older adults.

To address the county's changing demographics, the Broome County Office for Aging tirelessly seeks strategic and innovative ways to serve our aging residents. The office participates in many community partnerships that touch on the eight domains of livability outlined by AARP; specifically, access to safe transportation, ensuring safe and affordable housing, providing community and health services, and social inclusion and respect for community elders.

Based on the age-friendly model, Broome County intends to engage in the following activities:

- Establish a Task Force comprised of representatives from several county departments, community organizations and other entities
- Identify the unique needs of older adults in Broome County through a community-wide needs assessment process
- Define a Plan of Action with measurable goals and specific activities to address needs of older adults while integrating the principles and guidelines for age friendly communities
- Continue to assess and add new goals and activities in the Plan of Action to respond to any emerging needs of older adults

We look forward to working with AARP staff and our partners to continue developing Broome County as an age friendly community.

Sincerely,

Jason T. Garnar  
Broome County Executive