



State: Tennessee
Community Name: City of Gallatin
Population Size: 42918
Percentage of Residents Above Age 60: 15
Community Structure: City
Other:
Community Type: Suburban (offices, apartments and shops)
Elected Official Signing the Letter of Commitment Name: Paige Brown
Title: Mayor
Office Mailing Address: 132 West Main Street, Gallatin, TN 37066

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[Redacted] Communications Director for the City of Gallatin, is a core-group member of our "Gallatin Senior Roundtable." His daily duties include website maintenance, grant writing and social media content creation for the city of Gallatin. He is a liaison to all departments of city government. He helps coordinate Gallatin Senior Council meetings, distributes information to the public, creates graphics and produces videos. Hentschel is personally engaged with the elderly population in that he is 52 (considered a senior in some circles), has two parents in a local assisted living community, and is married to a woman who works for an eldercare attorney after working in an assisted living facility.

Older Adult Involvement: Our current core group includes members of local hospitals, assisted living centers, community colleges, churches, Gallatin Senior Center and our Gallatin Chamber of Commerce. While the group is a good start, we have a long way to go in representing older adults in a meaningful way. One of our first tasks will be to attract a motivated and diverse group of core members and stake holders - people that aren't just chosen, but rather choose us because they have relevant personal and professional experiences and a desire to foster change in

our community. Under the guidance of the Roadmap to Livability, inviting those who are living with a disability, are 80 years or older, using income based services, or represent the cultural, ethnic and racial diversity of the community will be on our radar. With our connections with Volunteer State Community College, inviting students who are interested in research and urban planning will be helpful. We are also encouraged to develop a robust group of stakeholders that includes elected and appointed officials, the Gallatin Chamber of Commerce and civic groups like the Lions and Rotary Clubs. Gallatin has a Senior Center that will be critical in drawing in older adult participation. Admittedly, our core group members are people who tend to be a part of many committees in Gallatin. While they are effective and reliable, pulling in "real" members of our senior community will be much harder, but no doubt will yield much more meaningful input into this process.

**Increasing
Collaboration
and
Coordination:**

The Gallatin Senior Roundtable initially had a goal of developing a local directory for seniors. After that project was accomplished, the group was uncertain on what direction we wanted to go from there. Before we discovered AARP's Livable City's initiative, the idea of facilitating collaboration between city departments and agencies emerged as the most productive action we could focus our next efforts. Determining how our Civic Center could expand on their programs and make them more available to seniors in area independent and assisted living communities; connecting church facilities and programs that could engage older residents beyond their memberships; using city government resources and the Civic Center to enhance the Gallatin Senior Center, and redefining how city-owned facilities might be used to give seniors more resources were all discussed. Lastly, the City of Gallatin may be able to facilitate grant applications to support non-profits in the area (like the Shalom Zone) which serve our senior community.

AARP Team

Member Contact Info: Byron Kamp AARP TN Volunteer Lead Cell 925-518-1530
bakamp@gmail.com

Most Instructive Area of Work: When selecting what type of community we were, it was somewhat painful to choose "suburban" over "small town." Gallatin is 25 miles outside of Nashville, and for the last five years, approximately 180 people have been moving to Gallatin every month, making it the 4th fastest growing city in Tennessee. Recent surveys show the community embraces our small-town feel and wants to preserve our history and natural beauty. This feeling must be shared among other smaller communities in Tennessee. If we can properly apply the guidance of AARP's strategies to our perceived small-town values, where neighbors look out for one another and respect our elders, combined with the hot-button issues like sustainable growth, this initiative could gain traction and serve as inspiration for other communities like ours.

**Optional
Resolution:**

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Logo or Image:

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Website: <https://www.gallatintn.gov/>
Twitter 2:
Facebook 1: <https://www.facebook.com/gallatingov>
Facebook 2:
Additional Social Media: <https://www.instagram.com/cityofgallatin/channel/>