



No Senior Left Behind

A REPORT OF THE
KNOX COUNTY

SENIOR SUMMIT INITIATIVE

2004 - 2006



*Mike Ragsdale
Knox County Mayor*



Foreword



Mike Ragsdale
Knox County Mayor

Making sure that no senior is left behind has been one of the four focal points of our government over the past four years, and will continue to be one of our top priorities for the next four. With the number of citizens over age 60 expected to double by the year 2025, it's more important than ever to stay focused on the care of seniors.

We have held four Senior Summits, beginning with the first in 2002, to guide us and provide a roadmap in caring for seniors. The fourth Senior Summit was held in November 2005. A theme that has been constant throughout based on feedback from seniors is quality of life issues.

One area that we felt was crucial to enhancing quality of life was the creation of facilities where seniors could gather and socialize. In other words, we wanted to create areas where seniors could remain active and engaged within their community.

As a result, we have expanded the Frank Strang, John T. O'Connor and Corryton Community Senior Centers, built a new senior center in Halls, and broke ground this spring on a new center in South Knoxville. These centers are bustling with activity and seniors are making great use of them.

The new East Tennessee Veterans

Nursing Home will open in October of this year and will have a regional impact on the lives of our veterans.

We now have a community network that takes care of seniors' transportation, health care, recreation, nutrition, and prescription drugs. We've eliminated the waiting list for Mobile Meals.

These accomplishments were born out of the Senior Summits and the No Senior Left Behind initiative with input from seniors, seniors service providers, social service agencies, private businesses and caring citizens. This 2004-2006 report outlines even more accomplishments.

I believe the No Senior Left Behind initiative has built and bridged many relationships among citizens of all generations in this community. I also believe that seniors truly represent our greatest generation. They have played an important role in our country and continue to play an important role in our community. Through this initiative, we show our gratitude for their dedication to this community and how they continue to make it a great American community.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Ragsdale". The script is fluid and cursive.

Mike Ragsdale
Knox County Mayor



Special Recognition

This “No Senior Left Behind” report would not have been possible without the interest and enthusiastic support of the Knox County Commission. Each commissioner is owed a debt of sincere appreciation.

Knox County Commission

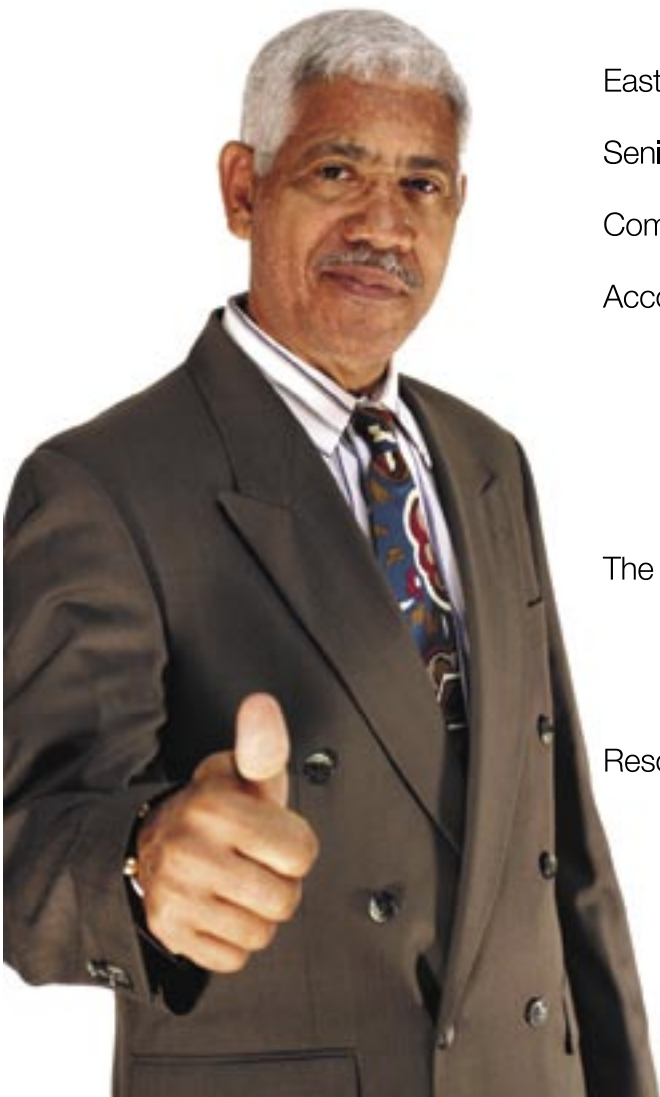
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