



Senior Transportation Services

[Senior Transportation Services, Inc](#)

[860-224-7117](tel:860-224-7117)

seniortransportationservices@yahoo.com

July 2022 Newsletter

What are Senior Transportation Services?

The mission of Senior Transportation Services [STS] is to assist older residents of Berlin, Meriden, New Britain, Southington, Wallingford and Plainville, ages 55 and over, to live independently in their own homes. STS Volunteer Drivers provide curb to curb, safe, reliable and economical healthcare transportation to out of town appointments, pharmacies and care facilities to visit loved ones. This allows our clients to age in place without being homebound.

Fundraising

Our annual Mother's Day Weekend Flower Sale went off without a hitch! While raising money for our organization, STS had the opportunity to meet locals and introduce our services to prospective clients. We would like to thank everyone for your continuous support for our ongoing mission here at STS, and to Karabin Farms for supplying their beautiful & vibrant flowers. Here are some photos captured during our flower sale:



If you missed our Flower Sale don't worry, we are having our Lyman Orchard Pie/Cookie Fundraiser in November! Order forms will be sent out early September and need to be returned to our office before **October 14th**. All fundraiser sales help support our free transportation in our communities. There will be lots of tasty desserts to choose from, which will all be great to share with family, friends and loved ones during the holiday season.

STS is always looking to create new fund-raising events, and as members of our community, we would like to hear from you! We are continuously brainstorming to see what we can bring to the table for our next new fundraiser, so any and all suggestions are welcomed and will be considered.

Donating to STS

With gas prices fluctuating, it's getting more and more expensive to fund our volunteer drivers to provide rides. STS implements a small per mile stipend to our drivers monthly, along with ensuring drivers have sanitary items as needed. We always welcome large contributions, but because we serve families and seniors with limited incomes, even the smallest contribution goes a long way.

Across all 6 communities that STS serves, 78% of transportation provided is of no cost to our clients. With donations and contributions that come in monthly, \$50.00 worth of donations will provide 1 round trip ride and \$100.00 would support 2 round trip rides. STS wants to be transparent as to how our funding is redirected right back to the organization, and in turn back to our community.

The office staff and board members would like to thank everyone who has donated to Senior Transportation Services Inc.! Our company exists only through individual donations, Grants and Sponsorships. If you would like to make a donation to help us continue our services, you can:

1. Go to our website, www.seniorrides.org and click on "How you can help", or
2. Mail your donation to Senior Transportation Services, Inc., 830 Corbin Ave, New Britain, CT 06052. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and your monetary donation is a tax deduction.
3. Honorarium - If you would like to recognize a family member, friend or acquaintance with a charitable gift, STS will send a note to the recipient, stating that a gift in their honor has been received.
4. In Memoriam - If you would like to recognize a person that has passed with a charitable gift, STS will notify the family of the deceased stating a gift has been given in their name.

Facebook Page

If you're looking to support STS in more ways than one, we definitely suggest visiting our Facebook page and following us. The next time you're on Facebook search for [Senior Transportation Services, Inc.](#) to stay up-to-date with all events, fundraising and programs soon to come!

Ride Notations - Clients

Mobility Adjustments - If there are changes in mobility for a client (canes, walkers and/or oxygen tanks) please notify the office so that we can update your file. The better informed we are about any special circumstances, the better we are able to assist both the clients and having the drivers aware of the situation.

Appointment Reminders - We are currently taking appointments up to one year in advance. As our client volume is increasing, it is always a good idea to get your appointments in the system as soon as possible.

10 Day Notice - We are starting to get stricter with the 10-working day rule. Appointments have to be made at least 10 business days prior your appointment, not including weekends or holidays.

Parking Fees - If a parking fee is required (parking garage, parking lot, or space with parking meters), it is the client's responsibility to pay the charge.

Additional Stops - After your medical appointment, drivers can make pharmacy or bank stops during a scheduled ride. Please let the office know prior to your appointment because office approval is needed for secondary stops.

We need your help! Please let your friends and relatives know about what STS does. If you are in the doctor's office mention STS to the doctor, nurse, receptionist and other patients in the waiting room. You as our clients are our biggest advocates! We want to spread the word about our organization to grow and add more towns to our coverage.

STS is always trying to improve our service and get the word out that we are here to help! If you know of any friends, family or loved ones who we can assist through our organization, please let them know that we are here to offer our support. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

Mail: Senior Transportation Services Inc. 830 Corbin Ave., New Britain, CT 06052

Email: seniortransportationservices@yahoo.com

Phone Number: 860-224-7117

Ride Notations & Drivers Recognition

Supplies that are available at the office: Masks, sanitary wipes, sanitary spray, hand sanitizer, seat belt extensions and car magnets.

Mark your calendars for **September 14th** for our annual Drivers Recognition Lunch! As a thank you for all that you do for STS and for our community, we would love to get everyone together. More specifics about the Drivers Recognition Lunch are soon to come.

Driver Recognition for 2nd Quarter

Driver with the **Most Rides** – Stephen Bransfield: 104 rides

Driver with the **Most Milage** – Ronald Lepak: 1,738 miles

Driver with the **Most Hours** – Jim Catala: 77.75 hours

Driver Appreciation - Paul Marlowe and Pat McCurdy-Crescimanno; both drivers have had clients who called in to express not only how pleasant their experiences were, but also how nice and caring each driver has been.

Special Shout-out - John Loughran has gone above and beyond to service one of our Southington clients. Having just been released from the hospital, our client is now in a rehab facility but still needing transportation to get to dialysis. John not only committed to the client's daily transportation, but stays in close contact with the client's family by offering support and checking in on days John isn't with our client. Although this type of service isn't required from our drivers, it goes to show the one-on-one connection and hospitality that through our services, can have a long-lasting impact.

Happy Birthday to our Drivers!

July Birthdays – James Sarfeh, Brenda Lobb & Marilou Lang

August Birthdays – Kenneth Wilson, Robert Walker, Pat McCurdy-Crescimanno, Ruth Lasota & Paul Grenier

September Birthdays – Stephanie Cooperman, Stephan Bransfield, Elisa Allardice, Leah Hayes & Judith Morris

Happy Anniversary to our Drivers

July Anniversary – Elisa Allardice, Paul Grenier & Hermann Kasper (2 years), Jim O'Konis (13 years), Kurt Ryder (7 years), Ray Gawlak (5 years), Lynne Fox (3 years) & Brenda Lobb (1 year)

August Anniversary – Anna Starodaj (8 years) & Irving Johnson (2 years)

September Anniversary – MaryAnn Nessell (10 years) & Joyce Jenkins (2 years)

Volunteer Drivers Wanted

Senior Transportation Services, Inc. is looking for safe, reliable volunteers willing to use their own car to aid Berlin, New Britain, Meriden, Wallingford, Southington & Plainville's elderly residents get to medical appointments in the area. The minimum commitment is **only 2 rides per month**. For more information and a copy of our application, go to our website seniorrides.org and click on the 'Volunteers' tab or call our office (860)-224-7117 and speak to the Program Coordinator, Kaiya.

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: When will I be picked up to get to my medical appointment?

Answer: Drivers will contact our clients the day prior to their appointment to introduce themselves as your driver and discuss what pick-up time would work best for the both of you. If clients have a later afternoon appointment, it is common for drivers to reach out the morning of the appointment to then arrange the pick-up time.

**Any comments, suggestions or questions on how we could improve and enhance our service can always be called in or emailed to us at any time to seniortransportationservices@yahoo.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

Additional Resources Available

FOOD - Mobile Foodshare -A truck delivers food weekly at various areas in each of the Towns we service. There is no income requirement or no residency requirements. Call Foodshare at (800)-292-3570 for times and places to pick -up food.

HOUSING - TEMPORARY HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM - Prevent evictions, and help with mortgage payments during the pandemic. Call 1-800-785-3111 between 8am – 5pm.

CONNECTICUT ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CEAP) Homeowners and Renters who pay separately for heat CALL 1-800-842-1132

FINANCES - FREE FINANCIAL COACHING - Connecticut residents dealing with creditors or finding resources for managing their money, call the local United Way office.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE - Free Income Tax preparation for anyone making under \$57,000/YEAR. Call 211 for help.

<u>Senior Transportation Services is Partially Funded By:</u>	<u>United Way of Southington – Funds Courtesy of Main Street Community Foundation</u>
<u>CDBG – City of New Britain</u>	<u>United Way of Meriden and Wallingford</u>
<u>Community Foundation of Greater New Britain</u>	<u>Unite Way of Southington, Inc.</u>
<u>City of Meriden - SCAAA</u>	<u>American Savings Foundation</u>
<u>North Central Area Agency on Aging, Inc.</u>	<u>Maximilian E. & Marion O. Hoffman Foundation, Inc.</u>
<u>Community Chest of New Britain & Berlin</u>	<u>Farmington Bank Community Foundation</u>

<u>Senior Transportation is Partially Sponsored By:</u>	<u>Hartford Healthcare</u>
<u>Hospital of Central CT</u>	<u>Meriden Rotary</u>