



Senior Transportation Services

Senior Transportation Services, Inc

October 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.



Happy Autumn!



Fall Fundraising

Our Fall Fundraiser has begun! As we did last year, we will be selling a variety of Pies and Cookie Dough. Orders for pies and cookie dough will be delivered to all clients the week prior to Thanksgiving; Thursday, November 17th. All fundraiser sales help support our free rides in 6 communities we serve. So, if you're looking for easy-to-prepare desserts for your Thanksgiving get-together, consider ordering from us while also helping to keep STS operating. Order forms will be sent out and need to be returned to our office before **October 14th**. 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!



Donating to STS

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, a \$50.00 donation will provide 1 round trip ride and \$100.00 would provide 2 round trip rides. STS wants to be transparent as to how our donations are 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, 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.



Seasonal Gifts



If you are looking for a seasonal gift to give a friend, family or loved one, a donation in their name would be a very meaningful gift. Upon receiving your contribution, there will be a gift sent to the recipient including a card with a hand written note, also acknowledging the donation and who was kind enough to donate 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 - Client

Engaging at Every Age!

Intergenerational engagement can help develop a greater sense of fulfillment for both the youth and older adults, and STS wants to connect the generations! **The STEPS Coalition and STS will be starting a Pen Pal Program with students!** Participants will write one letter per month with prompt questions to start each letter. All letters can either be handwritten or typed, then go through STS to STEPS for privacy. We plan to start sending letters sometime in the near future, so if any of our clients would like to register, please call the office or send us an email. We'd love to hear from you!

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 need assistance 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

Quarterly Ride Reports

Many older adults are faced with increased medical expenses, burdening their fixed monthly income. Transportation expenses are additional burden. STS prides itself in providing all clients the same level of service no matter what level of income. Low-income clients receive free transportation to ensure they receive the medical services they require. Every quarter, STS would like to introduce our Ride Reports in our Newsletter, and show exactly how much free transportation we are able to provide!

Free Ride Totals July-August:

Total number of rides provided in all 6 communities: 690 rides

Total mileage driven by volunteer drivers: 10,519 miles

Total hours completed by volunteer drivers: 558 hours

Town of Berlin: 2 rides were free!

Town of Meriden: 97 rides were free!

Town of New Britain: 219 rides were free!

Town of Plainville: 43 rides were free!

Town of Southington: All 202 rides provided were free thanks to the United Way of Southington, courtesy of Barnes Memorial Trust!

Town of Wallingford: 24 rides were free!

Ride Notations - Driver

Supplies that are available at the office:

Masks, sanitary wipes, sanitary spray, hand sanitizer, seat belt extensions and car magnets.

Driver Recognition July - September Quarter

Driver with the **Most Rides** – Sharon Guite: 66 rides

Driver with the **Most Milage** – Stephen Bransfield: 998 miles (Honorable Mention to Brenda Lobb with 869 miles in Southington alone!)

Driver with the **Most Hours** – Stephen Bransfield: 63.75 hours

Driver Appreciation – Ronald and Victoria Lepak; This husband-and-wife duo frequently have clients call in to complement their kindness and how comfortable they felt during transportation! Thank you to the both of you for all you do!



Happy Birthday to our Drivers!

October Birthdays – James Sarfeh, Brenda Lobb & Marilou Lang

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

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

Happy Anniversary to our Drivers!

October Anniversary – Stephanie Cooperman (4 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 Alexander.

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Can I tip or pay the drivers?

Answer: Any payments such as tips during, before or after transportation do not go through the driver. Please make all donations directly to STS, by mail or website.

**Any comments, suggestions or questions on how we could improve and enhance our service are always welcome, feel free to email us at any time to

seniortransportationservices@yahoo.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

Additional Resources Available

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

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 (860) 856-4321 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.

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.

211- Provides free, essential community resources that are available 24/7.

Senior Transportation Services is Partially Funded By:

<u>United Way of Southington – Funds Courtesy of Barnes Memorial Trust</u>	<u>Community Foundation of Greater New Britain</u>
<u>City of Meriden – SCAAA</u>	<u>North Central Area Agency on Aging, Inc.</u>
<u>Community Chest of New Britain & Berlin</u>	<u>United Way of Meriden and Wallingford</u>
<u>United Way of Southington, Inc.</u>	<u>American Savings Foundation</u>
<u>Maximilian E. & Marion O. Hoffman Foundation, Inc.</u>	<u>Farmington Bank Community Foundation</u>
<u>Sponsored By:</u> <u>Hartford Healthcare</u> <u>Hospital of Central CT</u> <u>Meriden Rotary</u>	