



Senior Transportation Services

Senior Transportation Services, Inc.

July 2023 Newsletter

Fundraising

STS had a successful flower sale May 12th & 13th Mother's Day Weekend! Our Board Members and Office Staff would like to thank all the people who had supported our Flower Sale, along with the people who took the time to inquire about our services! Fundraisers are a great way for STS to share information amongst our communities to residents who are in need.



We are looking forward to our next upcoming fundraiser this Fall for our Lyman Orchard's Pie/Cookie sale! Order forms will be sent out to all clients with various options to choose from delicious desserts!

Welcome New Board Members!

STS is pleased to announce the joining of 4 new members to our Board of Directors:

Liz Cornish
Lori DelVaglio
Kevin Ferrarotti
Stephan Mangan

Volunteer Drivers Wanted

Do you know anyone who is retired; a veteran; home during the day and looking for a volunteer opportunity. 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 residents, age 55 and older, 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.

Facebook Page

If you're looking to support STS, we 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!

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Do you only provide transportation for doctor's appointments?

Answer: We provide all types of medical transportation; ranging from regular doctor's visits to physical/behavioral therapy, dentists, optometrists and going to the YMCA, visiting loved ones in care facilities.

Any comments, suggestions, or questions on how we could improve and enhance our service are always welcome, feel free to email us at seniortransportationservices@yahoo.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

Notes for our Clients

- If you haven't already, please make sure your fire alarms, smoke detectors and all other yearly home checkups are in order and functioning.
- We want to remind everyone of our Covid-19 policy. We require that all clients are vaccinated unless they can provide a medical exemption letter written by their physician.
- Masks are no longer required during transportation. It is now the discretion of both the Driver and Client to choose whether to wear a mask or not.
- Be sure to recommend STS to friends, family or loved ones who would benefit from our transportation services. 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

Client Gifts

If you are looking for a meaningful gift to give a friend, family or loved one who is a current or prospective client of STS, you can donate in their name and we will credit it to their account. We will send a hand-written note to the recipient acknowledging your gift.

Donating to STS

The office staff and board members would like to thank everyone who has donated to Senior Transportation Services Inc. Our organization exists only through individual donations, Grants and Sponsorships.

Across all 6 communities that STS serves, 78% of transportation provided is at no cost to our clients. Donations and contributions help to support free rides. A \$50 donation will provide 1 round trip ride and \$100 would provide 2 round trip rides. Here's how you can donate:

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 tax deductible.
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 make a charitable gift in the name of someone who has passed, STS will notify the family of the deceased stating a gift has been made in their name.

Quarterly Ride Reports

Following up on the no cost rides, 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 include our Ride Reports in our Newsletter to show exactly how much free transportation we are able to provide through the donations, grants and sponsorships we receive!

Free Ride Totals April-June 2023:

Total number of free rides provided in the communities: 1,113 rides

Total number of rides provided in all 6 communities: 1,269 rides

Total mileage driven by volunteer drivers: 20,322.06 miles

Total hours completed by volunteer drivers: 1,114.25 hours

Town of Berlin: 28 rides were free!

Town of Meriden: 119 rides were free!

Town of New Britain: 326 rides were free!

Town of Plainville: 116 rides were free!

Town of Southington: All 469 rides provided were free thanks to the United Way of Southington, courtesy of Barnes Memorial Trust

Town of Wallingford: 55 rides were free!

Senior Transportation Services is grateful for support from the following organizations who provide partial funding for our services:

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

To Our Volunteer Drivers

With the summer heat in mind, please do not leave your car magnets on your vehicles for an extended amount of time. We did have a report from one of our drivers whose magnet stuck to their vehicle. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the office.

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

Masks are no longer required while driving. It is now the discretion of both the Driver and Client to choose whether to wear a mask or not.

Thank you to all the drivers who participated in deliveries for our Mother’s Day Flower Sale fundraiser to our clients who placed orders. They are grateful for the delivery service!

Driver Recognition January-June

Driver with the **Most Rides** – Stephen Bransfield (246 rides)

Driver with the **Most Milage** – Jane Patsas (5,773 miles)

Driver with the **Most Hours** – Sharon Guite (113 hours)

Driver Appreciation – Victoria & Ronald Lepak: The office has had numerous clients call in to express their gratitude and appreciation for them during their transportation. STS is very grateful to have such wonderful and caring individuals who volunteer for our services!

Happy Anniversary to our Drivers!

April Anniversary – Kathleen Connolly (4 years)

May Anniversary – Anne Wroblewski (4 years), Margaret Lemrise (4 years), Edward Barillaro (2 years), Stephen Bransfield (2 years), Mark Ferron (2 years), Leah Hayes (1 year), James Sarfeh (1 year), Kenneth Wilson (1 year), Paul Marlowe (1 year)

June Anniversary – Carol Gallese (14 years), Robert Walker (7 years), Bonnie Carilli (4 years), Donna Cistulli (3 years), Jane Patsas (1 year)

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 get 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. Also contact your local senior center for tax preparation needs and resources.

HOME SAFETY SOLUTIONS- Hartford HealthCare Home Safety Solutions offers technology that promotes independence, safety, and improved quality of life for seniors. They have devices for fall prevention, emergency response, medication management, remote monitoring, home safety, and hearing assistance. For more information, pricing and referrals please call 203-295-7476.

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