



# Senior Transportation Services

Senior Transportation Services, Inc.

July 2025 Newsletter

## New Fundraising Event - Purse Bingo!

We're thrilled to announce our **first-ever** Purse Bingo fundraiser, happening on **Friday, October 17th**! All are welcome to join us for a fun-filled evening and take your shot at winning one of many fabulous **designer handbags**. Event times and ticket prices are still being finalized, but we'll be sharing all the latest updates on our **Facebook page** — so be sure to like and follow us to stay in the loop! You won't want to miss this exciting new event in support of our mission!

## Save the Date - Annual Drivers Luncheon

We're excited to announce that our **Annual Volunteer Drivers Luncheon** will be held on **Wednesday, October 2nd**! Join us for an afternoon filled with tasty food, desserts, and heartfelt appreciation as we honor the incredible individuals who generously give their time and dedication to help sustain our mission. More details will be shared in next month — so be on the lookout! We can't wait to celebrate with you.

## Mother's Day Flower Sale Outcome

We're excited to share that our Annual Mother's Day Flower Sale was a great success! While Friday brought some rainy weather, Saturday was beautiful, and we were thrilled to see so many friendly faces come out in support. Thanks to your generosity and participation, **we raised over \$1,000** to support our mission of providing free transportation to seniors in our community. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who stopped by, volunteered, or helped spread the word. Your support continues to make a lasting difference!

## Important Update on Services

Due to a continued increase in the volume of transportation requests, our daily appointment slots are filling up quickly. As a result, we are no longer able to schedule appointments later than 2:30 PM. We'd also like to remind clients that all transportation requests must be made at least 10 business days in advance—this does not include weekends or holidays. This advance notice helps us coordinate rides efficiently and ensure we can meet as many needs as possible. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

## Volunteer Drivers Wanted

Are you retired, a veteran, or find yourself at home during the day searching for a meaningful volunteer opportunity? Senior Transportation Services, Inc. seeks dependable volunteers, willing to use their personal vehicles, to help residents aged 55 and over in Berlin, New Britain, Meriden, Wallingford, Southington, and Plainville reach their medical appointments. We ask for a minimum commitment of just two rides per month! For more details and to access our application, please visit [seniorrides.org](http://seniorrides.org) and select the 'Volunteers' tab, or contact our Program Coordinator, Kaiya Alexander, by calling (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. This QR Code can also be used to pay monthly Invoices for transportation!

PayPal QR Code:



## Website & Facebook Page

We are thrilled to announce that you can now conveniently fill out client applications online! Simply visit our website and head to the 'Become a Member' tab to get started. Joining our community has never been easier. We look forward to welcoming you! Visit us online at [www.seniorrides.org](http://www.seniorrides.org) to explore the new features and join our Facebook community page [Senior Transportation Services](#) today to stay up to date with all events, fundraising and programs soon to come, no matter where you are!

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Question:** When is best to call in my medical appointments?

**Answer:** These are best called in as soon as possible, with our Client number increasing our ride schedule is booking quicker than usual. Even if your appointment is in a few months, we always recommend calling them in advance!

Any comments, suggestions, or questions on how we could improve and enhance our service are always welcome, feel free to email us at [sts@seniorrides.org](mailto:sts@seniorrides.org). We look forward to hearing from you!

## Notes for our Clients

- A wonderful Wallingford client has donated Car Assist Handles for our Volunteer Drivers to use when transporting Clients. Thank you for your very generous donation!
- As temperatures rise, it's easy to get dehydrated. Drink plenty of water and enjoy seasonal fruits and vegetables for a health boost.
- Spring is a great time to review your medications for expiration dates and ensure you have an up-to-date first aid kit at home.
- Looking to share your experience about our services? Call into our office or send an email with a blurb on your transportation experience with our Drivers! We'd love to hear from you and share on our Facebook page!
- We book a year in advance for medical appointment transportation! Please call our office with your transportation requests.
- 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:** sts@seniorrides.org **Phone Number:** 860-224-7117

## To Our Volunteer Drivers

- **Car Assist Handles:** Our office has received a gracious donation from a Wallingford client of Car Assist Handles. We currently have 3 of these handles remaining in the office on a first come first serve basis. If any driver would like to have one to keep in their vehicle, please contact the office while supplies last!
- With Summer in full swing, pollen, dirt, and rain can affect how well car magnets stick to your vehicle. Along with it's heat, we ask that all drivers remove car magnets after transportation to prevent magnets adhering to the car. If you need a **replacement magnet**, please contact the office—we're happy to provide a new one!
- We kindly ask all Volunteer Drivers to **call Clients before their scheduled rides** to confirm the pickup time. A quick call helps ensure a smooth and timely experience for everyone—your thoughtfulness makes a big difference!
- To support your trips, we have the following **supplies available at the office:** Masks, Sanitary wipes, Sanitary spray, Hand sanitizer, Seat belt extensions, and Car magnets. If you need any of these items, feel free to stop by or reach out to the office. Thank you for your dedication and the exceptional service you provide to our community!
- A friendly reminder to log your transportation mileage in the system **by the 20th of each month**. Keeping mileage up to date helps us track volunteer contributions and maintain accurate records for reporting. If you have any questions or need assistance with entering your mileage, please don't hesitate to reach out—we're happy to help! Thank you for your time and dedication to providing safe and reliable transportation for our seniors. We truly appreciate all that you do!

## Driver Recognition April-June

Driver with the **Most Rides** –: Sharon Guite: **141 rides!**

Driver with the **Most Milage** –: Jane Patsas: **1,192 miles!**

Driver with the **Most Hours** –: Steve Bransfield: **63.5 hours!**

**Driver Appreciation** – Richard Pappas: Starting as a volunteer driver in April, Richard has been one of many great additions to our organization. His care for the community and clients is unwavering and we're excited to have him as apart of our mission!

## Happy Anniversary to our Drivers!

**April Anniversary-** Carl Psoter: 1 year!

**May Anniversary-** Steve Bransfield- 4 years, Mark Ferron- 4 years, Thomas Kiely: 1 year, Margaret Lemrise: 6 years, Paul Marlowe: 3 years, James Sarfeh: 3 years, Kenneth Wilson: 3 years, and Anne Wroblewski: 6 years!

**June Anniversary-** Bonnie Carilli: 6 years, Donna Cistulli: 5 years, and Jane Patsas: 3 years!

## 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](http://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.

## 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	
City of Meriden – SCAAA	North Central Area Agency on Aging, Inc.
Community Chest of New Britain & Berlin	United Way of Meriden and Wallingford
City of New Britain – CDBG	American Savings Foundation
New Britain Senior Center	Farmington Bank Community Foundation
Maximilian E. & Marion O. Hoffman Fdn., Inc.	
<b><u>Sponsored By:</u></b>	
Meriden Rotary    New Season in Life, LLC    Stop&Shop    GONETSPEED    Kaiya Alexander First Church of Christ    Hartford Healthcare    Accounts Management, Inc.    Nancy Morrissey	

## Quarterly Ride Reports

We understand that rising medical costs can be a challenge for our seniors living on fixed incomes, making every penny count. At STS, we're committed to providing the same high-quality care to all clients, regardless of financial situation. That's why we offer free transportation for low-income clients, ensuring they can attend their medical appointments worry-free. To keep you updated, we'll be sharing quarterly Ride Reports in our Newsletter, showing the impact of the generous donations, grants, and sponsorships that make our services possible!

### **Free Ride Totals April-June 2025:**

Total number of free rides provided in the communities: **420 free rides!**

Total number of rides provided in all 6 communities: **638 total rides!**

Total mileage driven by volunteer drivers: **16,988.6 total miles!**

Total hours completed by volunteer drivers: **942.25 total hours!**

Town of Meriden: **118 rides were free!**

Town of New Britain: **192 rides were free!**

Town of Plainville: **36 rides were free!**

Town of Southington: **All 442 rides provided were free thanks to the United Way of Southington, courtesy of Barnes Memorial Trust!**

Town of Wallingford: **74 rides were free!**

## **Additional Resources Available**

### **Community Foodshare**

Weekly truck deliveries of food in the following towns we service. There are no income nor residency requirements. If you're looking for more information on a location closest to you, please call CT Foodshare (203) 469-5000 or visit their website: <https://mobilefoodpantry.ctfoodshare.org/>

#### **Berlin**

Sacred Heart Church: 48 Cottage St., East Berlin, CT 06037

-Every 2 weeks on Friday 12-12:30pm.

#### **Meriden**

New Opportunities of Greater Meriden: 165 Miller St., Meriden, CT 06450

-Every 2 weeks on Thursday 1-2pm

Mount Hebron: 84 Franklin St., Meriden, CT 06450

-Every 2 weeks on Thursday 1:15-2:15pm

#### **New Britain**

St. Ann Church: 101 North St., New Britain, CT 06051

-Every 2 weeks on Tuesday 9-9:45am

New Britain HRA: 180 Clinton St., New Britain, CT 06053

-4th Saturday of every month 9:30-10:30am

HA Scarlett Dr.: 43 Scarlett Dr., New Britain, CT 06053

-Every 2 weeks on Tuesday 10:15-10:45am

#### **Southington**

The Tabernacle: 1445 West St., Southington, CT 06489

-Every 2 weeks on Tuesday 9:15-9:45am

#### **Wallingford**

Senior Center: 238 Washington St., Wallingford, CT 06492

-Every 2 weeks on Tuesday 8:30-9:15am

### **CONNECTICUT ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CEAP)**

Homeowners and Renters who pay separately for heat, contact your local office for application information and support. Please visit [ct.gov](http://ct.gov) for additional resources.

Greater New Haven: (203) 387-7700 ([www.caanh.net](http://www.caanh.net))

Greater Hartford: (860) 560-2694 ([www.crtct.org](http://www.crtct.org))

New Britain Energy Office: (860) 225-1084 ([www.hranbct.org](http://www.hranbct.org))

Greater Meriden: (203) 639-5060 ([www.newoppinc.org](http://www.newoppinc.org))

### **SECTION 8 HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER (HCV) PROGRAM & STATE RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (RAP)**

HVC is a federally funded initiative, and many housing authorities administer the HVC program. You can call the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in Hartford at (860) 240-4800 for more information and additional questions.

### **FAMILYWIZE: SAVE MONEY ON PRESCRIPTION DRUGS**

Familywize negotiates a discounted cost on prescription drugs and then passes 100% of that savings on to the consumer. Get the Familywize card via download, mobile app, email or text at: <https://familywize.org/free-prescription-discount-card>. Show your free card to the pharmacist to receive the lowest possible price for your prescription!

**\*\*Accepted at most pharmacies & community organization partners.**

### **VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)**

FREE Professional Tax Help if your household income is up to \$57,000 during the tax season. Sign up for a free, virtual session online at [www.211ct.org](http://www.211ct.org), click on "Tax Help" or dial **2-1-1**, press 3, then 6. 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**

Free and confidential helpline that connects individuals to resources and services in their community. You can dial 2-1-1 or visit their website, [211unitedway.org](http://211unitedway.org), to search for resources related to electric assistance, food assistance, housing assistance, financial assistance, and more.