



Senior Transportation Services

Senior Transportation Services, Inc.

October 2025 Newsletter

Annual Lyman Orchard Pie/Cookie Fundraiser

Our Lyman Orchards Fundraiser ordering period has officially closed, and we're thrilled to share that we raised just under \$1,200! Every dollar goes directly toward supporting our services and the Free Ride Scholarship Program for older adults in our community. Client deliveries are scheduled for Thursday, November 13th around 11:00 AM, and our office will be reaching out to confirm delivery details with each client. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make this fundraiser a success!

Drivers Recognition Luncheon- Thank you!

Earlier this month, we had the pleasure of hosting our annual Driver Recognition Luncheon—a wonderful afternoon celebrating our dedicated volunteer drivers and the incredible impact they make each day. Thank you to all who attended and to those who couldn't join us—you were missed but are always appreciated! A special thank-you also goes out to our gracious funders, whose continued support makes events like this possible. Congratulations to our prize winners, Sharon Guite and Charles Williams, for their outstanding contributions! We're so grateful for each and every one of our volunteers who help keep our mission moving forward—one ride at a time!

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 and select the 'Volunteers' tab, or contact our Program Coordinator, Kaiya Alexander, by calling (860) 224-7117.

Client Gifts

PayPal QR Code:

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!



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 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!

Question: If I have a handicap parking placard, can I bring this for the driver to use while transporting me?

Answer: Bringing your handicap parking placard would not be a problem! This helps with client ease to get to and from the medical facility.

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. 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!
- Fallen leaves and wet sidewalks can be slippery—take your time and wear sturdy shoes with good grip.
- Use draft stoppers or rolled towels at door bases to help keep warmth in and heating costs down.
- Looking to share your experience with 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 it 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 2 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 the change in seasons, cooler temperatures, rain, and debris from falling leaves can affect how well car magnets stick to your vehicle. To keep them in good shape, please remember to remove magnets after your transportation shifts. This helps prevent moisture buildup and keeps the magnets from adhering to the car's surface. 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!

Happy Anniversary to our Drivers!

July Anniversary- Russell Baim Jr. (3 years), Donald Beardsley (1 year), Ray Gawlak (8 years), Paul Grenier (5 years), Brenda Lobb (4 years), Jim O'Konis (16 years), and Kurt Ryder (10 years)!

August Anniversary- Mark Callahan (1 year), Irving Johnson (5 years), and Anna Starodaj (11 years)!

September Anniversary- MaryAnn Nessel (13 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 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.	
<u>Sponsored By:</u> 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 July-September 2025:

Total number of free rides provided in the communities: **976 free rides!**

Total number of rides provided in all 6 communities: **1,241 total rides!**

Total mileage driven by volunteer drivers: **21,431.1 total miles!**

Total hours completed by volunteer drivers: **1,138.5 total hours!**

Town of Berlin: **4 rides were free!**

Town of Meriden: **121 rides were free!**

Town of New Britain: **243 rides were free!**

Town of Plainville: **28 rides were free!**

Town of Southington: **All 467 rides provided were free thanks to the United Way of Southington, courtesy of Barnes Memorial Trust!**

Town of Wallingford: 113 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 for additional resources.

Greater New Haven: (203) 387-7700 (www.caanh.net)

Greater Hartford: (860) 560-2694 (www.crtct.org)

New Britain Energy Office: (860) 225-1084 (www.hranbct.org)

Greater Meriden: (203) 639-5060 (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, 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, to search for resources related to electric assistance, food assistance, housing assistance, financial assistance, and more.