

MILES THAT MATTER:

Volunteer Drivers Delivering Care, Companionship,
and Important Medical Access



PRESENTER:
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OUR MISSION:
"Our mission is to advocate for and empower older adults, caregivers, and individuals with disabilities to pursue independent, healthy lives."

MILES TRAVELED IN 2025

\$ 7,224 Paid Out

3,535.4 In Kind

10,575 Company Vehicle

TOTAL: 21,334.4

MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE:
\$0.45/mile

THE IMPACT OF A SINGLE RIDE.



INDEPENDENCE AND CHOICE

- Helps older adults remain independent in their homes and communities.
- Gives clients the ability to make their own appointments, run errands, and stay connected.



CONNECTION AND COMPANIONSHIP

- A volunteer driver is more than just a ride, they provide a friendly face and conversation.
- Helps reduce loneliness and isolation by creating meaningful interactions.
- Builds trust and friendships between clients and volunteers.



ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

- Helps clients get to medical appointments
- Reduces missed appointments due to lack of transportation
- Supports better healthcare outcomes by keeping clients connected to care.



ACCESS TO EVERY DAY NEEDS

- Allows clients to pick out their own groceries at the store.
- Allows clients to pick up medication at the pharmacy with details from the pharmacist.
- Helps older adults participate in activities that matter to them



BEING PREPARED:



Emesis Bags



Unpredicted Weather



Client Processing
Difficult News from
a Medical Provider

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS HELP CLIENTS:

- ✓ Get to Medical Appointments
- ✓ Get to the Grocery Store
- ✓ Pick Up Medication from the Pharmacy
- ✓ Enjoy Social Activities
- ✓ Receive Christmas Presents
- ✓ Receive Food from the Food Bank



NATIONAL AVERAGE OF VOLUNTEER VALUE: \$36.14

Resource: <https://independentsector.org/research/value-of-volunteer-time/>

FUNDING:

Grant Funding from
Community Care Corps
and other Grantors



WHO WE SERVE



Older adults, caregivers,
and individuals with
disabilities across rural
Iowa communities.



CLIENT TESTIMONY: "A couple takes me to the grocery store. They help me shop and get items off the shelf, then they carry them to the car, into the house and put them away for me. I am thankful to not have to drive during the winter and carry those groceries. They also take me to doctors' appointments when I can't drive and have appointments where I have to be put under. I also had an appointment where I had a spot on my lungs, and they came for moral support."

VOLUNTEER TESTIMONY: "When I became an Elderbridge volunteer one of the things I wanted to help with was driving clients to appointments. We live in rural Iowa, and it can be difficult to find transportation that is reliable. Sometimes these appointments are really early in the morning. I enjoy the conversation that I have with clients along the way. I also feel good that I can be a trusted source of being reliable. We have also built friendships and I have been there during a couple of difficult diagnoses for some clients."



NO COSTS TO CLIENTS!



WHY VOLUNTEERS MATTER.
VOLUNTEER
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES:



Fills gaps in rural
and underserved areas



Supports healthy
aging



Strengthens community
connections



Improve quality of life
one ride at a time

Thank you to our amazing volunteers - every mile you drive changes a life!