

THANK YOU!!



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THANK U!





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Thanks to all at
Newport Housing
Authority, particularly
resident services
coordinator, Rebecca
Allen, Resident
Council President,
Tom Sheehan, and
Building Manager, Pat
Rose.



THANK YOU!!!!

Van Driver Rick “special sauce” Desrosiers



Vehicle Sharing Project

Age-Friendly RI and RIPTA applied for and was awarded an NADTC-funded planning grant in August 2021 to explore transportation options for older Rhode Islanders and their disabled neighbors. Age-Friendly RI was subsequently awarded an implementation grant to fund a van sharing transportation pilot to serve older adults in Newport RI as well as disabled Newporter residents of all ages.

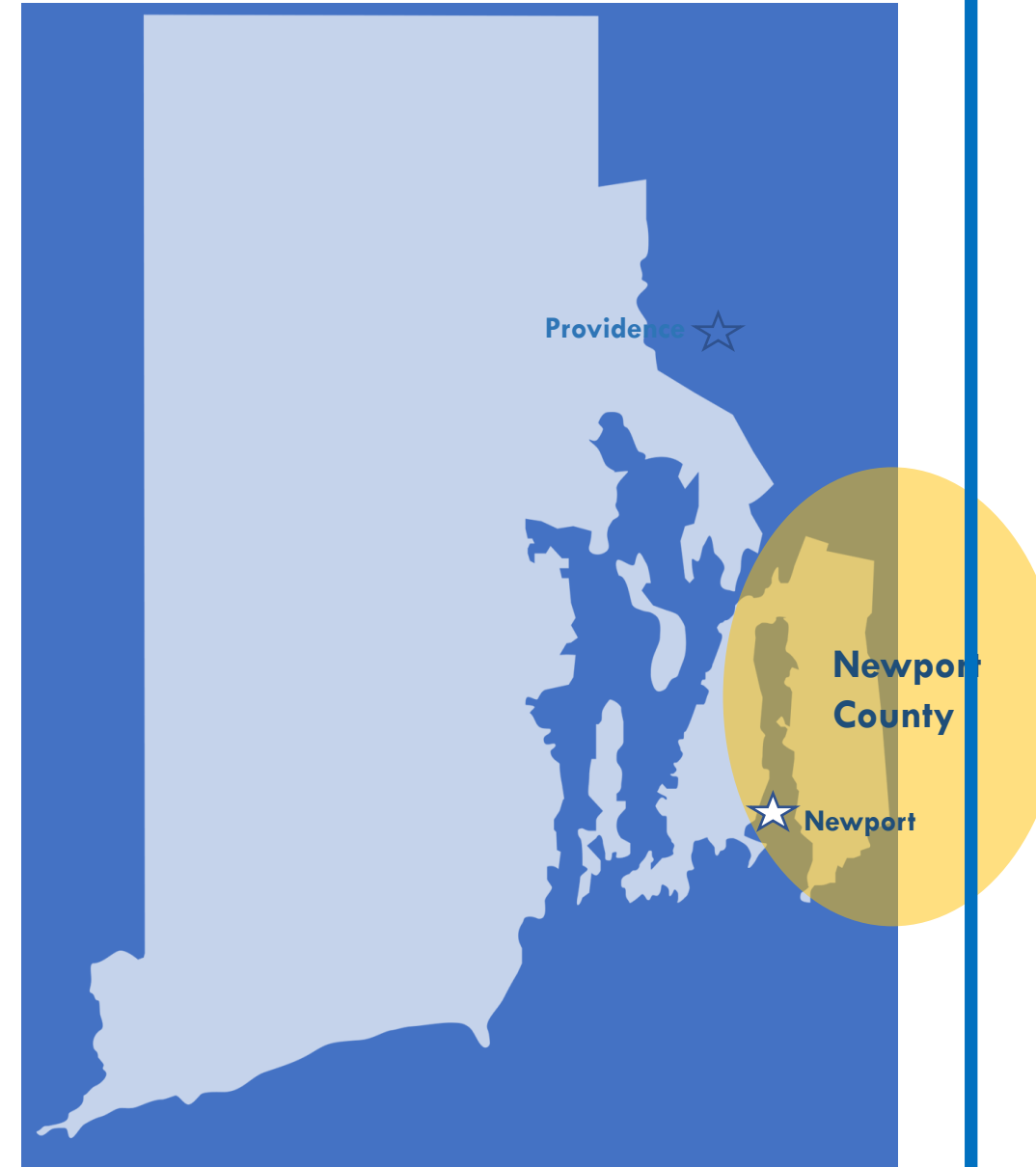
- Expand capacity to address unmet transportation needs
 - Connect North and South Ends
- Implement service to meal sites, programs and services at senior centers, shopping centers, and medical appointments in Newport County.
 - Utilize NADTC funds to compensate Looking Upwards

Project Location

Implementation will focus on diverse and underserved populations in **Newport County, RI**

Key Project Partners

- **Age Friendly-RI (AFRI)** a coalition of public, non-profit and faith organizations focused on healthy aging
- **RI Public Transit Authority (RIPTA)** the statewide transit provider and designated Mobility Manager
- **Looking Upwards** a social service organization based in Newport County



To Have and Have Not..



Sites Served: AHEPA @ Paramount Housing



Lessons Learned:

- Meet and develop relationships with influencers
- Develop “street cred”
- Listen and truly understand need while developing the pilot
- One step at a time
- As the pilot moves forward remain focused on sustainability

Lessons Learned:

THE Perfect Van Schedule (Or Not)

Pilot Routes for AFRI/MTA Transportation Project
February 2023

Week	Day	pick up location	boarding	drop off location	purpose	drop off time	departure	return to home base	total # of hours
1	MON	Donovan Manor	9:30am	Walmart Shopping Center	shopping/banking/laundry	10:00am	1:00pm	1:30pm	5
	TUES	Park Holm	9:30am	Walmart Shopping Center	shopping/banking/laundry	10:00am	1:00pm	1:30pm	5
		AHEPA	11:00am	EKHSC	Soups On!	12pm	12:45pm	1:45pm	4
	WED	Florence Gray	11:15am	EKHSC	Soups On!	12pm	12:45pm	1:30pm	
		Park Holm	11:30am	EKHSC	Soups On!	12pm	12:45pm	1:15pm	
		Donovan Manor	11:45am	EKHSC	Soups On!	12pm	12:45pm	1:00pm	
	THU	AHEPA	9:30am	Walmart Shopping Center	shopping/banking/laundry	10:00am	1:00pm	1:30pm	5
		AHEPA	8:45am	EKHSC	Breakfast	9:45am	10:15am	11:15am	4
	FRI	Florence Gray	9:00am	EKHSC	Breakfast	9:45am	10:15am	11:00am	
		Park Holm	9:15am	EKHSC	Breakfast	9:45am	10:15am	10:45am	
		Donovan Manor	9:30am	EKHSC	Breakfast	9:45am	10:15am	10:30am	
		Florence Gray	11:30am	Walmart Shopping Center	shopping/banking/laundry	11:45am	2:45pm	3:00pm	5
									28 total

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What's Next? Sustainability

- Funding secured for at least six additional months through Looking Upwards and matching funds from Age-Friendly RI
- Continue presentations about our pilot at the community and state levels to garner interest from funders and foster interest in replication
- Current talks with a major entity and major donor to duplicate this program for medical transport purposes
- Expand RIPTA efforts, introduced at Donovan Manor during the pilot, to educate older adults and disabled Rhode Islanders on currently available transportation (Flex Zone etc.)

Successes:

- Over 1000 rides! Over 300 unique riders!
 - 100% of riders are low income
- Served riders with disabilities under age 62, older adults at five sites, and Newport residents of color
- Service is on-demand and at no cost to riders, including weekend trips subject to driver availability, to church services, visits to friends at nursing homes etc.
- Great success with combining the driver and mobility manager roles
 - Project Manager's Visit!

RIPTA Human Services Transportation Coordinating Council Meeting and Luncheon During Jane Mahoney's Visit!



Meets The Ice Cream Cone Test!



Written Testimonials

Thank you for the much-needed help with transportation. As you know Donovan Manor is housing for the handicap and the elderly. There are many that go without due to bus over crowding and limited availability. Not to mention that most of us can't even walk to the nearest corner to the bus stop. Rick has become a valuable asset to us. He is kind, courteous, and actually cares for the residents here. We feel it necessary that we acknowledge him and your company....

-Nancy

Thank you taking me to appointments, i.e.: hospital, eye dr. shopping. You have been a blessing to me here at Donovan Manor.

-Carolyn

This van is sorely needed. Like many residents, I no longer drive. Being able to access the van is a Godsend.

-Diane

