

CITY OF MONROE
SPECIAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
300 WEST CROWELL STREET
MONROE, NORTH CAROLINA 28112
TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2024 – 3:00 P.M.
AGENDA
www.monroenc.org

- Item 1.** Public Comment Period
- Item 2.** Approval of Minutes – June 4, 2024
- Item 3.** Welcome New Members
- Karen Heath
 - Melinda Plue
- Item 4.** Review of Community Survey
- Item 5.** Review of Resource List

ATTENTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Please contact Angie Sustar at asustar@monroenc.org or 704-282-4651 to confirm your attendance. Thank you.

CITY OF MONROE
SPECIAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
JUNE 4, 2024
MINUTES

The Special Needs and Disabilities Committee of the City of Monroe, North Carolina met in Special Session in the City Hall Council Chambers located at 300 West Crowell Street in Monroe, North Carolina at 3:00 p.m. on June 4, 2024 with Chair Julie Thompson presiding.

Members Present: Council Member Julie Thompson (Chair), Committee Member Kelly Stegall, Committee Member Selina Campbell, Parks and Recreation Director Ryan Jones (ex-officio), Mayor Robert Burns (arrived at 3:14 p.m.)

Staff: Senior Staff Attorney Terry Sholar and City Manager Mark Watson

Guests: Human Services Agency Executive Director Janet Payne, Human Services Agency Transportation Department Director Theresa Torres, and Human Services Agency Transportation Department, Human Services Supervisor Laura Garner

Chair Thompson called the Special Needs and Disabilities Committee Special Meeting of June 4, 2024 to order at 3:03 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance. A quorum was present.

Item No. 1. Public Comment. None

Item No. 2. Approval of Minutes – May 7, 2024 Chair Thompson asked if anyone had any questions or concerns about the minutes, if not, if anyone would like to make a motion that the minutes of the May 7, 2024 Special Needs and Disabilities Committee be approved.

Motion: Member Kelly Stegall moved to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2024 meeting.

Second: Member Selina Campbell

Action: The motion to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2024 meeting passed unanimously with the following votes

AYES: Chair Thompson, Members Stegall and Campbell

NAYS: None

Item No. 3. Adoption of Mission Statement Chair Thompson presented the proposed Mission and Purpose Statement for review. After discussion regarding certain verbiage, the following statement was recommended for adoption.

The Mission and Purpose Statement of the Special Needs and Disabilities Committee is to promote inclusion, accessibility, and equal opportunity for all Monroe citizens with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities (IDD). The committee will work to foster independence by increasing access to essential services, resources, education, employment, and recreational activities. Through collaboration with community partners, government agencies, and stakeholders, the committee will work to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and advocate for policies and programs that benefit the quality of life for citizens and their caregivers living with IDD in the City of Monroe.

Motion: Member Selina Campbell made a motion to adopt the Mission and Purpose Statement of the Special Needs and Disabilities Committee.
Second: Member Kelly Stegall
Action: The motion to adopt the Mission and Purpose Statement of the Special Needs and Disabilities Committee meeting passed unanimously with the following votes

AYES: Members Campbell and Stegall, Chair Thompson

NAYS: None

Item No. 4. Union County Transportation / Human Services Presentation

Union County Human Services Agency Executive Director Janet Payne provided a brief introduction, an overview of the transportation component of the Human Service Agency and introduced Theresa Torres, Union County Director of Transportation.

Ms. Torres shared the Union County Transportation Mission Statement to improve and enhance the quality of life for residents by enabling them to access: medical care, educational opportunities, jobs, and other resources supporting their daily activities.

Ms. Torres delivered an overview of the program UCANGO!>>>, a currently free transportation service provided to Union County residents ages 18 and over. Passengers must be registered with Union County Transportation (UCT). Costs can sometimes vary depending grant funding allocated for various trip types. Service can be used for transportation to medical appointments, work, recreation, shopping, etc.

Ms. Torres provided an overview of current grant funding. (Referenced in "Exhibit A")

Ms. Torres advised that safety is the top priority for Union County Transportation. She shared that drivers are required extensive training once hired and each year thereafter. Additionally, drivers are required to submit to drug, alcohol testing randomly, and post-accident. Ms. Torres referenced Union County Transportation's 2023/2024 annual statics and trip locations. (Referenced in "Exhibit A")

Union County Transportation was a recipient of the 2023 Union Diversified Industries Enhancing Lives Award for work supporting Union County residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Ms. Payne advised that Partners Behavioral Health helps clients and their families get the mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities, and substance use disorder services and support that they need. Additionally, they can assist with locating appropriate placements, locating and scheduling comprehensive clinical assessments, and psychological and locating appropriate community support, and day programs. (Reference "Exhibit A" for contact information and hours of operation.)

Chair Thompson asked how services are marketed to the community. Ms. Payne advised that services are posted on the County website. Ms. Torres added that transportation services are also advertised in the Monroe Magazine, Town Planner, also at informational fairs around the county.

Item No. 5. Discussion of Information Hub for Available Services Members were provided a list of city, state, and federal resources for those living with IDD and their families. Chair Thompson

asked for the resource list to be broken down by city, state, and federal resource.

Chair Thompson advised that Member Campbell would start building a survey to assist with determining who would utilize the transportation services presented today and discuss at the next meeting.

Action: Member Campbell would start building a survey to assist with determining who would utilize the transportation services.

Member Stegall suggested utilizing a mobile phone app, which may be more easily accessible than a computer to some individuals and/or families.

Mayor Burns shared that he had been in contact with the principal of the Wolfe School to see how we may be able to collaborate on future projects. Chair Thompson asked to coordinate a presentation at the next meeting.

There being no further business, Member Stegall made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Burns seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with the following votes:

AYES:	Members Campbell and Stegall, Chair Thompson, and Mayor Burns
NAYS:	None

The meeting adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

Julie Thompson, Chair

Attest:

Angie Sustar, Clerk

“Exhibit A”

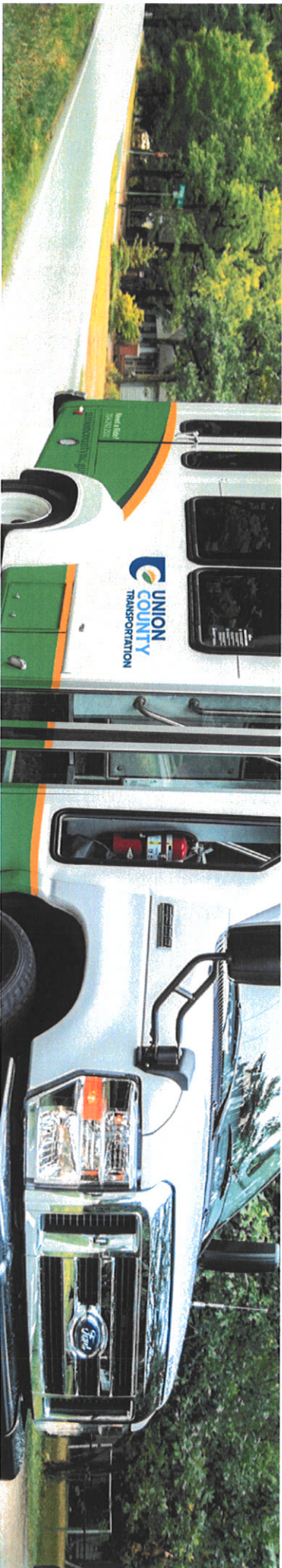
Union County Transportation

Where the Journey Begins!

June 4, 2024



UNIONCOUNTY
north carolina



Mission Statement

Improve and enhance the quality of life for residents by enabling them to access:

- medical care
- educational opportunities
- jobs
- and other resources supporting their daily activities.



Transportation Appointment Line:
704.292.2511



UNIONCOUNTY
TRANSPORTATION

Option 2 - Appointments
Option 3 - Registration
Option 5 - Call to Return Home
Option 1 - Español



Línea de citas de transporte:
704.292.2511



UNIONCOUNTY
TRANSPORTATION

Opción 1 - Español
Opción 2 - Cita
Opción 3 - Registro
Opción 5 - Llamada para
regresar a casa



Who can ride?

- All Union County residents ages 18 and over.
- Passengers must be registered with Union County Transportation (UCT).

How much does it cost?

- Currently, \$0 cost to passengers.
- Costs vary depending on grant funding allocated for various trip types.

Supporting Union County Residents

Human Services connects residents with community partners to provide services.

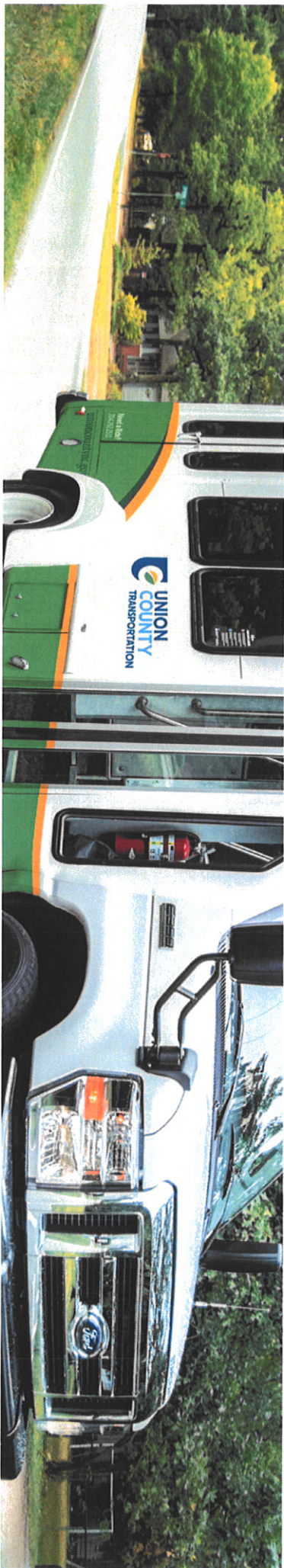
- Team members complete an assessment, determine the need, and match a community resource to that need.
- Services vary depending on the client and the need. Partners include local law enforcement, the district attorney's office, and EMS, as well as community partners including:
- **Counsel on Aging:** Completes home safety assessments; Installs grab rails and safety devices; life alert program; respite program.
- **Moms meals:** Provides a meal delivery program (Medicare can cover) to Ensure adults have proper nutrition and caters to special diets
- **Community Alternatives Program for Disabled Adults (CAP/DA) Waiver-** Cost-effective alternative to institutionalization for Medicaid beneficiary's who are medically fragile and at risk for institutionalization if home and community-based services approved in the CAP/DA waiver are not available. Services allow the beneficiary to remain in/return to a home or community-based setting by supplementing, rather than replacing, formal and informal Medicaid services and supports already available.
- **Community Telehealth** - Medical care for elderly and disabled individuals who are no longer able to drive and cannot use Medicaid transportation with minor conditions. Appointments are available M-F.
- **Atrium Health at Home** - 24/7 access to clinical care and patient monitoring in the home setting under the guidance of a multidisciplinary care team of hospital staff (paramedics, clinicians, nurses)

Grant Funding

Funding	Expenses Covered	FY24 Fed/State	FY24 County	County% Local Match
ROAP	Trips	286,883	N/A	N/A
HOCBG	Trips	177,030	19,670	10%
5310	Trips	125,000	N/A	N/A
5307	Trips	587,668	587,668	50%
5307	Capital	506,472	126,618	20%
5339	Capital-vehicles	1,018,648	113,183	10%
5303	Planning	95,450	10,606	10%
5311	Admin	211,186	37,268	15%
Carbon Reduction	Capital	160,000	40,000	20%
Medicaid (est)	Trips	330,000	N/A	N/A
Total		3,498,336	935,013	

Pandemic Funding	Expenses Covered	Budget	Remaining
CARES 5311	Operating	834,241	-
CARES 5307	Operating	451,859	-
CARES 5307	Capital	439,291	39
ARP 5311	Operating	210,805	-
ARP 5311	Capital	28,195	11,075
ARP 5307	Operating	886,278	886,278
ORR SAA 5307	Operating	273,044	273,044
Total		3,123,713	1,170,436





Staff: 47

- 14 – FT Drivers
- 5 – Benefitted PT Drivers
- 6 – PT Drivers
- 10 – Office Staff
- 2 – Fleet (Wash vehicles on the weekend)

Vehicles: 28

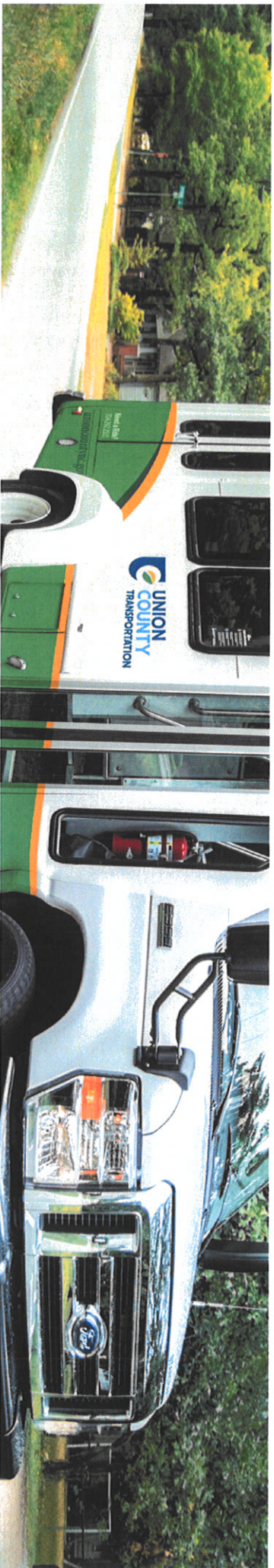
- Minivans
- Transit Vehicles
- 20' Light Transit Vehicle (LTV)
- 23 of our 28 vehicles are ADA accessible**

UCT is committed to operating in an environmentally friendly manner.

We are working to reduce our carbon footprint by converting our vehicles to bi-fuel (propane/gas).

In FY24, we converted 6 of 28 vehicles. Another 3 vehicles will be converted in the coming months.





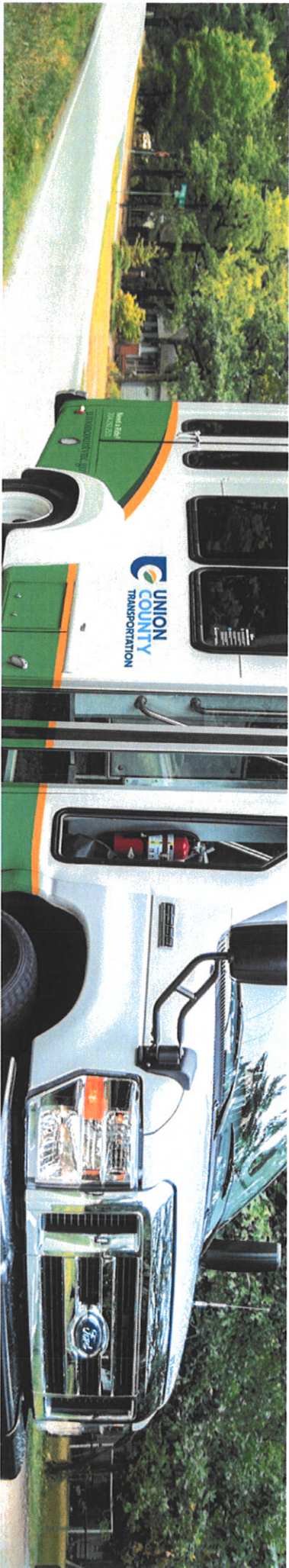
UCANGO!>>>

Medical Appointments

Work

Recreation

Shopping



Annual Statistics

Fiscal Year 2023

Operating Days – 250

Service Hours – 43,645

Service Miles – 671,705

Trips – 75,784

Wheelchair Trips – 14,421

Fiscal Year 2024 (YTD 11 mos: July – May 27)

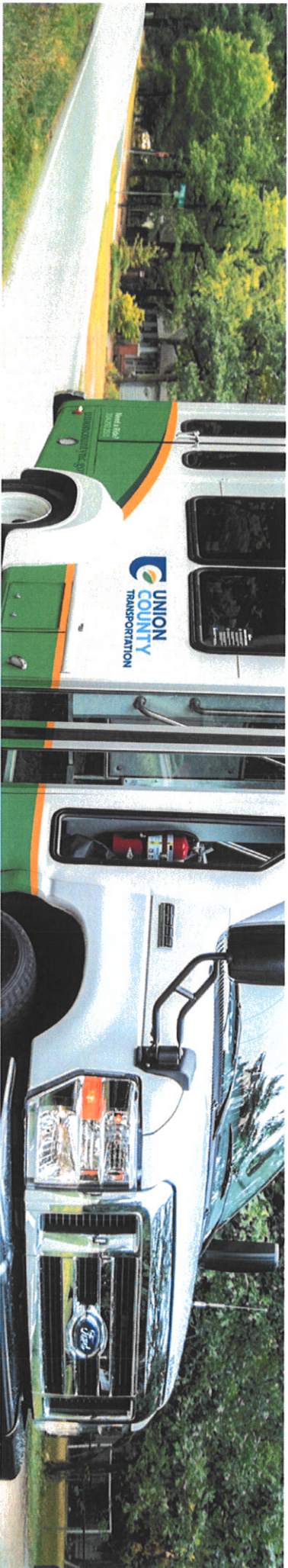
Operating Days - 225

Service Hours – 40,019

Service Miles – 604,029

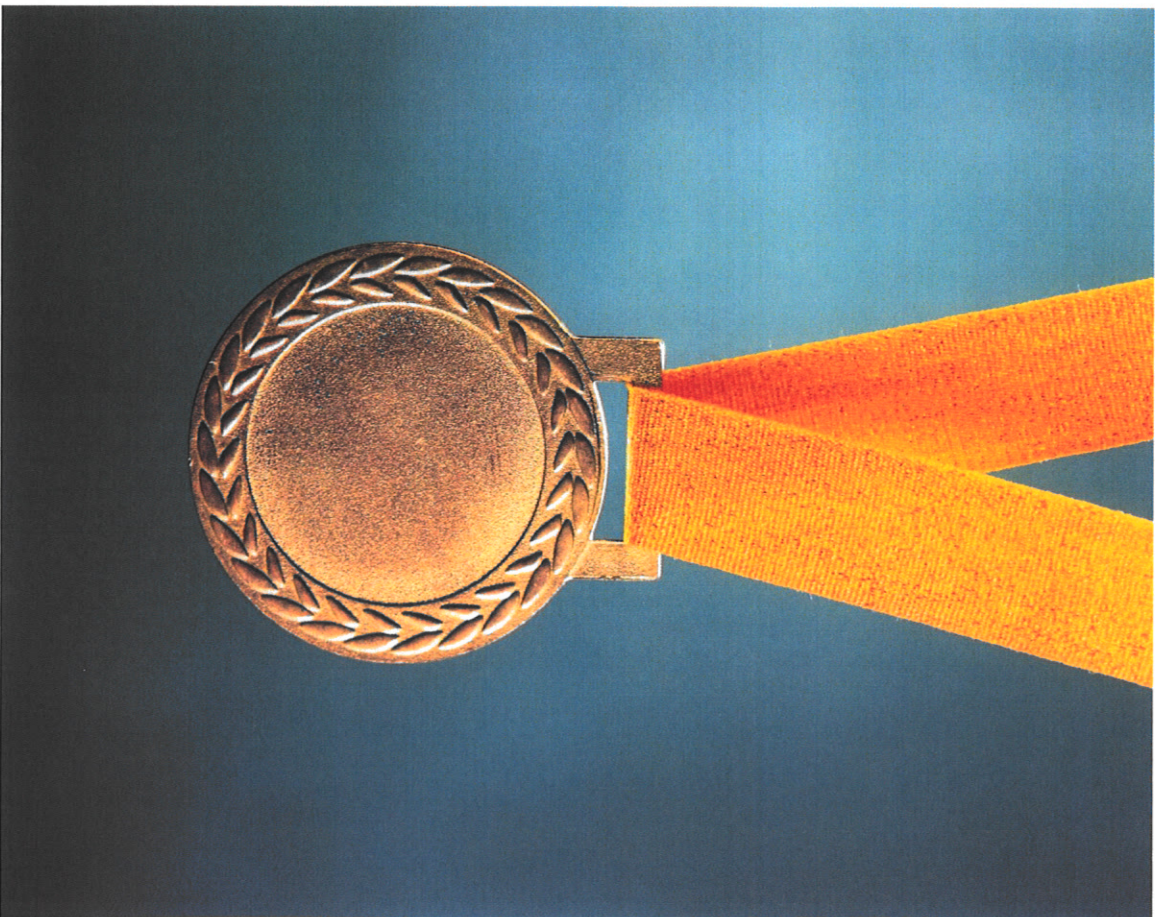
Trips – 68,636 (By end of FY24 76,000+)

Wheelchair Trips – 12,554



Trip Locations

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024 (YTD)</u>
Medical	14,760	16,540
Dialysis Appointments	14,590	11,400
Recreational/Personal	4,230	7,043
Sr. Nutrition Congregate Sites	6,030	5,375
Adult Day Care	5,960	5,485



Union County Transportation was the proud recipient of the 2023 Union Diversified Industries Enhancing Lives Award for our vital work supporting Union County residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

•Supporting our IDD Community

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
• Union Diversified	14,595	13,755
• SPCC	2,846	1,855

Supporting Individuals

Facing Mental Health Challenges

• Union House	2,004	2,934
• Daymark Recovery Services	416	626

Supporting Union County Residents

How do residents with intellectual or physical disabilities engage with support services?

- Partners Behavioral Health originates all services
 - Helps clients and their families get the mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities, and substance use disorder services and support that they need.
 - Assists with locating appropriate placements, locating and scheduling comprehensive clinical assessments, and psychological, and locating appropriate community support services such as supported employment (UDI), peer support, and day programs.
- Residents should contact Partners and share their needs including any Mental Health and or IDD Diagnosis
 - 1-888-235-4673 (Members & Recipient Services) 7am-6pm Monday-Friday

Questions



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