



For More Information:
Susan Kallash-Bailey
ITNGateway Executive Director
314.709.0642
skb@itngateway.org

March 21, 2018

New Senior Transportation Service ITNGateway Coming to West and Mid-St. Louis County

Serving those age 60 and over and with visual impairments.

The lack of senior transportation services in the region was identified as a need in the 2015 St. Louis County Age Friendly Community Action Plan. To help address this need ITNGateway will begin providing transportation services in certain areas within St. Louis County on May 9 with an office based in Chesterfield.

Independent Transportation Network (ITN) is a national non-profit transportation system in existence for over 20 years with one of its affiliates operating very successfully in St. Charles County for eight years. “A steering committee of dedicated individuals has been working for two years to bring this service to St. Louis County,” said ITNGateway Executive Director Susan Kallash-Bailey. “We know the need is great and we are excited to be able to offer the service to help older adults remain social, active and in their homes longer.”

People age 60 and over and those with visual impairments (21+), living within the following zip codes are eligible for the service: 63005, 63011, 63017, 63105, 63117, 63124, 63130, 63131, 63132, 63141, 63143, 63144, 63146. After an 18-month trial period, expansion of the service area will be considered. Individuals submit an application with an administration fee of \$50 or \$75 per couple and are provided rides to anywhere they want to go within the service area for any reason, 24 hours, 7 days a week at a cost of only \$1.50 per mile with a \$2.50 pick-up fee. No money ever exchanges hands with the drivers and customers receive a monthly itemized statement.

ITN utilizes volunteer drivers to provide affordable, high-quality, door-through-door and arm-through-arm services. They meet customers at their door, help with packages, wheelchairs and walkers, and ride together in the front seat. “We are seeking volunteers who want to make a difference in the life of a visually impaired person or an older adult. The success of the program depends on the volunteers,” says Kallash-Bailey. “Our proprietary dispatching system allows us to optimize matching the volunteer locations to the rider, so while we have some paid drivers, we will largely depend on volunteers from within those zip codes as well,” she said. Drivers are screened with a criminal background check and motor-vehicle check and are thoroughly interviewed, screened and trained. Volunteers can earn credits that other family members or friends can use for ITN’s services or can get reimbursed for mileage.

To volunteer or sign up for the service call 314-724-2117, e-mail info@itngateway.org or go to itngateway.org.

###