

**FALL 2014** 

# **iTNLehighValley** Dignified transportation for seniors

### ITNLehighValley Turns One!

It's hard to believe that ITNLehighValley began slightly over one year ago (Oct. 2013) with 4 member riders. After a 3 ½ year journey to bring the first Independent Transportation Network affiliate to Pennsylvania, and thanks to the financial support of the Silver Century Foundation, the Godomski Family Foundation, Transanalytics, LLC, members of the ITNLehighValley Board of Directors, and generous private donors, we were finally ready to switch on the ignition. We couldn't wait to begin transporting Lehigh Valley seniors and visually impaired adults where and when they wished to go 24 hours/day, 365 days per year, in the comfort and convenience of a private automobile. Today we serve over 120 members with one paid Operations Manager and 15 wonderful drivers. We are proud to be the only senior transportation service in the Lehigh Valley providing this level of service.

Great challenges lie ahead. Keeping rides affordable, recruiting new volunteer drivers to keep pace with our growing ridership, and raising the necessary funds to expand service are paramount. Community partnering is also critical to enable us to serve ALL member riders regardless of income.

Finally, our success thus far would not have been possible without Karen, our fantastic Operations Manager, who puts in countless hours above and beyond each week, our dedicated drivers, and our wonderful riders who enrich us all.

Thank you all!

Lois Favier
Executive Director

#### **RIDE FACTS**

Rides Delivered: 2,486 Miles Driven: 13,481

Top 3 Ride Destinations: Medical, Consumer,

Recreation

#### ITNLV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Adele Bon Shannon Beth Williams Boyer Diane Dilendik Sally J Holbert Joyce Jackson Dianne Michels

# ITNLV VOLUNTEER DRIVERS AND DISPATCHERS

Lucy Edwards
John Egizio
Bill Favier
Trudy Fatzinger
Donna Fillman
Gretchen Gray
Dianne Michels
Peter Oswald
Elaine Ruch
Tara Steffie
Karen Yellin

Al Arthur

#### Member Rider's Say . . .

"I'm so grateful for ITN – they'll drive you anywhere!" – Leona, Easton

"It's wonderful to arrive on time and be able to leave when you want or need to leave . . ." – Trudy, Bethlehem

"My wife and I are very well pleased with the service that ITN offers. Then even sent me a birthday card!" – Rolland, Allentown

#### Meet Our Newest Board Member

Welcome Dianne Michels who joined the ITNLehighValley Board of Directors this past fall! As a blind member rider and volunteer dispatcher, Dianne is truly committed3 to the success of our organization. Her professional credentials include certification as a Licensed Professional Counselor. Certified Vision Rehabilitation Therapist, Certified Low Vision Therapist, and Certified Teacher of the Visually Impaired in PA and FL. We look forward to Dianne's wisdom and expertise to guide us as we move into our second year of operation.

#### **ITNLV Board Members Needed**

Are you passionate about senior transportation? Do you welcome a challenge? ITNLehighValley is looking for board members willing to share their talents and time to help our organization be the best senior and visually impaired transportation provider in the Lehigh Valley. We are especially in need of board members with expertise in the legal, accounting, and fundraising fields. If you are interested, please call our office at 610-419-1645.

#### **Trade Your Car For Rides**

ITNLehighValley is in need of an agency vehicle. If you have a car you are no longer using, consider trading it for rides or donating it to ITNLehighValley for a tax deduction. We will come to your home to see the car and take care of all the details. Call 610-419-1645 for more information.

#### **ITNLV Wish List**

- Office Supplies copy paper, #10 envelopes, Staples gift certificates
- Postage stamps
- **Small Conference Table**

#### Please Donate To ITNLehighValley's Annual **Roll Up The Miles Campaign**

We need your help to keep up our momentum and remain "the best" senior transportation service in the Lehigh Valley. Since member ride payments cover only a fraction of ride costs, ITNLV depends on the generosity of our volunteer drivers and financial support from our members, their families and the community to provide affordable rides. Our goal is to raise \$6,250 in matching funds for 5,000 ride miles during our Roll Up The Miles campaign. Your \$25 donation covers 20 ride miles. Consider donating at the following levels:

**Compact** - \$0 - \$50 **SUV** - \$251 - \$500 Coupe - \$51 - \$150

Sedan - \$151 - \$250

Limo - \$500 +

Mail your contribution to ITNLehighValley, 35 E. Elizabeth Ave., Ste. 20A, Bethlehem, PA 18018 or click on the red donate button on our website.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

# **Volunteer Drivers Needed!**

## Help Others Plus Earn Credits and a Free Membership for a Loved One

Why Drive For ITNLehighValley? Here's What Our Volunteer Drivers Say....

"I love volunteering. As a retired nurse, it's a good fit...to continue to help folks. Volunteering also helps to supplement my dad's account with ITN." - Karen Yellin

"I am a senior and volunteer to drive because I realize that many seniors and really need the service. Meeting our members, each with unique experiences to share, has been the best part of volunteering." - Al Arthur

"I am rewarded knowing that someone benefits from my driving." - Jack Egizio

#### For more information or to volunteer call 610-419-1645



#### GIVE THE GIFT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Purchase an ITNLehighValley membership or add to your loved one's Personal Transportation Account with an ITNLehighValley Gift Certificate. Call 610-419-1645 or visit our website at www.itnlehighvalley.org today!