



Service Area Expanded to All of Sarasota & Manatee Counties

Responding to requests from area residents, iTNSunCoast has decided to expand its service area to include all of Sarasota and Manatee Counties. We have received many calls for rides from people just outside of the area where we have been providing rides. In response, the Board of Directors recently made the decision to expand our service area. As the result, you may request rides from and to any location anywhere within the entire Sarasota and Manatee County area.

Summer Special

To mark the expansion of our service area, iTNSunCoast will run a Summer Special. Through August 31, the cost of becoming a new member will be reduced to \$25 for the first year, half the normal fee of \$50. This is the first time we have done anything like this. We hope that this will encourage people to give us a try so they can reconnect with family, friends and the community.

Ride Requests by Email

You now have the option of submitting ride requests through email instead of giving us a call. Requests should be sent to Jennifer by noon the day before or by noon on Friday for a Saturday, Sunday or Monday ride. Jennifer's email address is jennnifer.edwards@itnsuncoast.org. Please give us your requested pick-up time, the actual street address of your destination and the time you want to be picked up for your return ride. If it is an appointment, please provide the name of the person you will be seeing and their suite number if the office is in an office building so we can find you for the return. Hopefully this will make things easier for some of you.

Free Eye Appointment Rides

A reminder to all members, as the result of a generous grant from Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a biotechnology company that makes a treatment for macular degeneration, roundtrip rides to eye appointments are now free to our members. When you call to make a request for a ride to an eye appointment, please let us know the purpose of the ride so we do not charge you.



New Board of Directors Officers

At the recent iTNSunCoast Annual Meeting, new officers of the Board were elected. Jim Monahan, an executive vice president at [Tidewell Hospice](#), was elected Chair of the Board for 2016-2017. Don Deibert, an iTN volunteer driver who manages a small family foundation, will serve as treasurer of the Board for the next year. In addition, Linda Davis, also a volunteer driver and a former educator and teacher, was reelected to serve as the secretary of iTNSunCoast's Board of Directors.

Volunteer Driver Recruitment Video Update

Thank you to all riders and drivers who have decided to be film stars! Filming of our volunteer recruitment video has begun and is going great thanks to you! The video is the result of a generous grant from Manatee Community Foundation and addresses one of our greatest needs – attracting more volunteer drivers. The video is being produced by Captivation Media of Sarasota and will be ready for viewing this fall.

2016 Giving Challenge: September 21 - 22

The 2016 Giving Challenge will take place September 21 – 22, from noon to noon and is a very important fundraising event for us at iTNSunCoast! In order to keep our charges for rides at the current level and to continue our ability to provide some rides to individuals on limited incomes, we need to raise \$85,000 this year. The 2016 Giving Challenge is presented by the Community Foundation of Sarasota County with giving strengthened by The Patterson Foundation, as well as support from Manatee Community Foundation, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, William G. and Marie Selby Foundation, and the Herald-Tribune Media Group. We will provide you with more details on how you can contribute in our September newsletter.

Thank you for being a member/supporter of iTNSunCoast!!

Arthur Lerman, Executive Director

Susan Shaw, Executive Assistant

Jennifer Edwards, Dispatcher