



## **Happy New Year**

From all of us at iTNSunCoast, we hope you enjoyed the holiday season and wish you a healthy and happy 2017! You can count on us to get you to where you need and want to go. We appreciate our relationship with you and will do all we can to support you in living joyful and fulfilling lives!

## **Free Rides to Eye Appointments** **Both Ways in January**

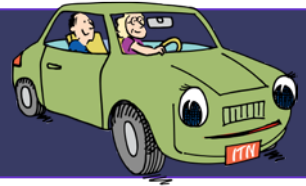
We are starting 2017 in a very positive way. There is enough funding available through the grant we have from Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. to provide you in January with free rides both ways to eye appointments. As explained last month, the grant is for a specific amount of money on an annual basis. Since the number of eye appointment rides we provide varies from month to month, we periodically need to adjust what rides are covered to stay within the limits of the grant. The good news is that there are enough funds available so we can provide free rides both to and from eye appointments at least through January!

## **Let's Go! – Beginning in February**

Let's Go!, a new service from iTNSunCoast, will begin in February. You can get rides for as little as \$10 - \$15 round trip to selected shopping, educational, arts/cultural and dining establishments on a set schedule. As an added benefit, we are negotiating discounts for **Let's Go** riders at local businesses. You will be picked up at your home, share the ride with a few others, go to the specified destination, and be given a ride home at the time set on the schedule. This is a great opportunity to get out and enjoy what our wonderful area has to offer. If there is a particular place you would like to go, please let us know! Also, thank you to those of you who participated in the phone survey we are conducting!

## **Want to Sell Your Car? We Make It Easy**

iTNSunCoast makes selling your car quick and easy and we get great prices for you! We will pick up your car and make arrangements for its sale. With the proceeds, you can put some of it in your personal transportation account with us to cover the cost of future rides and use the balance as a donation. All donations to iTNSunCoast are tax deductible since we are a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization. For more information, call us at 941-364-7530.



## **Friendly Reminders**

- iTNSunCoast office hours are 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Monday thru Friday. If you call us after 2 pm, we will get back to you the following day.
- You may request a ride for any reason, on any day of the week including weekends, at any time of the day or night to anywhere within Sarasota and Manatee Counties. **Please make your ride request by 1 pm the day before you want a ride.**
- **For rides you need on Sundays and Mondays, please call in your ride requests by 1 pm the previous Friday. On Friday afternoons, we set the schedules for Saturday, Sunday and Monday rides.**
- **When you call to make a ride request, please be prepared to give us your pickup and destination addresses and the times when you want to get picked up for both portions of your travels.**
- You now have the option of submitting ride requests through email instead of giving us a call. Requests should be sent to Jennifer at [jennifer.edwards@itnsuncoast.org](mailto:jennifer.edwards@itnsuncoast.org).
- You are welcome to have friends join you for rides to wherever you want to go. Your friends do not have to be iTNSunCoast members and there will be an additional charge of \$2.50 per person per ride. If you have a caregiver who accompanies you on rides, the caregiver rides for free.
- You may request rides for friends to visit you at your home. In this case, we will charge you, our member, the regular fare for the ride requested and it will be up to you to collect the charge or not from your friend.

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

Arthur Lerman, Executive Director

Susan Shaw, Executive Assistant

Jennifer Edwards, Dispatcher