



Regeneron Grant Update – Free Rides To Eye Appointments

Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a biotechnology company that makes a treatment for macular degeneration, has generously renewed its grant to iTNAmerica to help cover the cost of rides to eye appointments. As an iTNSunCoast member, you benefit from the grant since part of the cost of rides to eye appointments will be paid for by the grant. The grant funding will begin on June 1. We will provide you with more details on exactly what portion of the cost of eye appointment rides will be covered as soon as possible.

Generous Grant from the Manatee Community Foundation **Would You Like to be in Our Video?**

We recently received a generous grant from the Manatee Community Foundation to produce a video to recruit more volunteer drivers. As you know, our ability to provide a special transportation experience, to keep the cost of rides as low as possible, and to meet the need for rides in our community is tied directly to our ability to recruit more volunteer drivers. And, no surprise, the best recruiters of new volunteer drivers are you!! As riders, your stories about the difference our rides have made in your life are what inspires others to become volunteer drivers. So, please get out your Sunday best, prepare to have the make-up person powder your face and let Susan in our office know if you are willing to go on the big (or not so big) screen. Production will begin this summer!

Welcome To Jennifer – Our New Dispatcher

Jennifer Edwards recently joined the staff of iTNSunCoast as our new dispatcher. She has strong ties to the Sarasota community through her grandmother and mother who have been long time residents. Originally from New Jersey, Jennifer has more than 10 years of experience in dispatching and customer service. She is excited to be part of our team and we know you will be very happy to have her on board. After an initial period of “learning the ropes” of the job, Jennifer will provide some rides and occasionally accompany our drivers so both you and she can place a face with a voice. Please help us welcome Jennifer to iTNSunCoast!!

Jean Averill, who Jennifer replaces, has left our Florida paradise for the awesome beauty of Yellowstone National Park where she has taken a job. We wish Jean the very best and thank her for her service.



2nd Annual Non-Event Fundraiser – A Smashing Success

Our 2nd Annual Non-Event Fundraiser did (not) take place on April 27th. The long list of international and local celebrities (including the long awaited reunion of the Beatles to be accompanied by Frank Sinatra) were (not) in attendance and thoroughly entertained our bursting at the seams crowd. We will obviously need to secure a larger venue next year.

Thank you to the many people who purchased tickets to the event!! Your support is greatly appreciated. Tickets to the event are still available and may be purchased by calling Susan in our office (941-364-7530) or on our website (www.iTNSunCoast.org). Also, please send us a photo of how you dressed for the Non-Event so we can post it on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SupportITNSarasota/>.

Please remember that our annual membership fee and ride charges only cover 60% of our operating expenses. We keep the cost of our rides as low as possible so they are affordable by as many people in the community as possible. That said, without your financial support (whatever you can afford), we will not be able to continue to provide rides.

Car Donations

Why spend money on car insurance, registration and maintenance needlessly (to the tune of \$200+ per month) when you can count on iTNSunCoast for your rides and help us help you at the same time! We make it very easy to donate your car and it takes about five minutes. We simply pick up your car and make arrangements for its sale. You can contribute the full value of your vehicle to iTNSunCoast and take a tax deduction. You can also take half the value of your car as a credit into your iTN account, give the credit to a family member or friend, donate to our Road Scholarship fund, or bank the credit for your own use at some point in the future. Give us a call (941-364-7530) for more details!

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 purpose, on any day, at any time. **Please make your ride request by 1pm the day before you want a ride.**

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