



GUNNISON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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July 8th, 2015

Dear City Council Members,

As a result of the increased funding to the Gunnison County Senior Transportation Program by the City of Gunnison, we have been able to expand the services offered to our community members. As requested by City Council, this report details expansion made to the program to date, thanks to the City's generous donation.

January 1st, 2015:

Senior Transportation was expanded to be offered **4 days** per week; **added Tuesdays** for medical appointments (previously offered only on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday schedule)

March, 2015:

Expanded service to five days per week, Monday through Friday to better serve our community members; Tuesday **medical appointment only restriction lifted**. A ride can now be requested for any errand, any day of the week.

New easy to read brochures were designed, printed and distributed to local agencies in close contact with the target demographic in order to make the new schedule and scope of services available to community members known.

Vehicle stickers have been purchased to be applied to the busses, **detailing hours of operation** and a contact phone number. The driver of the van reports that during stops, interested parties have approached him asking about details surrounding availability of the transportation service.

Our continued collaboration with GVH Senior Care Center and financial support from the Gunnison Valley RTA are also key factors of the Senior Transportation Program's success. The month of June showed an encouraging **increase in ridership**, at 621 units (units equal total number of pick-ups and drop-offs) for the month. This brings the average number of units over the 6 month expansion period to 382 units per month. In comparison, over the preceding 3 years the average units per month have been 289, showing **an increase of use by about 25 percent**.

The support of the Senior Transportation Program by the City Of Gunnison is genuinely appreciated. Thank you for assisting in the expansion of our program, allowing us to meet the growing needs of our senior community members.

Warmest regards,

Kelsey Vander Veen

Kelsey Vander Veen
Interim Manager
Economic Security, Eligibility, Adult, and Senior Resources