
Free Rides to Health Care Appointments

*Volunteer programs can be
easy to start and easy to run*



Today we'll talk about:

- * The costs of missed health care appointments*
 - * How two successful NM volunteer driver programs work*
 - * Addressing challenges*
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A national burden on U.S. health care

** Millions miss visits
annually*

** 3.6 million missed due to
lack of transportation*

** Impact on patients*

** Impact on providers*



A heavier burden in small communities

- * *Scarce docs, longer distances*
- * *Older population*
- * *Lower incomes*
- * *Greater personal isolation*
- * *Little public transportation*



Why can't they drive?

- * *Can't afford a car, or fuel*
 - * *Too disabled to drive*
 - * *Unsafe to drive after treatment*
 - * *A hidden problem*
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Not driving while aging

- * Lack of mobility a key concern of elderly*
 - * Not driving has both practical and emotional impact*
 - * A major focus of programs for aging*
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Two counties, Two programs

- * *From Lions to LAVA*
- * *How LAVA works*
- * *Care Bearers takes off*
- * *How Care Bearers works*



Key points for planners

- * *Recruiting drivers, riders*
 - * *Eligibility policies*
 - * *Background checks, insurance*
 - * *Ride coordination*
 - * *Scope of Service*
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Special issues

- * *Chronic treatments*
 - * *Medicaid vs. Medicare*
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How to pay?

- * *Not much \$ needed*
 - * *LAVA and CB expenses*
 - * *Small grants*
 - * *Benefits to hospital systems*
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Q and A
