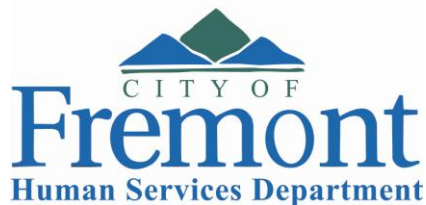




VIP Rides Program

***Measure B Gap Grant Funded Program
Report of Activities for FY 08-09***

***Presentation to PAPCO
September 21, 2009***



LIFE ElderCare
Healthy Aging, Independent Living

VIP Rides Program

Door-through-door assisted transportation program for elderly and disabled residents of Fremont, Newark and Union City, who:

- Need assistance when traveling in the community to medical appointments, shopping or errands

AND,

- Do not have a friend, relative or paid caregiver to accompany and assist them on some or all of their trips.
- Service provided by Life Eldercare; partnership with Cities of Fremont, Newark and Union City



VIP Rides Program: Who are the Volunteers?

Community members who are interested in helping seniors and people with disabilities are recruited, trained and supervised by Life Eldercare.

Each VIP Rides Program volunteer:

- Completes a volunteer application.
- Is interviewed in-person and given an orientation.
- Completes a criminal background and DMV driving record check.
- Abides by strict privacy and confidentiality guidelines.
- Attends quarterly volunteer meetings.



VIP Rides Program



- Service application is required for all program participants.
- Service must be requested at least 3 days in advance.
- Seniors and persons with disabilities who are ambulatory can request service with a volunteer who will provide transportation in own vehicle.
- Persons using wheelchairs request volunteer escorts to accompany them on their local paratransit service.

VIP Rides Program

When and Where is Service Offered?

- Within the Cities of Fremont, Newark and Union City
- Monday to Friday: 8 am – 6 pm
- Saturday & Sunday: 9 am – 5 pm

What does the service cost?

- No service fees; requested donation amount is \$5.



VIP Rides Program:

What is door-through-door assisted transportation?

Volunteers can provide the following assistance during an escorted trip:

- Push wheelchair
- Offer steadying arm to help you walk safely
- Assist with shopping
- Carry packages
- Assist with reading or completing forms at appointments
- Providing directional assistance
- Call 911 if medical or other emergency arises



VIP Rides Program: FY08-09 Summary of Activities

- 144 program participants & 82 volunteers.
- 1,579 service linkages made; only 7 service linkages were cancelled (all by program participants).
- Completed service linkages resulted in 3,144 one-way escorted trips.
- 53% of the escorted trips were volunteer-driven trips.
- Estimated cost savings of approximately \$30K for the Fremont Paratransit Program.



VIP Rides Program Participants: Staying Connected in the Community!

*"I had not gone to the doctor in several years because I had no way to get there. Thanks to the VIP Rides Program I now see my doctor regularly."
George, Fremont resident*



VIP Rides Program Volunteers: STARS WITH CARS!

- Adrian, retired PG&E lineman

Adrian knows that he is making a real difference in the lives of his frail, elderly neighbors. "I can see how much they need help, and how much they appreciate my time. I really enjoy doing this."

- Linda, caregiver for her father for many years

"Helping people through the VIP Rides Program has made me aware of the importance of maintaining good health as I age...I am currently taking a yoga class at the senior center with a instructor who is 87 years old!"

- Susan, retired pediatric & home health nurse

"Getting old is part of life's process, one in which I myself am now experiencing. After retiring I thought being a VIP Rides volunteer would be a useful and rewarding way to spend my time."



VIP RIDES PROGRAM

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