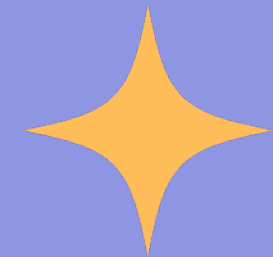


S P O T L I G H T   S O U T H   D A K O T A



# Rides To Wellness

A guide to workplace self-care in the new “new normal”





# Introduction to R2W

## **Mission Statement**

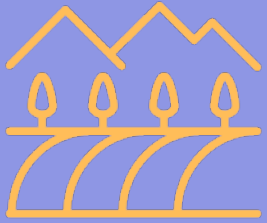
Rides to Wellness is a comprehensive non-emergency medical transportation program that provides mobility management, door-to-door service, and same day service to riders going to medical or other health and wellness-related appointments. Using cutting-edge technology and a ride-hailing-like model, Rides to Wellness is provided through service agreements with local agencies and medical providers.

# Goals

1. Formalize community partnerships with MOUs or letters of agreement.
2. Provide transportation for clients in the population categories that this service is planned to support. The intention is to show the value to the local communities of this type of service.
3. Integrate transportation health needs into partner agency plans. These three agencies will coordinate rides when and where possible for out-of-town trips.

4. Finalize transportation improvement approaches with health care facilities ready for implementation.
5. Expand the existing software so healthcare workers can go online and schedule transportation for their client when the medical appointment is made.





# Rural Population

- The need for reliable public transit in rural America is real! South Dakota's land mass is roughly 77,166 square miles, and with a population of just under 900,000 - that equates to just 11 people per square mile.
- South Dakota is home to nine Federally recognized Native American reservations, and Native Americans make up 11.6 percent of the total population, the fourth highest in the country.
- Today, approximately 71,800 Native Americans live in South Dakota. Nine tribal governments reside within the state, seven with reservation boundaries and two without. Reservation land is about 18 percent of South Dakota.



# Target Audience

**Individuals with unmet medical transportation needs –**

**Native Americans**

**Veterans**

**Elderly**

**People with disabilities**

**General Population**

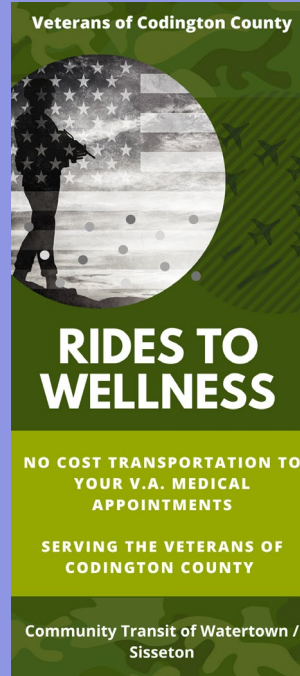
Examples include - Individuals who may not have a driver's license, may not own a vehicle, may have an unreliable or broken vehicle, may rely on others for transportation, may not drive in bad weather, in the dark, or from rural to metro areas due to traffic increases.



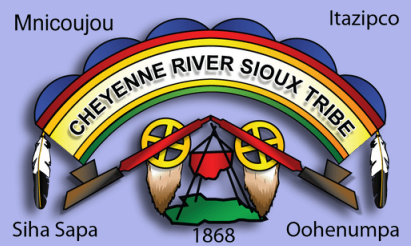
# Services

1. Provide rides to cover any unmet needs within the counties.
2. Establish relationships and work with agencies or groups whose patients cannot make medical appointments due to lack of reliable transportation.
3. Establish Memorandums of Understanding with these agencies or groups.
4. Build an application that allows riders to arrange for transportation.
5. Look for ways to make the program sustainable.

# Transporting Veterans



# Providers Visited:

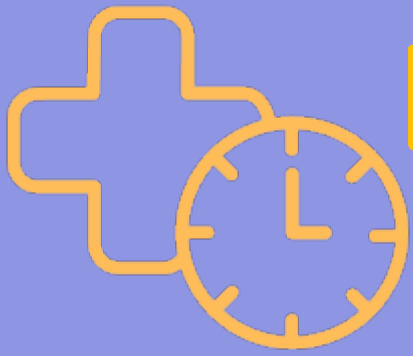


## Coverage Areas



Miles driven: 51,943 | Avg. miles per trip: 130 | Avg. cost per mile: \$1.40





# Long Term Outlook / Sustainability

Work with agencies and groups to discover future funding opportunities

- **Urban Indian Health Center has funding for:**
  - a) Opioid / substance abuse clinic and support group attendance.
  - b) HIV – Clinics and support group attendance.
  - c) MEDICAID patients' transportation covered by S.D. Medicaid programs.
- **Veterans Organizations:**
  - VFW-Funding
  - American Legion Funding
- **Hospitals / Clinics:** Paying Transportation costs for patients.



# Mobile App

English: <https://tinyurl.com/mtmctvx7>



Spanish: <https://tinyurl.com/yp5wffbf>



# Advertising The Program

Native American Focused

**Rides To Wellness**  
FREE round-trip transportation to medical appointments at the SDUIH in Pierre



**Schedule Your Appointment**  
 **Pierre Clinic**  
**605-224-8841**  
Monday - Friday: 8a-5p

 **SDUIH**  
South Dakota Urban Indian Health  
INTEGRATED CARE FOR ALL

**Rides To Wellness**  
  
Codington County

**FREE Transportation to V.A. Medical Appointments**  
**Service**  
If you're a veteran living in Codington County, you qualify for FREE transportation to your V.A. Medical appointments anywhere in the State.  
Community Transit of Watertown is a participating agency in a grant from the Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP) that funds this transportation.

**Benefits Include**

- Roundtrip medical transportation at no cost to Codington County Veterans or their spouse or caregiver
- Wheelchair accessible vehicles
- Curb to curb service
- Convenient

**Schedule A Ride**  
Community Transit of Watertown/Sisseton Inc.  
Main Office:  
205 1st Ave NE  
Watertown, SD 57201  
Phone: 605-882-5287

**Veterans**  
  
You served us, now let us serve you!  
  
  
  
**COMMUNITYTRANSIT**

Veteran Focused

# Performance Measures / Outcomes

1. 416 Trips provided to 45 different riders.
2. Ethnicity –
  - Caucasians: 32
  - Native Americans: 12
  - Hispanic: 1
3. Categories –
  - Elderly Ambulatory: 21
  - Elderly Non-ambulatory: 3
  - Non-Ambulatory: 1
  - General Public: 20
4. Miles driven: 51,943 (out of town)
5. Avg. miles per trip: 130
6. Cost per mile: \$1.40

# Points of Contact



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Sisseton, SD

**605-698-7511**

[comtran@venturecom.net](mailto:comtran@venturecom.net)

*Thank You*