



Rural Community Transportation, Inc.

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"COMMUNITY IS OUR MIDDLE NAME"

Special Appropriation Recipient Report

Rural Community Transportation, Inc. (RCT), is a private nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation which has provided public transportation services throughout Caledonia, Orleans, Essex Counties since 1991, and now serves Lamoille County. RCT operates fare-free shuttle and commuter bus routes, allowing connections between towns in our region and the ability to travel throughout Vermont and beyond. RCT also provides demand-response transportation services under several programs, such as Medicaid, the Elderly & Disabled program, and Rides 2 Wellness.

RCT runs four commuter routes to enhance access to employment, connecting Morrisville to the towns of Barre and Waterbury, and St. Johnsbury to Montpelier and to Littleton. We operate three shuttle routes tying Morrisville, Newport/Derby, and St. Johnsbury/Lyndonville residents and nearby Vermonters to essential locations, from grocery stores to medical centers. Shopping routes provide similar service spanning Morrisville and Stowe in the west, Newport and surrounding towns in the north, and Lyndon to New Hampshire in the east. A number of our 9,000 riders utilizing 74,000 trips in FY2021 have expressed their gratitude and noted their dependence on our services.

Though the COVID-19 pandemic and RCT's practices of social distancing, mask requirement, and vehicle sanitization have had an impact on its passenger load, we have continued to operate uninterrupted and strive to provide safe, reliable, accessible, and affordable transportation. In FY2019, we provided over 300,000 rides; in FY2021, ridership decreased by about half. RCT continues to be greatly impacted by the pandemic; however, we are now operating at 100% capacity and do our part to keep healthy and safe those who may not have another means of pandemic-sensitive transportation.

RCT gratefully benefits from a robust volunteer program, with fifty-five volunteers providing rides to neighbors and those needing non-shuttle transportation to access vital services. We depend on our volunteers to help meet the needs of their neighbors near and far.

RCT operates with federal and state funding; however, our funding sources typically require between 20% and 50% locally matched dollars. All town appropriations received are used to provide the required local match, and are therefore crucial to RCT's operations. Your generosity allows RCT to transform your funding into the ability to thrive, grow, and provide your community with reliable quality transportation service.