

2026 Budget Request for Rural Dane County Focal Points Transportation Program

Request: \$18,285 in funding support to help cover one quarter of the dedicated staff time for the coordinating and scheduling of RSVP rides outside of the City of Madison.

History: While the Retired Senior Volunteer Program of Dane County (RSVP) coordinates and schedules all medical ride requests within the City of Madison, the rural Focal Points' staff handle this responsibility throughout the rest of the County.

Justification: The population of older adults is growing, and with that growth comes increased demand for rides to medical appointments. The success of this service depends heavily on Focal Point staff who manage ride requests, coordinate schedules, confirm pickups and respond to last-minute changes. This work has been done at the rural Focal Point level for many years, but this is the first time a funding request has been made. This critical service is necessary because many rural Focal Points have limited or no access to supplemental transportation such as bus and para transit services. Additional funding will help ensure that older adults have timely and reliable access to essential appointments.

As shown on the table below, Focal Points coordinated 7717 rides in 2024. The cost of staff time was \$73,139. We are asking for a portion of this expense.

Outcome: Funding from Dane County will help rural Focal Points continue to provide this important lifeline for older adults. Transportation requests are particularly time-sensitive and Focal Point staffs are stretched due to the growing demands of an increasing population of older adults. Additional funding would help fund additional hours for staff to address transportation requests.

RSVP Rides 1 way	2024	Hours/month	Pay/Hr	Cost/Month	Cost/Year	Request
Waunakee	1090	44	\$21.76	\$957.00	\$11,489.00	\$ 2,871.00
Belleville	255	25	\$24.00	\$600.00	\$7,200.00	\$ 1,800.00
DeForest	1297	20	\$21.00	\$420.00	\$5,040.00	\$ 1,260.00
Stoughton	432	12	\$21.53	\$258.00	\$3,100.00	\$ 774.00
Mt. Horeb	438	25	\$21.32	\$533.00	\$6,396.00	\$ 1,599.00
McFarland	654	15	\$29.00	\$435.00	\$5,220.00	\$ 1,305.00
Oregon	543	20	\$33.35	\$667.00	\$8,004.00	\$ 2,001.00
Middleton	1040	36	\$26.88	\$968.00	\$11,612.00	\$ 2,904.00
Fitchburg	500	10	\$29.00	\$290.00	\$3,480.00	\$ 870.00
NW Dane	456	15	\$20.00	\$300.00	\$3,600.00	\$ 900.00
Colonial Club	1012	43	\$15.50	\$667.00	\$7,998.00	\$ 2,001.00
Budget Request	7717			\$6,095.00	\$73,139.00	\$ 18,285.00