

INTERFAITH CAREGIVERS OF OZAUKEE COUNTY

On the Road to Solving Senior Transportation Challenges

Wheelchair Accessible Rides Coming Soon!

Interfaith Caregivers of Ozaukee County has been serving seniors and adults with disabilities for over 23 years. Transportation services are provided throughout Ozaukee County, as well as Milwaukee, Waukesha, Washington, and Sheboygan Counties to address barriers to access. When public transportation is unavailable or inaccessible, Interfaith Ozaukee helps remove those barriers. Transportation to medical appointments, pharmacies, grocery stores, food pantries, and exercise services are provided at no charge by Interfaith Ozaukee volunteers utilizing their own personal vehicles—**until now!**

Interfaith Ozaukee is extremely proud to announce the acquisition of the first-ever wheelchair accessible vehicle. As we continue to build our fleet, these vehicles will significantly impact how Interfaith Ozaukee fulfills the mission of keeping seniors independent in their homes.

If you would like to join the team of volunteer drivers, please contact our office at **262-376-5362** or **www.interfaithozaukee.org**



The trend among the growing senior population is their desire to remain independent and thriving in their homes or communities for as long as they are able. This is a healthy outcome for a community provided there is access to necessary healthcare and other essential services. According to the World Health Organization, transportation is a determinant of health because of the role it plays in independence and how it shapes access to resources.

Programs for seniors will be ineffective if they cannot access them and this also serves as the greatest barrier that keeps seniors from accessing necessary healthcare. The future of Interfaith Ozaukee transportation will be taking broader paths to support the community through this initiative made possible through grants and support from several community partners*.

Agency Profile



Solving the Senior Transportation Problem with Your Help

The Interfaith agencies of Ozaukee, Washington, Waukesha and Milwaukee has the state's largest combined population of senior citizens, age 65 years and older. Many have limited access to transportation and services due to fixed incomes, lack of community-wide transportation systems, and insufficient family and neighborly supports. An unfortunate result is that many of those seniors struggle to manage their healthcare and nutrition needs. As this region's population of seniors grows in numbers and seniors are living well into their 90's, the need for efficient and affordable services will continue to grow. These four Interfaith agencies have partnered and committed to a joint approach to increasing volunteer recruitment in an effort to address the current rise in services requested. The projected growing numbers of seniors through a multi-county initiative called **Drive.Give.Serve** will aid in developing a consistent message for volunteer recruitment and best support our seniors.

How You Can Help:

Help us distribute *Drive.Give.Serve* information to

- Your Place of Worship
- Service Clubs
- Community Groups
- Your Employer
- Business Groups
- Visit DriveGiveServe.org or call 211 to learn more
- Call Interfaith direct at 262-376-5362

Ozaukee County has the oldest population in southeast Wisconsin, with 17.5% of people over age 65. That's more than 2% higher than the state average!



Our Volunteers Went the Distance in 2015!

Rides provided: over **6,300**

Miles driven: nearly **30,000**

Over the past four years we have experienced a **110% increase** in requests for services, averaging seven new clients for every one new volunteer.

Thank you volunteers for the positive impact you make in the lives of older adults!

Interfaith Caregivers of Ozaukee County "Neighbors Helping Neighbors"

Volunteers are the Heart of our Mission

Our very own volunteer, **Richard Marks**, was recently recognized and awarded for volunteerism! The Silver Award presented by the Thiensville Recreation Department recognizes senior citizens who have contributed on a volunteer basis in an exemplary way. Congratulations Richard!



Volunteers and Board Members turned out for a fun evening of celebration at the annual *Volunteer Appreciation Event* at the Family Enrichment Center.



Volunteer, Nancy Ebaugh (not pictured), has been invited to be a trishaw bike pilot for Lasata Senior Living Campus. Congratulations, Nancy!



Ellie Hanson and Pat Gilroy proudly represented Interfaith Caregivers at the Thiensville Farmer's Market this summer. Thank you also to volunteers; Sandy Ashley, Peggy Duhr, and Marty Hake for your help this summer!

Dementia Training

All Interfaith Ozaukee volunteers were invited to attend newly developed Dementia Volunteer Training sessions. This continuing education program serves as refresher training and a critical volunteer retention program.

Sessions included professional explanations of various forms of dementia, role playing exercises, and supportive materials and video scenarios.

Common signs are declines in learning and memory, changes in judgement, reasoning, language, attention, mood shifts, and visual-spatial skills. Training helps volunteers to recognize and better manage these symptoms.

Participant Feedback

"Congratulations! The dementia session was very productive, nicely organized and at the right level of detail. Handouts were helpful. You obviously know this subject well."

"The program was very helpful. It gave me a good understanding of various diseases which cause dementia. Helpful and practical advice on dealing one-on-one with a person with dementia."

For Your Calendar

Interfaith Ozaukee Fall Fundraiser

Thursday, November 10, 2016

Ozaukee Country Club located at 10823 North River Road 43W, Mequon from 5-7 pm.

Heavy hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be served. Guest speaker, Craig Thompson, Executive Director, Transportation Development Association of Wisconsin, will share an impactful message about the "Transportation Challenges of Seniors". Representative, Jim Ott, Wisconsin State Assembly District 23, will serve as the evening's Master of Ceremonies.

Please join us to support our seniors at the most important mission fundraiser of the year!

To register please call (262)376-5362 or email: info@interfaithozaukee.org

Thank you to some of the generous sponsors of our **2016 Fall Fundraiser**: Aurora Healthcare, Miejer Foods, Mueller Funeral Homes, Schmidt and Bartelt Funeral and Cremation Services.



Shopko Manager, Dave Vogel, presents sponsorship check to Interfaith Ozaukee Executive Director, Maureen Squire



**885 Badger Circle
Grafton, WI 53024
(262) 376-5362**

**info@interfaithozaukee.org
www.interfaithozaukee.org**



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Mobility Management Program*

Interfaith Caregiver's Mobility Management Program provides travel coordination assistance for seniors and adults with disabilities throughout Ozaukee County. It is the primary door-through-door provider throughout Ozaukee County, including out-of-county transports. A Transportation Service Providers sheet is included within the newsletter.

**Thank you to our transportation partners* who are
supporting our vehicle program.**



OZAUKEE COUNTY
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This program is funded in part by the **Federal Transit Administration** (FTA) as authorized under 49 U.S.C. § 5310 Mobility Options of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program (CFDA 20.521).

