# Our Volunteer Driver Program is more than just a ride.

It is a way to help community members over the age of 60 connect with others and receive the care they need. "I volunteer to give **freedom** and **independence** back to my neighbors. One day I will be where they are and I hope someone will step up for me when the time comes."

VANGIE VOLUNTEER DRIVER

### **NEW MEXICO STATISTICS**

32 of 33

COUNTIES ARE
HEALTH PROFESSIONAL
SHORTAGE AREAS IN NM\*



60%

OF POPULATION
LIVE IN
RURAL COMMUNITIES\*

19%

OF ADULTS 18+
LIVE WITH DISABILITIES
IN NM\*\*\*

(NATIONAL AVERAGE: 15.92%)

**38%** 

GROWTH IN
65+ POPULATION
BETWEEN 2010-2019\*\*\*
(OUTPACING ALL US STATES)

80,000

PROJECTED GROWTH OF 65+ POPULATION BETWEEN 2020-2040\*\*

The lack of transportation in rural areas older adults face when in need of essential services across county lines limits their ability to live independently. With the continued growth of this population throughout New Mexico, our Volunteer Driver Program needs volunteers to meet the demands of these communities.

If you want to truly make a difference for someone this is one way you can.

Contact us at seniorhelp@ncnmedd.com to get involved.

\*Source: Rural Health Information Hub

\*\*Source: UNM, Geospatial and Population Studies Department

\*\*\* Source: U.S. Census Bureau



### **ABOUT US**

The Non-Metro New Mexico Area Agency on Aging (NMAAA) is the federal designated agency on aging and has operated since 1974 through its sponsoring organization, the North Central New Mexico Economic Development District. With service providers, NMAAA oversees comprehensive service delivery of community and home-based services in 32 of New Mexico's 33 counties.

With support from the National Aging and Disability
Transportation Center and New Mexico's Department of
Aging and Long-Term Services we have implemented a
Volunteer Driver Program in rural communities with plans
to grow statewide.



# **VOLUNTEER WITH US**

Volunteer drivers make this program possible by utilizing their own insured vehicles to provide rides to adults 60 years of age or older to non-emergency medical appointments.

### **REQUIREMENTS:**

- Must be at least 21 years of age
- Possess a valid driver's license
- Access to a vehicle that is roadworthy, reliable, and suitable for rider's needs
- Possess current auto insurance that meets the state minimum requirements
- Possess the ability to interact with diverse populations, be reliable, and prompt

# **BENEFITS:**

- Volunteer times that are flexible to meet your schedule
- Optional passenger mile reimbursement
- Optional meal reimbursements for longer trips
- Supplemental volunteer auto insurance coverage

