



## Senior Rides and More

# Newsletter

Fall 2023

### MISSION STATEMENT

Senior Rides and More is a faith-based nonprofit whose mission is to promote senior independent living, health and safety by providing free transportation and other services.

## From the Desk of the Executive Director

### Welcome to Our New Board Member and New Staff

*by Debby Posso, Executive Director*

Please join Senior Rides and More in welcoming Dr. Porscha Jackson to our Board of Directors. Porscha joined our organization through Project Blueprint, a nonprofit board leadership program through the United Way of Houston. She received a Bachelor of Business Administration-Marketing from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, a Master of Business Administration from Texas Southern University, and her Doctor of Philosophy in Human Resource Development from Texas A&M.

Dr. Jackson is a dynamo in Houston's small business scene. As the Business Development Manager at the City of Houston Office of Business Opportunity (OBO), she's not just managing programs; she's the secret sauce for small businesses hungry for success. When not navigating the business maze of the OBO, Porscha is an author of the book, "Pursuing Legacy," and is a champion for the underdog, fighting for inclusivity. Plus, she's an animal lover, globetrotter, and TV aficionado—because even powerhouses need downtime!

Senior Rides and More appreciates Porscha's dedication to our organization and welcomes her to our board of directors.

We are also fortunate to have two new members of the Senior Rides and More team:

We are pleased to introduce you to Mary Lampke,



Dr. Porscha Jackson

our new Grants Manager. As our program has grown over the years, the need for funding has also grown. Grant funding and congregational support is vital to our organization, and Mary oversees our grant applications that will bring us new funders and support. After four years as Senior Grant Writer at Magnificat Houses, Inc., a 55-year-old nonprofit dedicated to the housing, feeding and mental health of Houston's homeless, Mary started working at Senior Rides and More in August 2023.

Following a career in educational programming and video production at the Amon Carter Museum of American

Art and at the Dallas Museum of Art, she came to Houston from Fort Worth in 1998 to begin a 16-year stint as Executive Director of the Southwest Alternate Media Project, a venerable 46-year-old organization dedicated to the filmmaking process. While there, she also served as Producer for 15 seasons of the PBS short film series, The Territory. She then started her own business as an independent grant writer and fine arts appraiser. While dedicated to helping those in need through fundraising, Mary continues to pursue her life-long enthusiasm for travel, reading and the arts in all its forms.

*continued...*

## Welcome *continued from p.1*

The Senior Rides office is thrilled to welcome Monica Gilliam as our newest part-time office Scheduler. Monica joins us while she is on sabbatical from a career in education. She brings to us her experience of being the sole caregiver of her elderly parents while also managing her own work life and independence. Monica has her BBA in Marketing from Sam Houston State University and her Master of Education from Prairie View A&M University. She has worked for Houston Independent School District, the Alief School District, and the Harris County Department of Education. Her professional background and her personal understanding of caring for the elderly provide her with the patience and empathy required when assisting our seniors and their transportation needs. Monica enjoys working out at the local YMCA, volunteers in the community, and loves spending time with her precious Yorkie, Lola. We are grateful to have both Monica and Mary as part of the Senior Rides and More family.



Mary Lampe



Monica Gilliam

## Senior Rides and More is a Winner of the Houston Metropolitan BBB Award of Excellence 2023!



Yes, Senior Rides and More has done it again for a fourth year in a row. This coveted award spotlights a commitment to excellence in the marketplace and is an honor not given to everyone. The BBB recognizes the winners as role models for their character, expertise, and commitment to quality and trust.

The Awards for Excellence application is open to all accredited businesses and nonprofit organizations with the BBB of Metropolitan Houston. Applicants must provide outstanding written responses to many challenging questions on an entry form questionnaire. All applications are reviewed and receive a score from the Silver Fox Advisors judges, and not all applicants win this award.

Senior Rides and More is proud to be an organization that is recognized for making a difference in the lives of Houston's senior community.

### Office Wish List!

As a small non-profit on a strict budget, our office can always use the following items:

- Forever stamps
- 20 Cent Stamps
- Copy/printer paper
- 952XL Black Ink
- 952 Color Ink
- #10 Security Envelopes (clean seal strip)
- Office Max gift cards
- VOLUNTEERS!!

If you would like to donate or VOLUNTEER, please call us at 713-772-8181



# Senior Rides Celebrates Our Volunteers

On October 8th at Brae Burn Country Club, the Senior Rides and More board of directors and staff showed their appreciation of our volunteers and supporters with an afternoon of good conversations, delicious food, and potent margaritas. Our volunteers are the backbone of our organization, and we are grateful to those who give their time and their heart to assist our care receivers.



## It's Easy to Become a Senior Rides Volunteer

Whether you prefer to volunteer on a regular basis or every couple of weeks, we welcome and need your participation. We have flexible scheduling and a variety of volunteer opportunities.

Volunteers are needed to provide:

- Transportation to/from medical appointments
- Transportation for Shopping Trips
- Minor Home Repairs
- Telephone Friendship/Reassurance Calls

Contact the Senior Rides office to Volunteer:

713-772-8181; [Info@SeniorRidesandMore.org](mailto:Info@SeniorRidesandMore.org); [www.SeniorRidesandMore.org](http://www.SeniorRidesandMore.org)





# Senior Rides And More Advisory Board

Cindy Siegel, Metropolitan Transit Authority Board  
Mr. Orlando Sanchez, Harris County Treasurer  
Dr. Bill Franklin, M.D., Physician, retired  
Inge-Lotte Liesner, Community Supporter  
Deanna Parmenter, CFO, Cougar Sales  
Vince Ryan, Harris County Attorney

# Caregiver Statistics January–December 2022

Total Reported Volunteer Mileage – 42,509  
Total Reported Volunteer Hours – 4,590  
Total Reported Visits/Events – 4,155



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## Our Corporate and Community Angels

Bethany Christian Church

Harry S. and Isabel C. Cameron  
Foundation

Chapelwood United Methodist Church

ChristChurch Presbyterian

Exchange Club of Sugar Land

ExxonMobil Foundation

Aubry and Sylvia Farb Community Service  
Fund

Ray C. Fish Foundation

The George Foundation

The Guild Shop of St. John's

Albert and Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation

The Hildebrand Fund at Greater Houston  
Community Foundation

ITN America

The Robert H. and Anita Q. Lawe Foundation

Medallion Foundation

Memorial Drive Presbyterian Foundation

Memorial Drive United Methodist Church  
Foundation

The Fred and Mabel R. Parks Foundation

Phi Gamma Delta of MIT

St. Albert of Trapani

St. Laurence Catholic Church

St. Martin's Episcopal Church

St. Philip Presbyterian Central Mission  
Endowment Fund

Shell Oil Foundation

May and Stanley Smith Charitable Trust

Strake Foundation

Tomball Regional Health Foundation

Walgreen's Pharmacy

*We are grateful for your belief in our mission of building a more loving and caring community through service.*

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