

Elder News Views

Knoxville-Knox County Office on Aging

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The Volunteer Assisted Transportation Fleet Is In!



Above: Volunteer Owen Liles pushes a wheelchair into the Volunteer Assisted Transportation program's lift-equipped minivan. Below: The Prius fleet arrived by trailer truck on March 24.



In March, the Office on Aging Volunteer Assisted Transportation program took delivery of five ecofriendly, Prius hybrid sedans. Purchased with funds from the Federal Transit Administration and the Tennessee Department of Transportation, the sedans complement the wheelchair-accessible minivan that the program already had on hand. This new fleet will serve seniors and people with disabilities who need assistance to travel safely. The vehicles will be driven by a corps of volunteers who will be screened and trained by the program. The volunteer drivers bring with them a dedication to helping Knox County residents maintain their independence.

On April 30, the program celebrated the arrival of these vehicles and also recognized its funding partners and charter volunteers at a ribbon-cutting event.

Do you enjoy driving, have as little as two half-days a month to spare, and want to serve your community? Please consider becoming a volunteer driver for this exciting new program. Call Volunteer Assisted Transportation for more information, 524-2786.



Above: Doug Burton, of the Transportation Planning Organization, and Kendall Keller, of Pilot Travel Centers, LLC, prepare to cut the ribbon on the minivan and one of the new Prius sedans. Immediately afterward, the minivan was taken out to provide a ride for one of the program's clients.



Above: Charter volunteers for the new transportation program (from left): Bill Larson, Owen Liles, Jama Woods, and Sean Powell.

