

I mentioned that I have been thinking about sustainability for the GoSudbury programs. I think the options for helping to make it last, and to maintain service for those most in need are:

1. Start a voucher program – this has flaws as we discussed – people would buy them in advance, and usually this means that they schedule the rides directly with the taxi vendors; I don't know if we can incorporate an option that includes CrossTown Connect – so that rides can be shared between vendors...? If people could not come to the Center, we could mail vouchers, or deliver with one of our vans.
2. Use a copay system – we did recommend this as one option last year, but I feel that it is a complicated option requiring a lot of staff time; people would need to pay the copay in advance of their rides, so rides would be scheduled 3 days in advance (probably not totally prohibitive since we are talking about medical rides, but still more challenging for the rider); the Senior Center would then be responsible for handling the money/credit and following up with people if they did not or could not pay right away; we also will need to start a credit card payment system (we have looked into this, but it is complicated, and may not be feasible during this Community Center construction time period).
3. Keep strict ride limits – especially for the taxi medical rides; perhaps keep the same 6 one way rides per month but encourage those with greater need to reach out to Ana Cristina; we could then hopefully ensure reserves of funding for those most in need (whether financial need, or a health related need such as treatment).

I am leaning toward option #3 and feeling it is the easiest to administer, and will help the funds to be targeted to those in need, and give us that flexibility. Uber could be increased but perhaps not to 20 one way rides per month, perhaps 10 one way rides, and again the option to provide more rides to those with needs: employment rides, medical, etc.

I have had no time to make this a nice report, but wanted to share my thoughts with you, as I will be away next week, and you may be discussing this at the next meeting.

Thank you!

Deb