



SIERRA VISTA VOLUNTEER INTERFAITH CAREGIVER PROGRAM (VICaP)

AT A GLANCE

General Services:

Vital transportation services for elderly, disabled and home bound residents in Cochise County.

Applicant Status:

Private/Non-Profit

Primary Service Areas:

Palominas, Hereford, Sierra Vista, Huachuca City, Whetstone, Bisbee, Douglas, Benson, Willcox

Service Days/Hours:

Mon-Fri 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Transportation Funding

Sources: ADOT, Legacy Foundation, Community Foundation of Southern Az, other grants, fundraising, donations

No. of vehicles: 5

No. of vehicles under lien: 3

No. of service sites: 2

Providing transportation services since: 1994

Annual Ridership: 23,811

Contact:

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The Volunteer Interfaith Caregiver Program (VICaP), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization incorporated in 1994, is based in Sierra Vista and provides vital transportation services for seniors (ages 60+) and disabled (of any age) residents throughout Cochise County. Rides are provided throughout Cochise County, as well as to Tucson and Safford for medical appointments. While donations are greatly appreciated, VICaP services are offered free-of-charge. Transportation services are provided primarily by volunteers driving their own vehicles, with two paid drivers supporting the greater-Willcox area with VICaP owned vans, one of which is wheelchair accessible. Our mission is to help our “Neighbors” continue to live independently and maintain their quality of life.

In 2019, more than 100 trained volunteers provided individualized transportation services to those in need of VICaP’s support. In 2019, VICaP volunteers drove over 222,359 miles in their personal vehicles, exceeding our 2018 total miles by 25%. Our volunteer drivers provided transportation for 20,129 rides to our Neighbors throughout the County, exceeding our past year’s total rides by 12%.

VICaP has a 9-passenger cutaway wheelchair-accessible van and two minivans used to provide transportation support for qualified Neighbors in the greater Willcox area, which also includes transportation to Tucson and Safford medical facilities. Based in Sierra Vista, VICaP now has two wheelchair-accessible minivans driven by PASS-trained volunteers to support the southern parts of Cochise County.

Our paid Willcox drivers cover a large rural area, including San Simon, Bowie, Pearce, and Sunsites. In 2019, they completed 2,901 trips, driving 65,769 miles in support of the Neighbors in the greater-Willcox area.

VICaP regularly participates in coordination efforts with other agencies, local health care providers and care facilities, to ensure the needs of our Neighbors are met. VICaP regularly participates in SEAGO’s county & regional Transportation Coordination meetings. VICaP is listed in the Cochise County Community Health Improvement 5-year plan as Strategy 2 under Transportation & Resource Communication.

Identified unmet needs: Additional volunteers throughout the County to support the growing number of Neighbors requesting transportation; additional funding sources to assist with the growing mileage reimbursement costs for Tucson and intercity trips; additional/continued funding for vehicle maintenance/repairs; additional operating funds for administrative salaries to maintain minimal overhead costs; additional funds for Willcox program (to include outreach, operating, vehicle costs, drivers’ salaries, etc.).