



The Rider

5570 Sterrett Place, Suite 102 - Columbia, MD 21044

410-884-7433

Powered by Your Neighbors

310 volunteers
19,750 hours of service

Fueling Access

17,748 trips | 600+ passengers
475 deliveries from Howard
County Food Bank

A Year in Action FY2025

Creating Conversations

4,475 different driver and passenger pairings
On average, passengers had **9 different drivers**.

It Was Busy!

It certainly was a busy 12 months here at Neighbor Ride! Of course, the credit goes to all our volunteers for making these record volumes possible. They provided 17,748 trips during the past year – a near 14% increase over the previous year.

And yes, these past few months (March to July) have been the busiest ever. Thank you for your understanding as ride requests get filled later and for making alternative plans for the ride requests we can't fill.

Welcome, Andrea Bufka

We welcome Andrea Bufka to Neighbor Ride. She recently joined Neighbor Ride as our new Strategic Development Director. She first found us as a volunteer driver, so many of you may have already met her! We are excited to have her on the team and *driving* Neighbor Ride forward with her!

SUMMER 2025 In This Issue:

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- Holiday Office Closures
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'The Rider' is Neighbor Ride's quarterly newsletter, dedicated to the incredible older adults we serve. We want your feedback! Let us know what you would like to see in future issues by emailing community@neighborride.org.

Holiday Schedule (Office Closed)



Labor Day

Monday, September 1st



Day After Thanksgiving

Friday, November 28th



Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 27th



Christmas Day

Thursday, December 25th

Ride Rates

Fees are determined by the one-way distance, per Google Maps, between the pick-up location and destination. **If you are a Veteran or your income is limited, you may be eligible for subsidized rides. Please call our office at 410-884-RIDE for more information or to request an application.**



<i>Under 1 mile</i>	<i>\$ 10.00</i>
<i>1-4.99 miles</i>	<i>\$ 12.00</i>
<i>5-9.99 miles</i>	<i>\$ 18.00</i>
<i>10-14.99 miles</i>	<i>\$ 24.00</i>
<i>15-19.99 miles</i>	<i>\$ 30.00</i>
<i>20-35 miles</i>	<i>\$ 36.00</i>

Day Requested *First Available*

<i>Monday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Sunday or Monday</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>

Requesting Rides

Please allow three (3) full business days when you schedule a ride. **Call 410-884-RIDE or visit our website and click on "Request a Ride".**

Office Phone Hours:

Monday-Friday 9:00am - 2:00pm
Saturday 10:00am - 1:00pm



HONORING THE MILITARY SERVICE OF THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED OUR NATION

Veterans, along with their spouses or dependent children, may qualify for burial in a Veteran's Cemetery. The closest State Veteran's Cemeteries to Howard County are Garrison Forest Veteran's Cemetery in Owings Mills, MD, and Crownsville Veteran's Cemetery in Crownsville, MD. To determine eligibility for burial in any Veteran's Cemetery, it is necessary to provide a discharge document, commonly known as a DD214.

For a comprehensive list of Veteran's Benefits, you can visit the Veterans Affairs Cemetery website or the Arlington National Cemetery website for more specific information regarding burial options and eligibility criteria. These resources offer a detailed overview and can help clarify any questions you might have. It's recommended to consult these websites or reach out for further assistance if needed.

Who is eligible for Military Funeral Honors?

The basic Military Funeral Honors (MFH) ceremony includes the folding and presentation of the United States flag to the veteran's family, along with the playing of Taps, which is a traditional bugle call. This solemn ceremony is conducted by a detail consisting of at least two members of the Armed Forces. The type of Funeral Honors provided will depend on the veteran's military status and may range from Full Military Honors to a Seven Person Detail or a Standard Honors Team Detail.

Eligibility for MFH is extended to:

- Active-duty military members or those in the Selected Reserve
- Former military members who served on active duty and were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable
- Former military members who completed at least one term of enlistment or initial obligated service in the Selected Reserve and were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable
- Former military members discharged from the Selected Reserve due to a disability incurred or aggravated while on duty

How do I establish veteran eligibility?

To establish eligibility, the preferred document is the DD Form 214, which certifies release or discharge from active duty. If the DD Form 214 is unavailable, other discharge documents indicating service under conditions other than dishonorable may be acceptable. To obtain a DD Form 214, you need to complete a Standard Form 180 and send it to the *National Personnel Records Center at 1 Archives Drive, St. Louis, MO 63138*. The Standard Form 180 can be acquired from the National Records Center or by visiting their website.

HARRY H. WITZKE'S
Family Funeral Home
Caring Service Since 1912

The team at HARRY H. WITZKE'S FAMILY FUNERAL HOME takes great pride in serving those who have dedicated themselves to protecting our freedom. If there are specific requests from the family to honor your loved one, please do not hesitate to inform us. We are committed to collaborating with you to ensure that the remembrance is special and unique, creating a lasting tribute.

Volunteer Notes: Join Us in Welcoming Our New Board Members

Sponsored by  B|W|F|A

We are pleased to introduce the following new members of our Board of Directors:



Jennifer L. Crawley, Aging Services Leader

"With Neighbor Ride's critical mission of serving older adults, filling a much-needed gap in our community, and building community one ride at a time, I jumped at the opportunity to join the board and become more involved in this great organization. I look forward to serving our community in this capacity."



Dr. Francois Ngijoi, New Advanced Technologies, LLC

"My parents have been residents of Howard County for 29 years and have been utilizing Neighbor Ride's services since its establishment 21 years ago. Having witnessed firsthand the incredible work of this organization, I am very enthusiastic about the prospect of serving on its board and contributing to the Neighbor Ride Strategic Roadmap's implementation."



Mark Stoner, Stoner Benefit Advisors

"I am excited to join Neighbor Ride to continue the excellent service that the organization provides to Howard County residents. It gives me the opportunity to show my kids that it is important to serve your community."



Amrish Vyas, Entrepreneur, Educator, Consultant

"I joined Neighbor Ride because it serves a group that has given so much to our society yet is often neglected—'our seniors'—many who face daily challenges due to limited mobility. Neighbor Ride is reshaping the lives of our vulnerable population, restoring independence one ride at a time."

Thank You to Our Sponsors



Dr. Lillian Bauder