



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Access Launches Transportation Program to Reduce Health Disparities in the Windham Area



Access Community Action Agency now provides individuals and families of the Windham Area free transportation to non-emergency medical appointments. This service is provided as part of Access's partnership with the Eastern Connecticut Health Collaborative, backed by United Way of Southeastern Connecticut. Access provides services aimed at reducing disparities in health care with a concentration on access to transportation.

Access offers Windham Area residents, without resources, to secure transport to and from health-related appointments/services and provides 3 free round trip non-emergency medical transportation with no mileage limit all within the state of Connecticut. Access is using Uber Health, a new form of HIPAA-compliant transportation for its service. The services are available now and will continue while the funds last. In addition to this service, they will also educate clients about transportation resources and information for other available services.

Sahireliz Rios-Bravo, Navigator-Health Disparities, said she is grateful for the partnership, "We're excited that Windham Area residents will have access to free transportation to any non-emergency medical appointment. We realize it's sometimes difficult for people to have someone available to take them to and from an appointment, and we hope this will help alleviate scheduling and transportation challenges".

Windham Area Residents who need transportation to a medical appointment may call 860-450-7400 ext. 7480 or 860-576-3683 to reach Sahireliz. Please call at least one week in advance of the appointment date and trips can be scheduled up to 30 days in advance. To receive transportation, a resident must be at least 18 or must be accompanied by a legal guardian.

The Access Community Action Agency is designated by the federal and state government as the anti-poverty agency in northeast Connecticut. Access provides food, affordable housing, job readiness services, and other pathways to economic self-reliance for vulnerable limited-income families and individuals throughout the region.