

Project Narrative for Maricopa Senior Inc.

Proposed Program: Senior Transportation Services & Day Trips

Submitted to: Ak-Chin Indian Community – Proposition 202 (12% Grant)

Submitted by: Maricopa Seniors Inc.

Project Start Date: January 2026

Organizational Background and Commitment

Maricopa Seniors Inc. is an established nonprofit organization based in the City of Maricopa, dedicated to improving the quality of life for the city's aging population. With a mission to provide programs that will create safe and healthy environments for seniors, a business base for seniors to receive discounted products and services, and provide an online resource directory; we have successfully implemented projects such as the "Home Key Box Program", an alternative to forced entry during emergencies. This project, in partnership with Maricopa Fire/Medical and Fire Corps has successfully installed over 700 lockboxes to the homes of vulnerable seniors.

Maricopa Seniors Inc. now proposes the implementation of a Seniors Transportation Services Project subsidizing transportation costs to medical appointments and quarterly day trips. We are humbled by the opportunity to seek support from the Ak-Chin Indian Community through the Proposition 202 (12% Grant), recognizing the Community's longstanding commitment to uplifting vulnerable populations and supporting initiatives that improve access to essential services.

Statement of Need

The City of Maricopa is one of the fastest-growing communities in Arizona, yet transportation infrastructure for vulnerable populations, particularly seniors, has not kept pace with demand. Many of our elderly residents face barriers to accessing healthcare, social services, and social engagement opportunities due to limited mobility and lack of reliable transportation.

This challenge is even more pronounced for low-income seniors and those living alone, a demographic that is steadily increasing in our region. Lack of transportation contributes not only to missed medical appointments and worsening health outcomes, but also to social isolation, one of the leading contributors to depression and cognitive decline among older adults.

Nationally and locally, the data underscores this need. According to the National Aging and Disability Transportation Center, nearly 25% of adults aged 65 and older do not drive. In Maricopa, anecdotal evidence from community-based organizations such as Maricopa Police Department's YANA (You Are Not Alone) Program and the Community Coalition's helpline highlights that transportation remains one of the most frequently cited unmet needs among seniors.

Project Description

With support from the Ak-Chin Indian Community, Maricopa Seniors Inc. will launch a Senior Transportation Services Program in January 2026 that focuses on three key components:

1. Medical Transportation Support

Weekly door-to-door transportation services for seniors in the City of Maricopa who need rides to and from doctor's appointments, pharmacies, and other essential healthcare providers.

2. Monthly Necessities Trips

Monthly Door-to-door transportation to local grocers for seniors to obtain basic food, health, and home products. Basic needs that may often go unmet for many senior residents.

3. Quarterly "Senior Day Trips"

Once every quarter, we will coordinate a recreational outing for senior residents to promote social engagement, mental stimulation, and emotional well-being. Destinations may include local museums, cultural sites, or nearby parks.

We will partner with RIDE347, a trusted local transportation company serving the Maricopa area, to implement these services with a focus on reliability, safety, and dignity for our elders.

Referral Network & Community Integration

Our program will accept referrals from local organizations and residents directly. Primary referral sources include:

- MPD's YANA (You Are Not Alone) Program
- The Community Coalition Help Line – a central point of contact for residents needing assistance.
- Self-referrals and family/caregiver requests – via phone or online request form.
- Other local non-profits & community organizations

Each client will undergo a simple intake process to ensure eligibility and scheduling coordination.

Goals & Outcomes

- Provide transportation for at least 100 medical appointments in the first year.
- Facilitate four recreational trips serving approximately 56 seniors in total.
- Reduce reported transportation-related barriers to healthcare for 90% of participants.
- Increase feelings of social connection among participating seniors, as measured through post-trip surveys.

Timeline

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES PROJECT TIMELINE



Sustainability and Accountability

Maricopa Seniors Inc. is committed to transparency, financial stewardship, and long-term impact. We will provide quarterly reports detailing program utilization, participant feedback, and financial expenditures. We are also actively pursuing additional funding through local and state sources to ensure the sustainability and potential expansion of this program beyond its pilot year.

Closing Statement

We recognize the trust and responsibility that comes with public funding, especially from a respected and community-centered source such as the Ak-Chin Indian Community. We do not

take this opportunity lightly. With your support, we will ensure that Maricopa's senior residents are not left behind—that they have the dignity, access, and connection they deserve.

Thank you for considering this request. We are hopeful that, together, we can build a healthier, more connected, and compassionate Maricopa for all generations.

Project Budget

Budget Item	Description	Cost
Medical Transportation Services	Private reservation of ADA Accessible bus from RIDE347 once per week for 52 weeks (\$99/hr at 10 hrs/day = \$990/day X52=\$51,480.00)	\$51,480.00
Recreational Transportation Services	Private reservation of ADA accessible bus from RIDE347 quarterly (\$99/hr at 10 hrs/day = \$990/day X 4= \$3,960.00)	\$3,960.00
Necessities/Shopping Trips	Trips to local grocers for seniors once a month (\$99/hr at 10 hrs/day = \$990/day X12=\$51,480.00)	\$11,880.00
Marketing	Print material (fliers), and advertising specifically for Senior Transportation Services	\$1,000.00
Grant/Contract Management Consulting Services	Grant/Contract Management Consulting Services (\$50/Hr x 10 hrs/month = \$500 x 12 months = \$6000.00)	\$6,000.00
Maricopa Seniors Inc. Administrative Services	Costs for administration of grant and project management (\$50/Hr X76Hrs = \$3,800.00)	\$3,800.00
Total		\$78,120.00