



June 5, 2025

*“Unfortunately, taxis are too expensive. Your service is so great. I do not know what I would do without it.”* —Diane A., participant

Dear Friends of the Shepherd’s Center,

At the halfway point of the year, we’re proud of the progress we have made—and deeply aware of how much more remains to be done.

**Because of your generosity**, older adults like Diane can get to vital appointments and enjoy the social connections that make life brighter. Living in Northern Virginia is expensive. And living on a fixed income defined as “extremely low”, with chronic medical conditions, makes frequent medical visits even more challenging and stressful.

Transportation, social programs, volunteering, and healthy aging programs form the core of SCNOVA’s mission. So far this year, with your support, we are on track to repeat an outstanding year of service. We’ve welcomed 45 new transportation participants, provided over 1,110 one-way rides, and traveled over 6,000 miles to medical appointments, food stores, civic, bank, social, and faith-based destinations. We’ve hosted many events, from casual get-togethers to structured classes and lunches.

**But, like many nonprofits, we’re facing a challenging climate—**uncertainty, changing funding priorities, and rising competition for private grant funds are all real factors that we face today. Despite these challenges, SCNOVA is blessed with a strong Board that has led, and continues to lead, with strategic vision. That said, SCNOVA launched a new pilot program with NV Rides, which offers limited, complimentary taxi rides to participants to meet growing demand. This program is off to a great start. We are also funding a gas-card incentive program for volunteer drivers, which has been enthusiastically received. Our staff, Board, volunteers, and supporters are committed to our mission, to provide opportunities for all members of our community to age with dignity and in community with one another. And that’s why we need your help today.

#### **BECAUSE OF YOU...**

Ninety-seven percent (97%) of SCNOVA transportation participants stated that the transportation program is one reason they can live independently in their homes.

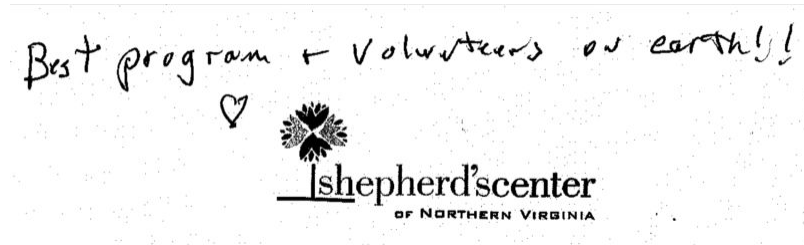
This impact is significant considering the cost of a rental apartment in a senior living community can range from \$6,000 to \$15,000 a month, which does not include the upfront non-refundable deposit of \$5,500 - \$15,000, and does not include care.

**THANK YOU FOR ALL  
YOU DO TO SUPPORT  
HEALTHY AGING.**

**Our goal is to raise \$30,000 by July 31** to fund the operations for at least 1,500 more rides, four signature lunches, and strong wellness programs. Your gift of \$25, \$50, or whatever feels right makes a direct, immediate difference. Every donation brings comfort, dignity, and connection to someone in need.

**Please give today at** <https://scnova.org/donate/donate-appeal/>, or by mailing the enclosed form, or by calling us at **(703) 281-0538**. We thank you for your support. Together, we will make sure no older adult is left behind.

In closing, let us share these words from another participant, whose sentiments we could not agree with more:



With heartfelt gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carolyn Pennington".

**Carolyn Pennington**  
**Executive Director**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "W. Scott Schroth".

**W. Scott Schroth**  
**Board Chair**

P.S. - Stay tuned for more exciting news from SCNOVA on the move!