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VIBRANT! CHARLOTTE COUNTY

Community Feature Series by
Vibrant Communities Charlotte County

Charlotte Dial-A-Ride

Feature by Dana Planetta

The Charlotte County Alternative Transportation Association (Charlotte Dial A Ride) is a volunteer-based transportation system providing friendly, safe, door-to-door transportation services for residents of Charlotte County. Volunteer drivers donate their time to provide the drives using their own vehicles.

We are very proud to be able to support individuals with transportation barriers so they can travel for GED or NBCC classes, and to after-school tutoring….all these lead to further education and jobs!

A success story…a new graduate!
We provided drives for a young man each day from St. Stephen to his classes at NBCC in St. Andrews to complete his training to be a chef. He is pictured here sporting his new uniform, with two of the volunteers who drove him each day to his classes and practicum.



Did you know…

- Charlotte Dial A Ride is a **charitable organization**.
- Research has clearly demonstrated the impact that access to transportation has on the **health, wellness and overall quality of life of people**. This is especially true for those who are isolated and vulnerable in rural communities.
- In 2019 we arranged **8,167 trips**, nearly half of these drives were for travel to work. The other drives are related to health, banking, education, shopping, errands, visiting relatives, attending community events and more.

When the State of Emergency began in March, most of our drives ceased; doctors cancelled in-office appointments, the St. Croix Vocational Center, NBCC, and schools were all closed. We continued (with new safety protocols in place) to provide transportation to our dialysis patients, and to several essential medical specialist appointments in Saint John. In support of our communities, we partnered with the food banks in St. Stephen and St. George. We continue to provide food hamper deliveries for these organizations to their clients at no charge. We are also delivering groceries, medications, and other essentials to anyone needing them in Charlotte County. People moving into the area needing to self- isolate for 14 days are able to contact us in advance for grocery deliveries. Superstore is supporting the cost for local deliveries for their grocery orders.

We are now back to booking drives for all purposes with new social distancing protocols in place to keep everyone safe. This year, thanks to our volunteers and to all our wonderful supporters, we are celebrating 15 years of service to Charlotte County!

For more information check us out at:
www.charlottedial-a-ride.com or Facebook page.

If you are aware of individuals who have challenges in accessing transportation or if you are interested in learning more about volunteering with us please contact us:
Phone: 506-466-4444
Email: dialaride@nb.aibn.com