

Grant Approval Memo



Grantee: PALMER SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER INC
Request Amount: \$50,000.00
Project Title: MSSS ADS Transportation
Grant Term: 2/19/2026 to 2/18/2027
Fund Source: FY26 Partnerships/Designated Grants
Trust Staff: Kelda Barstad

Requested Motion:

The Program and Planning Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve a \$50,000 authority grant to Palmer Senior Citizens Center Inc. for the MSSS ADS Transportation grant. These funds will come from the Partnerships/Designated Grants line of the FY26 budget.

Staff Analysis:

- What does this project do?
Trust funds will support transportation services operated by MatSu Senior Services, to include driver salary and benefits, vehicle maintenance, and contribute to administrative expenses such as insurance.
- Who is receiving the funds?
Palmer Senior Citizens Center, dba MatSu Senior Services (MSSS), is a non-profit organization providing senior services in the MatSu Borough since 1980. They operate a senior center, senior housing, an adult day program, transportation, meals, chore, and respite services.
<https://www.matsuseniors.com/>
- Why is staff recommending this project?
MSSS Adult Day Services Transportation Project is recommended to provide gap funding to provide transportation for beneficiaries with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia (ADRД) living in the MatSu Valley from their homes to Adult Day Services. The project's purpose is to provide access to Adult Day Services to enrich the beneficiaries' daily lives with engaging activities and offer respite to their unpaid caregivers to prevent caregiver burnout.
- Will this be a multi-year project?
This is the second time that funding has been requested to fill a funding gap. A small number of people will be eligible for waiver transportation but not the majority using the program. If advocacy for increased senior services grants is successful, this grant will not be needed in the future.

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Trust Five Year Funding History

Fiscal Year	Project Title	Amount	Status	Final Expended
FY25	MSSS ADS Transport	\$50,000	Active	TBD

Comp Plan Identification

Area of Focus	Objective	Comments
Area of Focus 7: Services in the Least Restrictive Environment	7.2 Increase access to effective and flexible, person-centered, long-term services and supports in urban and rural areas to avoid institutional placement where inappropriate	

Trust Focus Area Connection

Budget Area	Strategy	Comments
Housing & Home & Community Based Services	HHCBS - Beneficiaries access effective and flexible person-centered HCBS	

Project Description (from grant application)

Mat-Su Senior Services (MSSS) seeks funding to continue our vital transportation program for Adult Day Services. This initiative directly supports seniors with Alzheimer's and related dementias (ADRD) and their unpaid family caregivers. With dedicated vans, MSSS previously provided transportation for ADRD clients to our facility, alongside assisted medical appointments. Funding will allow us to continue this essential service, alleviating a critical barrier to care and providing much-needed respite for family caregivers.

Performance Measures (developed by the Trust)

From Grant Application:

The goal is to increase the number of ADS (Adult Day Services) clients through offering transport to those who are eligible for the program, but were previously unable to attend due to transportation barriers. We intend on measuring project success by collecting data on the number of clients with ADRD and Traumatic or Acquired Brain Injury who enrolled in ADS after transportation was offered. We will conduct a deeper dive and track the attendance rate for clients receiving program transportation compared to those using other means. Mat-Su Senior Services plans to conduct a survey and collect data to measure caregiver relief, independence for clients, and overall satisfaction with its transportation services.

Proposed Performance Measures:

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How much did you do?

- a. Number (#) of unduplicated Trust beneficiaries served during the grant reporting period, broken down by primary Trust beneficiary category.
- b. Number (#) of trips/rides conducted during the grant reporting period.

How well did you do it?

- a. Provide a narrative describing the timeline, activities, successes, challenges, and any lessons learned during the grant reporting period. Be sure to address how the program will be sustained beyond Trust funding.
- b. Number (#) and percentage (%) of riders who felt safe during their transport to and from Adult Day Services.
- c. Number (#) and percentage (%) of riders who felt they were treated with dignity and respect during their transport to and from Adult Day Services.

Is anyone better off?

- a. Number (#) and percentage (%) of riders who felt their quality of life increased as a result of receiving transportation services to Adult Day Services.
- b. Two statements from riders describing how the transportation services impacted their quality of life and overall well-being.

Sustainability (from grant application)

The continuation of the Mat-Su Senior Services (MSSS) Adult Day Services (ADS) Transport program directly addresses a critical and growing need for accessible, reliable transportation for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD) and their caregivers in the Mat-Su Valley. This project will improve the health outcomes for ADRD patients and reduce the burden on their caregivers by expanding our existing, proven transportation services. With a dedicated Director, trained ADS and dispatch staff, a fleet of maintained vehicles, and a pre-existing waitlist of clients, we are uniquely positioned for success. The primary goal is to ensure the long-term sustainability of this vital program through robust funding and proper staffing.

Who We Serve (from grant application)

Adult Day Services (ADS) provide crucial support for individuals with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD), Traumatic Brain Injuries, and Developmental Disabilities. A significant portion of our clients have ADRD. By offering transportation to and from our center, we will enable regular attendance, directly combating the social isolation often experienced by these individuals. This consistent engagement promotes physical and mental well-being and allows beneficiaries to maintain autonomy and dignity by remaining active in the community as long as possible. The program also offers a less expensive alternative to institutionalized care, providing financial relief for families and reducing the overall burden on caregivers, thereby improving their peace of mind.

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Estimated Numbers of Beneficiaries Served Experiencing (from grant application)

Developmental Disabilities:	2
Alzheimer's Disease & Related Dementias:	25
Traumatic Brain Injuries:	2
Secondary Beneficiaries (family members or caregivers providing support to primary beneficiaries):	40
Number of people to be trained	1

Project Budget (from grant application)

Personnel Services Costs	\$35,203.00
Personnel Services Costs (Other Sources)	\$0.00
Personnel Services Narrative	The driver will be paid \$15/hr (\$31,200/yr), with a fringe rate of 12.18%. This personnel cost accounts for a 12 month time period (\$35,203).
Supplies Costs	\$13,267.00
Supplies Costs (Other Sources)	\$0.00
Supplies Narrative	\$13,267 - Vehicle supplies to include fuel for ADS transport and maintenance supplies for the vehicle (windshield wipers, oil, filters, etc.)
Other Costs	\$1,530.00
Other Costs (Other Sources)	\$0.00
Other Costs Narrative	Recruiting and training at \$100 Licenses, dues, subscriptions at \$150 Audit and Accounting contract services at \$500 Vehicle insurance at \$780

Other Funding Sources (from grant application)

Mat-Su Borough - Secured for other Assisted Transportation Costs	\$50,000.00
Total Leveraged Funds	\$50,000.00