

For MCOTA, August 2017

Cost Savings of Volunteer Driver Programs: Case Studies in Minnesota

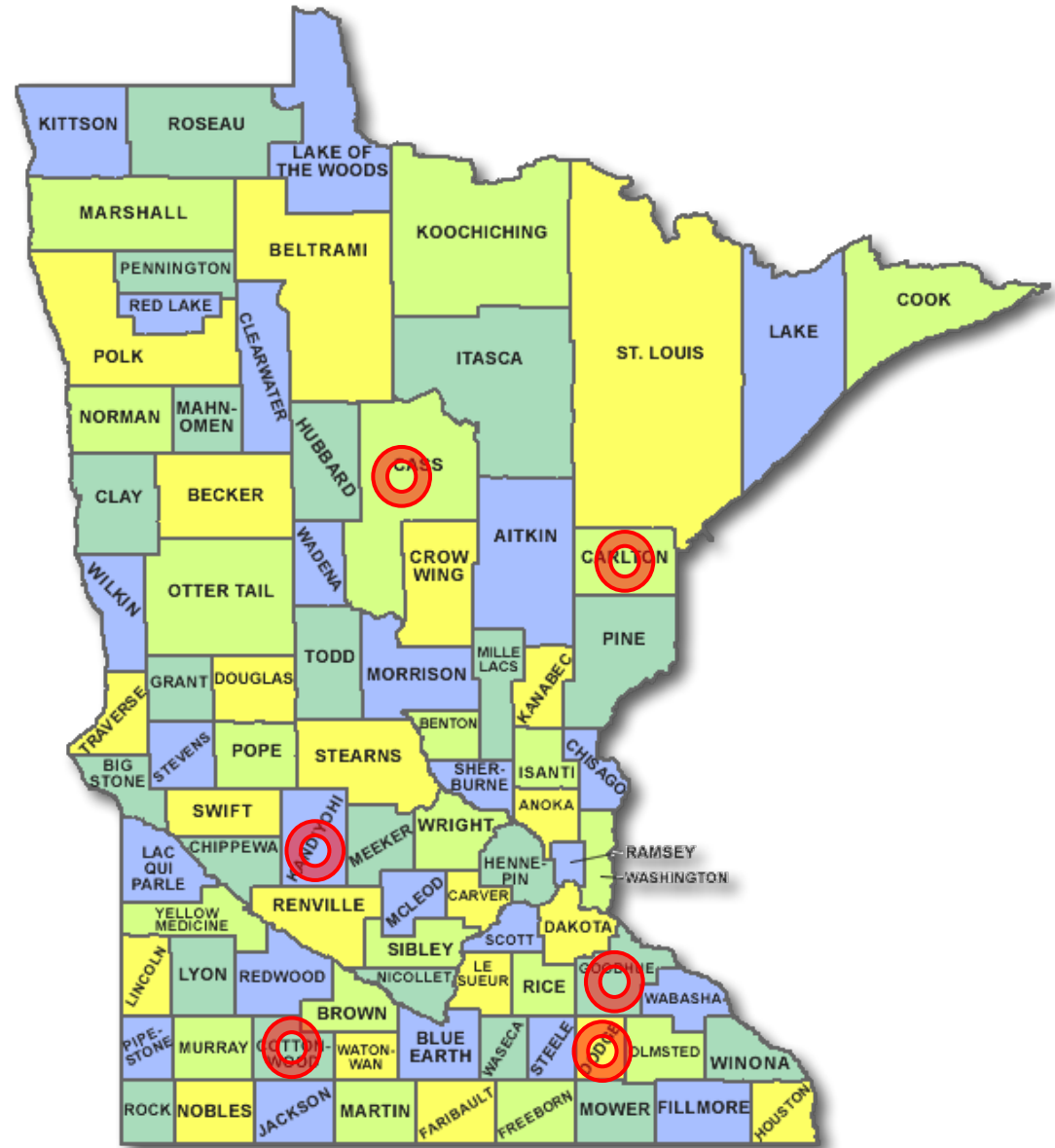
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Six Case Studies in MN

- County volunteer program
 - Volunteer Services of Carlton County
- Transit volunteer program
 - Central Community Transit (CCT)
 - United Community Action Partnership
 - SEMCAC (Southeastern Minnesota Community Action Council)
- Faith in Action
 - Faith In Action in Red Wing
 - Faith In Action for Cass County



Volunteer Services of Carlton County

- Service area
 - Carlton County and beyond
- Volunteer driver program
 - 391,320 annual service miles
 - 12,960 annual service hours
 - 4,860 annual round trips
 - Average length: 81 mile
- Operating cost
 - Personnel: \$180,000
 - Reimbursement: \$160,000
 - Other: \$5,000
 - Average per round trip: \$71
- Alternative services: STS
 - Base rate: \$13
 - Mileage rate: \$105
 - Total rate: \$118
- Cost savings per hour
 - $\$118 - \$71 = \$47$
- Total annual savings
 - $\$47 * 4,860 = \$226,896$

Central Community Transit (CCT)

- Service area
 - Kandiyohi County; Renville County
- Volunteer driver programs
 - One for senior; one for NEMT
 - 721,932 annual miles
 - 14,439 annual hours
 - 22,094 annual trips
- Operating cost
 - NEMT: \$480,000
 - MNDoA: \$88,000
 - Contribution: \$44,000
 - Average cost: \$42 per hour
- Alternative: Dial-a-Ride
 - \$20-25 per trip (urban area)
 - \$85 per hour (urban or rural)
- Cost savings per hour
 - $\$85 - \$42 = \$43$
- Total annual savings
 - $\$43 * 14,439 = \$620,877$

United Community Action Partnership

- Service area
 - Southwest Minnesota
 - Community transit; volunteer driver
- Volunteer driver programs
 - 721,932 annual miles
 - 800,000 annual service miles
 - 8,000 round trips
 - 100 mile per round trip
- Operating cost
 - Total: \$560,000
 - Average \$70 per round trip
- Alternative: STS
 - Base rate: \$13
 - Mileage rate: \$130
 - Total rate: \$143
 - Average cost savings: \$73
 - Annual savings: \$584,000
- Alternative: Taxi
 - Base rate: \$5
 - Mileage rate: \$250
 - Total rate: \$225
 - Average cost savings: \$185
 - Annual savings: \$1,480,000

SEMCAC (Southeastern MN CAC)

- Service area
 - Southeastern Minnesota
- Volunteer driver programs
 - One for Medicaid; one for others
 - 704,451 service miles
 - 31,590 service hours
 - 9,690 round trips
 - 73 mile per round trip
- Operating cost
 - Total: \$850,000
 - Average \$88 per round trip
- Alternative: STS
 - Base rate: \$13
 - Mileage rate: \$95
 - Total rate: \$108
- Cost savings per hour
 - $\$108 - \$88 = \$20$
- Total annual savings
 - $\$20 * 9,690 = \$191,756$

Faith In Action in Red Wing

- Service area
 - Red Wing, MN
- Volunteer driver program
 - 50,400 annual service miles
 - 4,200 round trips
 - 12 mile per round trip
- Operating cost
 - Personnel: \$37,100
 - Coordination: \$6,400
 - Other: \$1,700
 - Average \$11 per round trip
- Alternative: STS
 - Base rate: \$13
 - Mileage rate: \$16
 - Total rate: \$29
 - Average cost savings: \$18
 - Annual savings: \$74,920
- Alternative: Taxi
 - Base rate: \$5
 - Mileage rate: \$30
 - Total rate: \$35
 - Average cost savings: \$24
 - Annual savings: \$101,800

Faith In Action for Cass County

- Service area
 - Cass County
- Volunteer driver program in
 - 91,000 annual miles
 - 2,880 annual hours
 - 1,920 round trips
 - 47 mile per round trip
- Operating cost
 - Personnel: \$40,000
 - Insurance: \$5,000
 - Reimbursement: \$32,000
 - Administration: \$3,000
 - Average \$42 per round trip
- Alternative-1: Private provider
 - \$200-250 (round trip)
 - Cost savings per trip
 - $\$225 - \$42 = \$183$
 - Total annual savings
 - $\$183 * 1,920 = \$352,000$
- Alternative-2: STS provider
 - It costs about \$75 round trip
 - Cost savings per trip
 - $\$75 - \$42 = \$33$
 - Total annual savings
 - $\$33 * 1,920 = \$64,000$

Conclusions

- Volunteer driver programs provide important services
 - Serving senior, low-income or other less independent groups
 - Medical, employment, education, elderly grocery, pharmacy trips
 - In places where regular transit is not available
- They have significant cost savings again alternative services
 - Special Transportation Services, Taxi, or Dial-a-Ride

Volunteer Driver Program	Average savings per round-trip compared to other options	Annual savings compared to other options
1. Volunteer Services of Carlton County	\$47	\$226,896
2. Central Community Transit (CCT)	\$43	\$615,246
3. United Community Action Partnership	\$73-\$185	\$584,000 - \$1,480,000
4. SEMCAC's Volunteer Driver Program	\$20	\$191,756
5. Faith in Action in Red Wing	\$18-\$24	\$74,920 - \$101,800
6. Faith in Action for Cass County	\$33-\$185	\$64,000 - \$352,000