

The Healthcare Consortium

Dear Prospective Sponsor:

Please mark your calendars for October 1st, when the Healthcare Consortium will once again host our annual fundraiser for the Children and Adults Rural Transportation Service (CARTS). While this fundraiser is not the program's only source of support, it IS an important one, because every dollar matters to keeping our cars and drivers on the road for our many neighbors who count on them.

As you may know, for over 25 years CARTS has provided door-to-door, non-emergency medical transportation to thousands of Columbia County residents of all ages, incomes, and abilities. While our clients are varied, they all share the same need: help getting to and from healthcare appointments. CARTS exists to meet that need. Whether someone doesn't have a vehicle, can't afford to fill the tank, or is unable to drive safely after a treatment or procedure, CARTS is there, connecting them to care. Last year alone, we provided over 13,000 trips to Columbia County residents in our own fleet of clean, well-maintained vehicles, guided by courteous, compassionate drivers who are truly the heart and soul of the program.

CARTS is one of the ways in which the Healthcare Consortium takes care of our community, and we do it really well (just look at some of the CARTS client testimonials that we enclosed to get a sense of the gratitude we hear regularly from those we serve). However, it feels like continuing to do that good work is getting harder and harder every day, for reasons we know will be familiar to you. You don't need us to tell you that everything costs more these days—we're all feeling the pinch at the gas pump, at the grocery store, and in our utility bills—and that is true for CARTS, too. From buying our vehicles, to insuring, maintaining, and fueling them, every cost of running the program has risen sharply and we're struggling to keep up. The hard truth is that if we want to continue delivering the level of service Columbia County residents have come to expect and rely on, we're going to need more support from our community.

That's why I am asking you to help keep our neighbors connected to the care they need by becoming a sponsor of the Healthcare Consortium's 2026 CARTS Fundraiser. On the enclosed "Sponsorship Opportunities" page, you'll find a variety of sponsorship levels, each with its own set of benefits. If you'd like to discuss these options or craft a custom package, please reach out to our Director of Development and Communications, Sydney Keiler, at skeiler@columbiahealthnet.org.

Thank you for your consideration of this request; I hope you will join us in being a caretaker of the community by supporting the 2026 CARTS Fundraiser.

Sincerely,
Claire Parde
Executive Director

IN THE WORDS OF OUR CARTS CLIENTS

"The transport [the Healthcare Consortium] provides has changed my life. It has allowed me the security of knowing that I can receive the medical treatment I desperately need by being transported to my appointments whether they are in Hudson, Chatham, Valatie, Albany, Kingston, Poughkeepsie, Fishkill, and Clifton Park. **Unfortunately I lost my ability to drive and even to walk unaided, if it wasn't for the generosity of this program I would be destined to living in chronic unbearable pain.** Allowing me to have these medical treatments means the world to me which also means the Healthcare Consortium means the world to me."

"I started taking rides with CARTS in 2016 after I was not able to drive due to medical reasons. CARTS is a godsend! Without it, I would have had to move to where they have more public transportation. I would have had to leave Columbia County, so this program really preserved my existence. I learned of CARTS through the Office of the Aging and have used them regularly over the past 9 years. **My whole life would have changed if CARTS wasn't there. I like where I live, I like Columbia County, and CARTS kept me here.**"

"I had numerous appointments with various medical specialists, but was unable to drive. I contacted Jim Funk, your Transportation Coordinator, and he was extremely helpful and professional in scheduling transportation for me to and from the appointments. And, the drivers who work for him were also highly professional and courteous. **I mentioned that I live alone and during this trying recuperation I enjoyed the conversation I had with your drivers as they drove me from North Chatham to doctors in Albany, then back home. Your staff helped me get through a very difficult period in my life and I will always be grateful and appreciative to them, and to you.**"



CARTS FUNDRAISER

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

— Thursday, October 1 — — — 4:30 - 6:30 PM — — Upper Depot Brewing Co —

Diamond Rims Sponsor.....\$10,000

- Six (6) tickets to the event
- Opportunity to speak at the event
- Recognition during welcome at event
- Name or logo on event signage and website
- Recognition in Press Release and Annual Report
- Special social media spotlight

Bronze Rims Sponsor.....\$1,000

- Three (3) tickets to the event
- Recognition on event website
- Recognition in Annual Report
- Recognition in social media post

Gold Rims Sponsor.....\$5,000

- Five (5) tickets to the event
- Recognition during welcome at event
- Name or logo on event signage and website
- Recognition in Press Release and Annual Report
- Special social media spotlight

Steel Rims Sponsor.....\$500

- Two (2) tickets to the event
- Recognition on event website
- Recognition in social media post

Chrome Rims Sponsor.....\$2,500

- Four (4) tickets to the event
- Recognition during welcome at event
- Name or logo on event signage and website
- Recognition in Press Release and Annual Report
- Recognition in social media post

Alloy Rims Sponsor.....\$250

- One (1) ticket to the event
- Recognition on event website

**Sponsor online at columbiahealthnet.org/2026_carts
or mail the attached sponsorship form to
325 Columbia Street, Suite 200 Hudson, NY 12534**

If you have any questions about event sponsorship, or wish to explore a tailored package, please don't hesitate to contact Sydney Keiler, our Director of Development, by phone at (772) 584-0531 or via email at skeiler@columbiahealthnet.org.

Thank you to our year-round corporate sponsors!



The Lou and Eleanor Gehrig Family Foundation



CARTS FUNDRAISER

SPONSORSHIP FORM

columbiahealthnet.org/2026_CARTS

Sponsorship Level:

- ☐ Diamond Rims Sponsor: \$10,000 ☐ Gold Rims Sponsor: \$5,000 ☐ Chrome Rims Sponsor: \$2,500
☐ Bronze Rims Sponsor: \$1,000 ☐ Steel Rims Sponsor: \$500 ☐ Alloy Rims Sponsor: \$250

Sponsor Information:

Individual/Company Name (as you would like it to appear on the website, social media, and event signage):

☐ **Check here if you would like your sponsorship to be listed as ANONYMOUS**

Contact name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Website: _____

Payment Information:

- ☐ I have paid by credit card at columbiahealthnet.org/2026_CARTS
☐ Enclosed in my check made payable to "The Healthcare Consortium"
(Mail to 325 Columbia Street, Suite 200 ATTN: Sydney Hudson NY, 12534)



Ticket Information:

- ☐ I will use #_____ of my tickets
List of Attendees Names:

☐ I would like to donate #_____ of my tickets to support the attendance of CARTS drivers and other Consortium staff

Sponsorship Level Tickets:

Diamond Rims Sponsor: 6 tickets
Gold Rims Sponsor: 5 tickets
Chrome Rims Sponsor: 4 tickets
Bronze Rims Sponsor: 3 tickets
Steel Rims Sponsor: 2 tickets
Alloy Rims Sponsor: 1 ticket

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!