

## Who We Are

**Community Rides Vermont (CRVT)**, DBA “Gopher”, is a 501(C)3 Vermont not-for-profit shared mobility transportation provider. CRVT partners with Green Mountain Transit (GMT), local businesses, and community organizations to provide subsidized rides for Vermonters who struggle with transportation, primarily in Washington County.

As a subrecipient of GMT, CRVT will provide services for GMT’s Elderly and Disabled (E&D), Medicaid Non-Emergency Medicaid Transportation (NEMT), Recovery and Job Access programs and a new rural mobility pilot program called Mobility-For-All.

Our strategic goals include commuter transportation and on-demand zero-emissions rides, with a particular focus on last-minute ride requests, and availability during evening and weekend



hours. To increase efficiency and enable CRVT to combine rides across different programs, our service model will offer a mobile booking system.

Rides are provided in a fleet of electric vehicles driven by paid drivers, starting with four vehicles, with projections to scale up to 15 vehicles by the end of year three.

## What the Data Shows

Data provided through the Mobility and Transportation Innovations (MTI) Grant Program’s 2021 Transportation Needs Assessment indicates that of 420 respondents:

- **35%** of respondents have unmet transportation needs.
- **21%** of respondents live in single parent households.
- **15%** of respondents are in 0 vehicle households.
  - top reasons: **1- no driver’s license 2 - vehicle costs**
- **48%** of respondents are interested in ride-hailing services.

## What We're Doing to Meet Washington County's Transportation Needs

CRVT will roll out its mobility services in four phases over the first year.

**Phase 1:** CRVT contracts with GMT to provide rides in existing E&D, Medicaid, Recovery and Job Access demand response services.

**Phase 2:** Gopher (CRVT) launches Mobility-For-All service in partnership with GMT. Our initial focus will be on scheduled employment rides from a customer's home to the workplace, to a Link Express Bus or a local route. Financial support from participating businesses and institutions will help support our operating budget.

**Phase 3:** Gopher and GMT work collaboratively to develop an on-demand ride system serving rural areas.

**Phase 4:** Gopher launches market-rate rides to initially serve Washington and parts of Orange County with a reliable taxi-like service to the community. Market-based funds received by Gopher that exceed costs will support the non-profit program's operating budget.

## Who We Serve

Rides provided by CRVT are available for needy Vermonters, from Washington County and parts of Orange County, who have unmet transportation needs. We also partner with businesses and institutions to provide workplace rides, as well as market-rate rides for the public, similar to a taxi service.

## What Makes Us Different

CRVT is at the intersection of the public transportation network that includes nonprofits, government, private businesses, and private pay ride-hail services. Through emerging technologies, we merge resources across these sectors to solve the transportation needs of rural Vermonters. Our innovative service, utilizing zero-emission vehicles driven by paid drivers, weaves together public funding and market-rate revenue to provide needed transportation for rural Vermonters.

