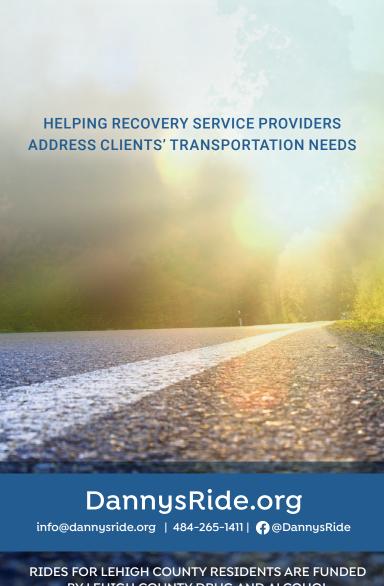


# **TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS:**

Breaking Barriers in SUD Recovery One Ride at a Time





#### HISTORY OF DANNY'S RIDE

Danny's Ride was founded in November 2020 by Nancy Knoebel in honor of her son Danny Teichman. Danny died on 11/11/2016 after taking Kratom to help manage the impact of Post Acute Withdrawal Syndrome (PAWS) resulting from going off Suboxone as part of his recovery plan. He was one week shy of his 28th birthday. Danny was "ride giver" both in his recovery community and with friends and family. This came to light in stories shared after his death.



#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Transportation to services and programs that support recovery from substance use disorder (SUD) is consistently identified as a significant barrier to access, in urban, rural, and suburban communities across the country.

### DANNY'S **RIDE** WORKS

As of January 2024, we provided 10,000 rides to 1.200 riders and covered over 100,000 miles.

Our partners span the state of Pennsylvania, and include communities in North Carolina and Texas.

#### **2024 PROJECTIONS**

**Program PARTNERS** 

> 20,000 **RIDES**

#### **OUR MISSION**

To honor Danny's legacy of compassion and generosity by providing rides to recovery services for people living with substance use disorder (SUD).

Our intention is to broaden our impact by developing partnerships across and beyond Pennsylvania. Why?

Research on transportation as a barrier to recovery is consistent:

A study sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration shows that in 2019, 21.6 million Americans needed treatment for drug and/or alcohol abuse but only 2.6 million received care at a specialty facility.

Transportation improves the likelihood of success. One study found that those attending 16.4 treatments a month on average with transportation would expect to attend only 4.3 treatments a month without it.

#### **HOW IT WORKS**

Using Uber and Lyft, the Danny's Ride model is designed so that recovery service providers identify the people who need rides to get to critical services and programs that support their recovery, and ensures the rider arrives when and where they're expected to be.

#### **A FEW DETAILS:**



We use Roundtrip, a sophisticated, technologybased transportation company, that provides 24/7 support for all rides and connects ride requests with rideshare operators.



Staff use the platform to set up rides; riders are unable to change the ride details.



The average ride cost - about \$30.00.



Funding provided by grants, government agencies such as county drug and alcohol, and fundraising dollars.

### WHY DANNY'S RIDE?

By addressing the transportation barrier to recovery services, Danny's Ride aims to make a positive impact on individuals, families and communities struggling with SUD.

SUD is a family disease, and access to recovery services and supports benefits not just the individual but their loved ones as well. When parents have access to recovery services, they are more likely to be able to provide a stable environment for their children, which can lead to better outcomes for the entire family.

By providing a convenient and reliable ride, Danny's Ride aims to send a message to those living with SUD that "you matter." SUD is a highly stigmatized illness.

Danny's Ride aims to reduce the stigma by presenting it as an illness, not a moral failure. When a Lyft or Uber pulls up to the home of someone living with SUD, they feel supported. We believe the dignity inherent in this model is an important element of Danny's Ride, and one that helps people on their recovery journey.

Recovery staff work with clients to build selfsufficiency. But they must get to services before they can start on this important work. When people in early recovery have access to services, they can develop the resources needed for long term sobriety. Danny's Ride is a "hand up" not a "hand out." Early recovery is a vulnerable time, and rides to essential services support successful outcomes.

There is a high demand for this service not only in Pennsylvania but throughout the country, far surpassing our current capacity. In response, we are working on developing a scalable and replicable model to meet the tremendous need.

The organization is primarily comprised of volunteers. Over 95% of all money raised is used to pay for rides and support our developing infrastructure.

## DannysRide.org

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BY LEHIGH COUNTY DRUG AND ALCOHOL