



Chore Service

P.O. Box 522
Lakeville, CT 06039
(860) 435-9177

We are pleased to provide Chore services for you, and hope that this program will make it easier for you to stay safely and independently in your home.

Chore workers – who are given comprehensive background checks – may provide services for housecleaning, yard work, errands and small household repairs – as long as the job is safe, mutually agreed upon and does not involve personal care such as bathing, dressing or medication. They may use a lawn mower, but they may not use heavy equipment or chain saws, nor climb ladders. It is expected that you will have all necessary tools and supplies on hand. If you are in need of transportation, please note that chore workers cannot transport clients in their personal vehicle, but they can drive a client in the client's personal vehicle providing it is safe, registered and insured.

Once a chore worker contacts you to introduce themselves, you may schedule your worker for a mutually agreed upon day and time. At the end of the worker's visit, your worker will fill out a time slip which documents the date, hours worked and jobs performed. As a client, your signature is required on the time slip. Your worker submits the white copy to our office so that we – **not you!** – can pay her or him. Please keep the yellow copy to enclose with your contribution and send it to Chore Service, P.O. Box 522, Lakeville, CT 06039. Or if you wish, you may wait until your monthly statement is mailed to you to make your contribution.

The suggested amount of your hourly contribution depends on your income; guidelines are shown on the enclosed flyer. Since the Chore Service receives only partial funding from the Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging for those 60 and over, your contribution is very important to help us cover the rest of our costs. Please be as generous as you can so that we may continue to provide this service for all who need it.

We will do our best to accommodate your requests. Please let us know if for any reason your worker cannot provide the help you need. We will try to find someone else who can help. And do not hesitate to call us at (860) 435-9177 if you have questions, comments or concerns.

Thank you!

Pat Wright
Executive Director

Jane MacLaren
Director of Programs



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The Chore Service helps elderly and handicapped residents of Canaan, Cornwall, Falls Village, Kent, Lakeville, Norfolk, Salisbury and Sharon with household chores, home maintenance, errands and, occasionally, transportation. The purpose of the program is to help seniors stay at home safely and independently. The Chore Service also provides jobs for local workers. Client contributions are supplemented by a federal grant as well as donations from towns, churches, charitable funds and individuals so that the program can remain affordable for our target population of fixed low-income families.

Client contributions provide approximately one quarter of our budget. Although our federal grant (provided through Older Americans Act funding by the Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging) subsidizes all clients age sixty and over regardless of income, anyone may use Chore's services.

Our actual expenses are over \$30 per hour. Clients who can contribute this amount (or more!) will help make up the shortfall of those who contribute less. So that we can serve everyone who needs help, we monitor the number of hours used by each client to assure that every client gets what they need without taking advantage of the hours we have available with our limited resources.

Suggested Client Contribution

Clients pay the Chore Service, not their workers. Suggested Guidelines (2019) are:

If your monthly income is less than:		Suggested Contribution per hour:
Single	Couple	
\$ 908	\$ 1,226	\$ 6.00
\$ 1,134	\$ 1,532	\$ 7.00
\$ 1,361	\$ 1,839	\$ 8.00
\$ 1,815	\$ 2,453	\$ 9.00
\$ 2,270	\$ 3,065	\$ 10.00
\$ 2,724	\$ 3,678	\$ 11.00
\$ 3,174	\$ 4,278	\$ 14.00
\$ 3,624	\$ 4,878	\$ 16.00

* If your monthly income is higher than the above, we ask you to consider contributing an Appropriate amount to help fund those that need to pay less.

How are workers paid? The time sheet, a three-part form, should be signed by the client. The worker sends the signed white copy to our office, and the clients sends the yellow copy to us with the contribution unless they would like to wait and pay when the monthly statement of their hours arrives each month. The Chore Worker pays the workers regardless of the amount of the contribution.

Thank you for using the Chore Service!



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Client Contact Information

Please complete and return to Chore Service

Client #1

Legal Name: _____

Nickname: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Email (if applicable): _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Address: _____

Mailing address if different than above: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Relationship to Client(s): _____

Emergency Contact Phone Number: _____

Emergency Contact Email: _____

In order to ensure accuracy in Chore Service records of service, we require an original signature to be on file for each client at all times.

Client # 1 Signature: _____

Date: _____

Client # 2 Signature: _____

Date: _____

Thank You!



Chore Service

- Helping people stay at home
since 1992 -

www.choreservice.org

Chore Service "Stay at Home" Mission

To help senior and disabled residents within the community remain safely and independently at home."

Proudly Serving The NW Corner of CT

**Canaan - Cornwall - Falls Village
Kent - Lakeville - Norfolk
Salisbury - Sharon**

How Can Chore Service Help?

- ✓ Companionship
- ✓ Housecleaning
- ✓ Laundry
- ✓ Light meal prep
- ✓ Minor handyman repairs
- ✓ Transportation
- ✓ Yardwork
- ✓ Services may be temporary or on-going

How Are We Funded?

- Chore Service is partially funded by a grant from the Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging. These monies subsidize all clients aged sixty and over regardless of income.
- Client contributions supplement the grant.
- Chore Service also receives donations from towns, churches, charitable foundations and donors so that the program can remain affordable for everyone.

What Does Chore Service Cost?

- Clients make a contribution based on income and ability to pay.
- Suggested client contribution guidelines:

If your monthly income is less than:

<u>Single</u>	<u>Couple</u>	<u>Suggested Contribution Per hour:</u>
\$ 908	\$ 1,226	\$ 6.00
\$ 1,134	\$ 1,532	\$ 7.00
\$ 1,361	\$ 1,839	\$ 8.00
\$ 1,815	\$ 2,453	\$ 9.00
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\$ 2,724	\$ 3,678	\$ 11.00
\$ 3,174	\$ 4,278	\$ 14.00
\$ 3,624	\$ 4,878	\$ 16.00

- If your monthly income is higher than the above, we ask you to consider contributing an appropriate amount to help fund those that need to pay less.
- Our actual expenses are over \$30.00 per hour.

How Can You Help?

- Chore Service is a non-profit organization.
- Donations are tax deductible.
- All donations are gratefully accepted and go directly to helping the elderly and disabled within our community remain safely and independently at home.

Address: Chore Service, Inc.
P.O. Box 522
Lakeville, CT 06039

Office: 860-435-9177

Fax: 860-492-0730

Email: chore@choreservice.org

Website: www.choreservice.org



When you dial 2-1-1, a call specialist will help connect you to the services you need. Government programs, community services, support groups and educational opportunities are only a phone call away.



NEED HELP OR INFORMATION?

For information about thousands of services in Connecticut, just call 2-1-1 or visit us on the internet at www.211ct.org.

Here is a sampling of the wide range of services 2-1-1 can help you find in your own community.

Activities

- Continuing Education
- Senior Centers
- Volunteer Opportunities

Counseling

- Grief/Loss Support Groups
- Depression
- Drugs and Alcohol
- Family Problems

Financial Services

- Budget Counseling
- Fuel Assistance
- Tax Return Help

Health

- Health Screenings
- Home Care
- Nursing Homes

*Free
Confidential
24 Hours a Day
Every Day
Multilingual/TTY*

Health Insurance

- CHOICES Program
- Medicare
- Medigap
- Prescription Drug Assistance

Housing

- Home-sharing
- Life-Care Communities

Safety and Protection

- Consumer Protection
- Emergency Response Systems
- Protective Services
- Utility Shut-Off Assistance

Support Services

- Adult Day Care
- Alzheimer's Support Services
- Chore Services
- Friendly Visiting
- Meals, Home-Delivered or Group Sites

Transportation

- Dial-a-Ride
- Local Buses
- Volunteer Transportation

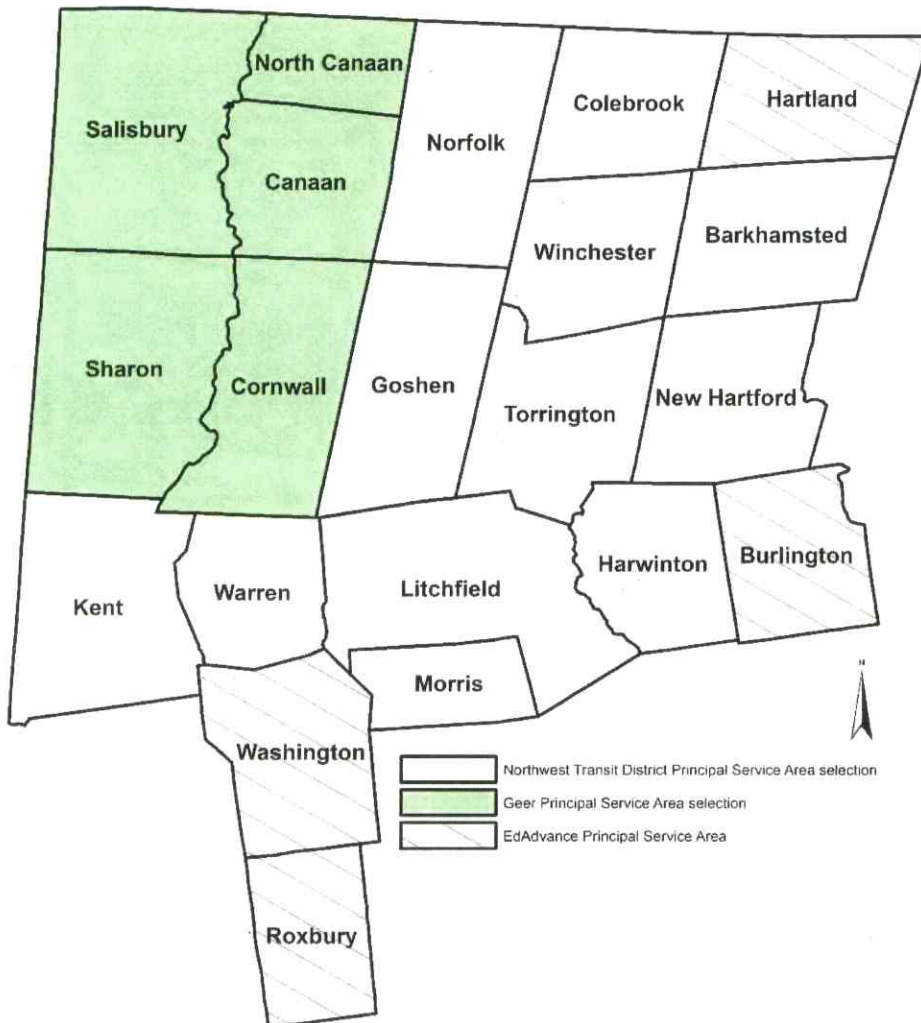
**Senior Services
Dial 2-1-1**

**One Call. Many Services.
www.211ct.org**



2-1-1 is supported by the State of Connecticut and Connecticut United Ways.

RITS Program



What is RITS?

RITS stands for Rural Independent Transportation Service.

Who is it for?

The RITS program is for **non-emergency medical trips** for the elderly and disabled, for example: dialysis, radiation, pulmonary rehabilitation, etc.

Who provides the services?

Depending on what town you live in, either Geer, Northwest CT Transit District, or EdAdvance will provide the service with handicapped accessible mini-vans.

Where can I go?

The trip needs to begin OR end in one of the Northwest Hills towns. Rides are available to and from medical facilities outside of the region such as Yale New Haven or UConn Medical Center.

How much does it cost?

NHCOC funds the program. No fare is charged. Donations accepted.

How do I use it?

Call the designated provider for your town (see map at left) and arrange for your ride as soon as you schedule your medical appointment. Calls should be made 48 hours in advance. Door-to-door service is generally available Monday – Friday, 9am – 6pm.



Canaan, Cornwall,
Salisbury, Sharon,
North Canaan

(860) 824-7067



Barkhamsted, Colebrook,
Goshen, Harwinton,
Kent, Litchfield, Morris,
New Hartford, Norfolk,
Torrington, Warren,
Winchester

860-489-2535



Burlington, Hartland,
Roxbury, Washington

860-567-0863



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Background/ Organization History: As Social Service Agent in the town of Sharon, Connecticut, in 1992, Ella Clark became increasingly concerned about a frail 87-year old widow earning \$8,000 from Social Security, and an elderly couple, 84 and 89 with a combined income of \$12,780. The wife was legally blind, and he had a heart condition – but insisted on continuing to drive precariously into town. Both families needed affordable help in order to live safely and independently at home, but state and federal programs had cut back assistance for homecare, and were more aggressively placing liens on the homes involved.

Fortunately, Ella discovered that federal funding, through the Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging, under the Older Americans Act, was available for “Chore” programs that help clients at home (and did not lien property), and that clients could contribute towards the work – a crucial aspect for our proud and independent clients. We applied for this funding and, after running briefly on a \$2,000 grant from the Berkshire Taconic Foundation, were delighted to be awarded an \$11,487 Title III B grant in 1993, to create the Northwest Corner Chore Service for the towns of Canaan, Cornwall, Falls Village and Sharon. We served 22 families that first year, providing 1,369 hours of service on a total budget of \$16,205.

By 2004, we had grown to encompass an area of sixteen towns, and were serving 376 clients. But chore services are community based, and demand intimate knowledge of the territory, its residents and its resources, so we decided, as of October 2005, to limit our service area to seven of our original towns: Canaan, Cornwall, Falls Village, Kent, Norfolk, Salisbury and Sharon (while encouraging two other services to continue in the outlying towns). By 2006, we had enhanced this seven-town program with volunteer programs, Friendly Visitors and Garden Angels, which provide companionship and help in the garden. From July 2013 through June 2014, we served 236 Chore Service clients with nearly 26,000 hours of help -- and provided hours of volunteer company for Friendly Visitor/Garden Angel clients. We work closely and coordinate with Social Service Agents, Visiting Nurses, churches, hospital discharge planners, Meals on Wheels personnel, and other people familiar with both client and worker needs in our communities, so that we can continue to fulfill our mission: to help elderly and disabled in our seven towns stay affordably independent at home.

Chore services benefit our communities in at least three ways. Most obviously, they help older and disabled people stay in their homes. A Cornwall customer wrote us recently, “At 86, a double-amputee in a wheelchair, I have been able to remain in my pleasant apartment, surrounded by treasured things, houseplants, many windows, and music.” Secondly, such services provide extra income for those who help them; 47 workers earned \$113,358 during Fiscal Year 2017-18. They also seem to enjoy the work, as this woman tells us, “My clients wait for me to come every week. I may be their only contact with the outside world. On another level it provides a job for the unemployed, and it gives me the opportunity to help people...” Other workers frequently tell us that their clients have become “a part of our family.” Thirdly, from a broader perspective, helping older people stay in our towns enriches the entire community.

On a financial level, chore services are flexible, humane and fiscally efficient programs in a state whose budget, like that of most states, supports nursing homes over community based services. We create local income for the younger population and give affordable, essential and sensitive help to the older and disabled, while making every dollar work locally at least twice.

Pat Wright
Executive Director