

OVERVIEW OF FISH

(7/18/2021)

What FISH is: FISH is the acronym for Friends In Service Here, Inc. a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation organized under Connecticut law. FISH is guided by an elected Board of up to 7 Directors and is operated by four officers and two dispatchers. Its service is provided by men and women who volunteer their cars and their time.

<u>Directors</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Phone No.</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Henry May	President	767-7467	jhmay862@comcast.net
Stuart Warner	V-P, Operations	767-7710	stuartwarner32@gmail.com
Barbara Ryan	Treasurer	227-8518	fotw_1999@yahoo.com
Mary Samburg	Secretary	767-0243	marysamburg@gmail.com
Jack Frost		203-640-9327	whflr@aol.com
<u>Dispatchers</u>			
Tony Carrano	Ass't Sec.	227-7100	acono42@gmail.com
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What FISH does: FISH provides **free** transportation to medical appointments (including physical therapy and dental appointments) for patients who have no other way to get there. In 2019, FISH provided 1,131 rides to 104 individuals. FISH paused driving in 2020 due to the pandemic.

Who FISH serves: To obtain a ride from FISH, patients must: (1) live in the specified pick-up area; (2) be ambulatory (Cane, walker or crutches are acceptable.); and (3) request a ride before noon the day before the ride is needed and before noon Friday for a Monday ride. FISH will comply with State and local rules regarding masks and vaccinations. Some patients need FISH's services only temporarily; e.g. while recuperating from surgery, an accident or illness. Others rely on FISH continually. You will find many of the patients very interesting. **All are grateful for your help!**

Where FISH serves: The specified pick-up area consists of Essex (including Centerbrook and Ivoryton), Deep River and Chester. Normal destinations lie within the area bounded roughly by Guilford, New London and Middletown. It is up to individual drivers to decide if they will drive beyond this area.

When FISH serves: FISH drives Monday through Friday except for holidays. Patient's appointments usually fall between the hours of 8 AM and 5 PM. However, they sometimes have to settle for appointments outside of these hours. It is up to individual drivers to decide if they will accommodate the patient.

How FISH works: Patients seeking a ride call 860-388-2693. An operator at an answering service solicits information from the patient and immediately e-mails it to the working Dispatcher. If the Dispatcher deems the request to be legitimate, he will telephone the information to a driver at an appropriate time for action. The driver 'phones the patient to make detailed arrangements and subsequently provides transportation.