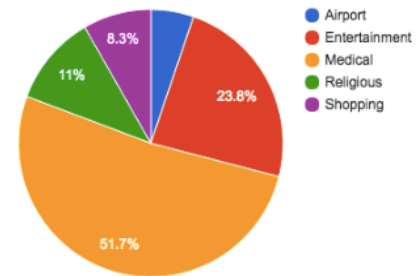


Seniors On The Go – A Life Beyond Doctor's Appointments

(Scottsdale, Arizona – March 30, 2017) – A recent [Envoy America](#) study analyzing transportation trends among clients clearly demonstrated that seniors have a strong need to live full and fun lives that extend far beyond doctor's visits or trips to the grocery store.

It may not come as a surprise that just over half of all Envoy America trips taken over a span of 18 months were for medical reasons; but perhaps the most noteworthy statistic was the amount of entertainment-based trips, which accounted for nearly a quarter of all trips.



The numbers speak for themselves: seniors want to go more places than people may realize. Yet our experience and studies suggest that the biggest thing stopping seniors from taking these “fun” trips is largely a lack of accessible, reliable and affordable transportation.

According to a 2011 [study by AARP](#), “over half of individuals who do not drive stay home on any given day. And even when they leave their homes, their time out tends to be limited: Compared to similar-age people who drive, seniors that don't drive make 15 percent fewer trips to the doctor, 59 percent make fewer trips to shop or eat out, and 65 percent make fewer trips to visit friends and family.” That leads to isolation, disengagement and poor quality of life and health.

One might anticipate that a nationwide surge in the use of rideshare apps such as Uber and Lyft have helped these percentages decrease over the past few years. However, a 2016 study out of [Pew Research Center](#) showed that only 4% of all rideshare app users in 2015 were over 65, with 8% being between ages 50 and 64.

So why do Envoy America's numbers counteract studies such as AARP's that suggest seniors are less likely to take trips for pleasure?

By providing affordable, full-service transportation for seniors across the Phoenix and Tucson metropolitan areas, Envoy America is ensuring that seniors never have to miss out on events because of a lack of accessibility, trustworthiness or assistance. For this reason, a vibrant social life isn't limited to those living in “active adult communities” or in large metropolitan areas where public transportation is a convenient and reliable option.



“For many seniors, preserving their independence is vital to living a full, active and healthy life,” said Lori Waltz, Director of Resident Services, [Royal Oaks Retirement Community](#) in Sun City, Arizona, a partner of Envoy America. “Envoy America allows seniors to stay independent, socially active and healthy – all without getting behind the wheel of a car”, added Waltz.

Studies show that not only is this independence the key to an active life; it's the key to maintaining mental sharpness and overall well being. A 2013

study by the [Association for Psychological Science](#) showed that learning new skills and taking up new hobbies plays a critical role in the cognitive vitality of seniors. Reliable transportation ensures that nothing stands in the way of seniors wanting to learn new things or take classes.

With spring in full gear, now is the perfect time for Arizonans to step outside and check out events like Scottsdale Arts Festival, car shows or spring training games. But often times, the only thing stopping seniors from going to events, pursuing their hobbies or getting together with friends is a lack of adequate transportation.

Through our partnerships with various senior living communities and businesses that serve seniors, Envoy America has been able to plan scheduled entertainment outings that allow seniors to ride with groups of neighbors and friends to various events around the Phoenix and Tucson.

Chuck Lundeen, a Royal Oaks resident and an Envoy America client who enjoyed the Scottsdale ArtWalk earlier this month, said, “What a great idea. I am so glad we decided to go on one of Envoy America’s outings they planned. We didn’t have to worry about driving, parking, or getting lost. We had a wonderful time spending time with friends. And what a nice surprise our driver had for us at the end of the evening. She gave us a little box of chocolates and thanked us for being her first Royal Oaks clients.”

Testimonials like Chuck’s show that although accessible transportation alone is critical in allowing seniors to go where they’d like, blending that accessibility with positive driver-passenger relationships is even more freeing and sustainable. It’s relationships like these that not only allow seniors to take the trips they want and need to take, but to feel happy and emotionally fulfilled the entire way.



8.3% of trips taken during the same 18-month time period were shopping trips, which includes both essential and pleasure shopping.

“Envoy is definitely more than just a transportation company,” said resident Mary Wylie. “They gave a presentation at Royal Oaks and provided cost estimates. My first trip included shopping in several places and took less than two hours. I was impressed with the care and competence of my driver. Without being intrusive, she even assisted me with some of my shopping decisions.”

“We are thrilled to be working with Royal Oaks and their entire team. They understand their residents have needs that reach outside the walls of their community and they are helping to fulfill those needs,” said Tiago Cruz, Manager, Envoy America. “We started our company right here in the Phoenix area to ensure seniors had the ability to not only get to their appointments and run errands, but stay socially active and as independent as possible. That is exactly what our service does.”

About Envoy America

Envoy America is a Scottsdale, Arizona company that operates a ridesharing platform and mobile application that matches seniors that cannot drive or don’t want to drive themselves with driver companions. The company leverages smart technology and human compassion to extend the health system outside the home. The service helps seniors stay healthy, independent and socially active. The

Envoy America service is delivered by driver companions who are 50+ in age and specially trained and certified to provide a helping hand, like a son or daughter would. Call Envoy America at (888) 375-5558 to schedule an appointment. For more information, please visit www.envoyamerica.com.

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