Contract #K-1314-33 (not to exceed \$14,500)

With Aging Services Inc. for the Operation of the Kiwanis Kruiser Transportation Program for Senior Adults and Adults with Disabilities

FY24 ANNUAL REPORT as of 01/31/2025

Aging Services Inc./ASI appreciates the support from the City of Norman for the operation of the Kiwanis Kruiser Transportation Program for senior adults and adults with disabilities. For many years, the support from the City of Norman which covers gasoline and repair expenses has been an integral component of the ASI transportation program.

Aging Services Inc. tracks the number of one way rides and the number of unduplicated individuals served by the Kiwanis Kruiser Transportation Program. ASI then tracks the number of senior adults served separately from the number of individuals with disabilities who are provided rides by this service.

- From 07/01/23 through 06/30/24(FY24 Year End), the Kiwanis Kruiser provided a total of 2,054 one way rides to a pool of 985 senior adults and 44 adults with disabilities. (Please note: Our bus driver was out for the months of November and December 2023 for cancer treatment.)
- From 07/01/22 through 06/30/23 (**FY23 Year End**), the Kiwanis Kruiser provided a total of 3,072 one way rides to a pool of 1,459 senior adults and 77 adults with disabilities.
- From 07/01/21 through 6/30/22 (FY22 Year End), the Kiwanis Kruiser provided a total of 1,052 one way rides to a pool of 426 senior adults and 1 adults with disabilities.

A 2023 Ford Star craft AllIstar 11 passenger bus was used to provide these services. The bus was acquired through the federally funded 5310 program which was administered by ODOT (Office of Mobility and Public Transit Division).

The Norman Chapter of the Kiwanis Club has provided not only a \$200 per month stipend to support this service totaling \$2,400.00.

Rides are provided on a donation basis with a suggested donation for a one-way ride of \$2.50. No one is denied a ride whether or not a donation is made because it is a stipulation of the Older Americans Act/Title III grant. During the first six months of this fiscal year, the Kruiser riders donated a total of \$2,128.42 for the rides that were provided. These donations covered 1% of the cost to operate this service during FY22-23 fiscal year. It should be noted that the majority of Kiwanis Kruiser riders are living on a fixed income and at least 71% of riders are at or below the federal poverty guidelines given their monthly income level.

ASI provided Kiwanis Kruiser riders with a Satisfaction Survey in April of 2024. The majority of the riders who responded to the survey questions reported the following:

- Most riders are females who still live in their own home.
- Most riders are at least 60 years of age or older.
- Most riders feel the Kiwanis Kruiser Transportation Service is an extremely important service because it is door to door.
- Most riders stated that the driver went above and beyond for them, that he was so very kind, helpful, and professional.
- Most riders stated that the service helps them get out of the house more often and enhances their ability to continue to live independently and less lonely lives.
- Most riders felt that the service was excellent, convenient, and very helpful in getting them to the places they need to for appointments or shopping.
- The most frequently requested rides were for medical appointments and grocery shopping opportunities.
- There has been an increase in the use of the wheelchair ramp for riders in the past year.

ASI holds a contract with OK Department of Human Services to provide ADvantage Case Management Services. ASI also holds a contract to provide ADvantage Meals in Cleveland County. Income from these contracts is used to make up the difference between the budget and actual expenses, but these funds are also needed to help with expenses of other programs and services provided. Therefore, the Aging Services Inc. Board of Directors has been working to develop new fund raising efforts to help fund our much needed

programs and services for senior adults in our community. The board conduct 3 fundraisers this year: A Chili Cook-off event with Basket Bidding, an online Jewelry fundraiser, and a quilt sale. We raised \$11,342 through the combined events. ASI also is pursuing many grant opportunities related to transportation.

We have been incredibly thankful for the contract that we have had with the City of Norman this year. They have fixed so much on our "carry over" vehicle that it almost is like a new vehicle. Aging Services Inc. respectfully requests consideration of a continuation of this contract at the rate not to exceed \$14,500 for FY24/25. It is hoped that the City will find that the service is of great enough importance to continue the funding to cover our gasoline and normal repair expenses. Aging Services Inc. appreciates the support of the City of Norman in this endeavor.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy C. Vaughn

Executive Director