**LAUNCH PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Tuolumne County Transit Agency Launches Golden Years Transit: Non-Emergency Medical Transportation for Adults 60+**

Tuolumne County, CA — June 25, 2024 — The Tuolumne County Transit Agency, in partnership with the Area 12 Agency on Aging, is proud to announce the launch of Golden Years Transit. This new non-emergency medical transportation service is dedicated to adults aged 60 and over. Golden Years Transit aims to provide reliable and compassionate transportation to health and wellness appointments, ensuring that our senior residents have the support they need to maintain their health and independence.

Golden Years Transit will begin service on July 1, 2024, following the approval of our proposal by the Area 12 Agency on Aging. This new service will address the critical need for non-emergency medical transportation, allowing seniors to access essential medical services without the worry of transportation barriers.

**Key Features of Golden Years Transit:**

**Service Area:** Golden Years Transit will serve the greater Sonora area, including Columbia, Jamestown, East Sonora, Phoenix Lake, Standard, Tuolumne City, and Crystal Falls.

**Scheduling Rides:** Seniors can schedule rides by contacting our transit office at (209) 532-0404. Our friendly staff will assist in setting up transportation needs with a minimum of two days' advance notice. For regularly scheduled appointments, rides can be scheduled up to two months in advance.

**Service Hours:** Our service hours are Monday to Friday, 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM, and Saturday, 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM, ensuring access to transportation during critical times.

**Funding and Costs:** The program is partially funded by the Area 12 Agency on Aging and supplemented by the Tuolumne County Transit Agency. This service is available at no cost to eligible individuals. Voluntary contributions are accepted, but no one will be denied service due to an inability to contribute.

“We are thrilled to launch Golden Years Transit and provide this vital service to our senior community,” said Marissa Christiansen, an Administrative Analyst at Tuolumne County Transit Agency. “Our goal is to ensure that all seniors in our community have reliable access to the medical care they need, without the added stress of transportation challenges. Providing health and independence, one ride at a time.”

For more information about Golden Years Transit or to schedule a ride, please contact our office at **(209) 532-0404** or email us at **GYT@tuolumnecounty.ca.gov**.

