



Reno County Department of Aging  
120 W. Avenue B, Hutchinson, KS 67501  
Ph: (620) 694-2911 Fax: (620) 694-2767  
Kandace Bonnesen, Director

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## Department of Aging Summary

The department is a centralized source of information and assistance, providing outreach, referrals and advocacy for Reno County citizens 60 and older and Caregivers of adults 60+. This department began in 1975 through a vote by Reno County citizens dedicating 1 Mill for Aging services.

### Operations

One on one appointments are available that provides a safe and secure environment for older adults and caregivers of older adults 60+ to share their situation and needs – staff provides assistance or referrals of agencies and services that can best help.

The scope of information and assistance by staff includes but not limited to the following:

- Senior Health Insurance Counseling
- Medicare and Medicaid
- Healthy Active Aging
- Future Planning
- Caregiver Resources
- Farmer's Market Vouchers
- Operation Red File
- Older Driver Safety
- Advocacy

The department is funded through the dedicated Elderly Mill Levy and an Older American's Act (OAA) subcontract grant through the States designated District#10 South-Central Kansas Area Agency on Aging (SCKAAA). The department (Aging) provides supplemental funds based off of approved budgets, mill levy appropriations to local organizations for programing that provides unduplicated services to citizens 60 and older. Agencies funded and/or partnered with are:

- Aging Projects – Everfull
- Meals on Wheels of Hutchinson
- County Health Department
- Interfaith Housing
- Hutchinson Community College – The Volunteer Center
- The Volunteer Center – Friends in Action
- First Call for Help
- County Senior Centers
- Public Transportation – Rcat Services

The Department of Aging staff consists of three (3) part-time employees: Director, Assistant Director and Administrative Financial Assistant; one (1) full-time Information & Outreach Program Coordinator and one (1) full-time Data and Program Support Specialist.



Reno County Public Transportation Department  
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## Public Transportation Department Summary

The Reno County Public Transportation Department became a department in 2000, operating as Reno County Area Transit (Rcat) that provides general public transportation for all in Reno County. Rcat was granted Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) and Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) funds in 2007 to build a Transfer Station and Bus Barn that was completed in 2008.

Rcat is partially funded through a U.S.C. 49-5311 reimbursable match grant of FTA and KDOT funds. This grant provides a 70% reimbursement for operating costs and 80% for administrative and capital costs. Additional budget is received from Department of Aging funds and the General Fund to match grant requirements.

Rcat has the potential to serve all residents of Reno County and those visiting the area. Rcat vehicles are ADA accessible and sport bike racks for individuals looking to use bike routes, or for a person's first and last mile usage (parameters outside of service).

## Scope and Service Area

Rcat performs four (4) Fixed Routes with supportive Paratransit (Disabled ADA) services for those that can't make it to a fixed route. These services are limited to the cities of Hutchinson and South Hutchinson, Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm and Saturday as a Demand Response (cities) service only; 9am – 2pm.

The Rcat Demand Response service (origination to destination) for outside of Hutchinson and South Hutchinson within Reno provides direct transportation to and from any address with a passable drive in Reno County, Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm.

## Operations

Rcat has a fleet of 19 vehicles that are ADA accessible and sport bike racks for persons that utilize bikes as an additional mode of transportation beyond fixed or demand response parameters. All but the minivans are interchangeable and regularly rotating between fixed and paratransit usage. Rcat holds on average a 26% ratio of back-up vehicles to cover when vehicles are removed from service for regular maintenance and/or emergent breakdowns or accidents.

The Public Transportation Department staff consists of 13 full-time Drivers; two (2) Dispatchers; one (1) full-time Transportation Supervisor; one (1) full-time Safety Coordinator; one (1) full-time Operation Assistant and three (3) part-time positions – Director, Assistant Director and Administrative Financial Assistant.

Fixed Route passenger numbers from January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024 (FY2024) were 60,678. Paratransit and Demand Response trips provided in FY2024 were 15,240. Grand Total – 75,918

34% of service was used by adults 60 and older, 22% by persons with disabilities and 44% General Public