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Contact: Rich Sampson, Director of Communications  
202.415.9666  
[sampson@ctaa.org](mailto:sampson@ctaa.org)

## **Toyota Delivers New Prius to Maryland's Senior Connection Volunteer Driver Program**

Washington, D.C. – October 21, 2016. On Thursday, October 20, 2016, Toyota delivered a brand-new 2016 Prius vehicle to Senior Connection (<http://www.seniorconnectionmc.org>) of Silver Spring, Md. Senior Connection received the vehicle as the Grand Winner of the National Volunteer Transportation Center's (NVTC) 2015 STAR Awards. *(A full list of the winners is available here: [http://web1.ctaa.org/webmodules/webarticles/articlefiles/2015\\_STAR\\_Awards\\_News\\_Release.pdf](http://web1.ctaa.org/webmodules/webarticles/articlefiles/2015_STAR_Awards_News_Release.pdf))*

The new Prius was delivered at a special event at DARCARS Toyota (<https://www.darcarstoyota.com>) in Silver Spring, along with U.S. Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.; <https://vanhollen.house.gov>). Senior Connection will deploy the Prius in its vehicle fleet utilized by more than 1,800 volunteer drivers who've provided more than 280,000 rides to 2,800 seniors since 2014 across Montgomery County, Md.

The National Volunteer Transportation Center ([www.nationalvolunteertransportationcenter.org](http://www.nationalvolunteertransportationcenter.org)) – created in 2014 – is an initiative of the Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA). Its purpose is to provide assistance and support to volunteer transportation programs across America. The founders are: Community Transportation Association of Washington, D.C.; the Beverly Foundation of Albuquerque, N.M.; Ride Connection of Portland, Ore.; CIMA Volunteers Insurance of Woodbridge, Va.; and AlterNetWays of San Francisco, Calif.



“Senior Connection represents an innovative and effective approach to serving Montgomery County’s older persons with volunteer drivers,” says CTAA Executive Director Scott Bogren, a Montgomery County resident. “The organization’s leading role in helping seniors access health care, community programs, shopping and other destinations makes their award of the new Prius from Toyota especially well-earned.”

“Mobility is about more than getting from A to B,” said Latondra Newton, Toyota Motor North America group Vice President of Social Innovation. “Mobility is about connection - to loved ones, the community and needed services. The staff and volunteers of the Senior Connection aren’t just drivers, they are conductors of these community connections, as are all the STAR award winning organizations.”

“To know that organizations like Toyota recognize the importance of volunteer transportation and the power of what we are doing, it’s just huge,” said Tim Shaw, Executive Director of Senior Connection. “I really believe that this sort of support can drive change in communities across the country to do more to help seniors stay mobile and stay connected.”

The Community Transportation Association, established in 1989, is a national non-profit, membership association committed to removing barriers to isolation and improving mobility for all people. The Association provides informational resources, technical assistance, training and certification, and many additional resources to communities, transportation providers, and other groups to increase mobility and improve the quality of community and public transportation.