

## New Jersey

### Community Programs • Community Facility

# Group Home Provides Safe and Reliable Transportation

SCARC, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that provides support and services both day and night to people with developmental disabilities and their families across Sussex County. Many of the SCARC programs and services require transportation to and from these group homes. The need for safe and reliable transportation for their clients is critical everyday.

This organization provides transportation services to over 500 individuals and operates a fleet of approximately 90 vehicles throughout Sussex County. As their heavily used existing vehicles become unreliable and outlive their useful life, they will need to be replacement.

With the help of grant dollars totaling over \$53,000 through the USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Program, SCARC was able to purchased two new vehicles. One of those vehicles is equipped with wheelchair lift capabilities to provide individuals with easier mobility and comfort. These vehicles are used to transport their clients with developmental disabilities to all essential appointments including medical, family seminars, training, and day programs from the group home across the county.



Pictured from right to left: New Jersey State Director Michael Thulen, Jr and SCARC, President and Chief Executive Officer Dr. Lecher in front of SCARC's group home and new Minivan

“Essential infrastructure such as transportation is critical for all communities and the organizations in them, like SCARC. By improving safety and reliability for employees and clients, SCARC is improving the quality of life for residents in several rural Sussex County towns,” said NJ State Director Michael Thulen Jr.

SCARC understands that helping people is more effective with the support of the full community. Over the years SCARC's leadership has facilitated partnerships with many community resources to maximize everyone's participation in fostering the development of each person they serve.

Rural Development has been a long time partner with SCARC, dating back to 1979. To date, Rural Development has invested over \$8 million dollars supporting a variety of projects in this rural community.

**Obligation Amount:** \$21,000 grant and \$32,800 grant

**Date of Obligation:** 8/6/2020 and 8/19/2020

**Congressional District:** 5th Congressional District: Congressman Gottheimer, Senators Menendez and Booker

**Partner** SCARC, Inc.

**Demographics:** Sussex County

**Impact:** Provide safe and reliable transportation