

Impact Story-Allison*

Allison, a VETS client who lives in Greater Prince William and is a widow in her 90s, had a medical emergency. She became seriously ill one Saturday evening and needed immediate transportation to the emergency room to address breathing issues. Her adult children were unavailable, so out of desperation, she called Andrew,* one of our RSVP volunteers who had recently driven her to a medical appointment. Andrew not only came to drive this client to the hospital, but he also took care of filling prescriptions once Allison was released, made sure she had a humidifier to breathe more easily and insured she had enough food to see her through her illness. Allison called the RSVP office a few days later to report she was feeling much better and to express her gratitude to Andrew for his “can-do” spirit and kindness in helping her out.

If Andrew had not been there to help Allison, she could possibly have died, given her age and fragile medical condition. This is an example of how driving our veterans and their spouses to medical appointments not only provides ongoing medical care, but can also save lives.

*Name has been changed.