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Lyft Launches Grocery Access Program through Partnership with PHA and Uplift Solutions

Pilot program aims to remove transportation barriers to healthy food

for North Philadelphia residents

PHILADELPHIA, PA (August 13, 2019) – Lyft has launched the Grocery Access Program in the City of Philadelphia, an initiative in partnership with the Philadelphia Housing Authority (PHA) and Uplift Solutions. The goal of the program is to assist North Philadelphia residents living in food deserts with fresh, healthy grocery options.

The Grocery Access Program, a part of Lyft City Works, in Philadelphia will provide local families living in areas surrounding PHA sites throughout North Philadelphia with a \$2.50 flat-rate fare on eight rides per month - or one round trip per week - to and from nearby grocery stores, ShopRite at 2800 Fox Street and Fresh Grocer at 1501 North Broad Street. The six-month pilot will run from September 1, 2019 to February 29, 2020. Plans for extending the program are currently underway with a goal of reaching even more residents in the future.

“We are committed to empowering local organizations doing incredible work to make communities stronger, healthier, and more equitable – and we’re proud to partner with the Philadelphia Housing Authority and Uplift Solutions to make the Grocery Access Program a reality for Philadelphia residents in need,” said Andrew Woolf, Lyft Regional Director of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. “It’s our civic responsibility to address key problems our communities are facing through better access to transportation, with the goal of improving life in all areas of Philadelphia, and we’re thrilled to help bring this initiative to Philly.”

“The Lyft Grocery Access Program directly aligns with our mission to provide sustainable access to fresh and healthy food, nutrition education, and healthcare to underserved communities in Philadelphia,” said Atif Bostic, Executive Director, Uplift Solutions. “By offering discounted flat-rate rides to full-service grocery stores, the program has helped to reduce the time, transportation, and financial barriers to healthy food access.”

“This initiative will connect families to healthy food options that they would otherwise not be able to access,” said Kelvin A. Jeremiah, President & CEO of the Philadelphia Housing Authority. “The PHA is proud to collaborate with Lyft and Uplift to create healthier Philadelphia communities one ride at a time.”

For families facing food insecurity, transportation can be a major hurdle, with many lacking access to personal vehicles or accessible bus routes. According to Lyft’s [Economic Impact Report](#), 68 percent of rides in Philadelphia start or end in low income communities. Through Lyft’s partnership with PHA and Uplift, the Grocery Access Program will help families travel to healthy food retailers.

The program was first piloted in Washington D.C. last year with Philadelphia being the tenth market to launch in the United States. Realizing the positive impact the program can have in just one community, and that food transportation barriers affect approximately 23.5 million people in the U.S., Lyft has been able to provide thousands of affordable rides to grocery stores for families and continues to roll out the initiative throughout North America.

“Lyft is dedicated to being a public company invested in the public good, and we’re focused on bringing positive change to the communities we serve,” added Woolf. “We’re committed to working towards a future in which all Philadelphia residents can fully overcome transportation barriers.”

Lyft’s efforts to give underserved communities better access to safe, reliable transportation options comes as part of Lyft City Works, the company’s commitment to deploy 1% of profits or \$50 million every year, whichever is greater, to help make cities more livable for everyone. Through Lyft City Works, the organization is focused on a variety of programs from providing access for underserved communities to groceries, jobs and more, to supercharging the growing civic movement in cities by donating transportation to grassroots civic organizations, building transportation infrastructure in neighborhoods that need better connections to the rest of the city, and working with local groups to build toward a clean energy future.

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About Lyft

Lyft was founded in 2012 by Logan Green and John Zimmer to improve people’s lives with the world’s best transportation, and is available to 95 percent of the United States population as well as select cities in Canada. Lyft is committed to effecting positive change for our cities by offsetting carbon emissions from all rides, and by promoting transportation equity through shared rides, bike share systems, electric scooters, and public transit partnerships.

About Philadelphia Housing Authority

The Philadelphia Housing Authority’s mission is to open doors to affordable housing, economic opportunity, and safe, sustainable communities to benefit Philadelphia residents with low incomes. For more information on the 4th largest housing authority visit: www.pha.phila.gov

About Uplift Solutions

Founded in 2009 with a mission of, delivering entrepreneurial solutions that support underserved communities, Uplift works to support food businesses, local governments, and nonprofits in creating sustainable access to fresh and healthy food, nutrition education, and health care in underserved communities.