The purpose of this program is to address the transportation needs of individuals who have been diagnosed with ALS. Because of the debilitating nature of this disease, pALS are oftentimes unable to utilize basic forms of transportation to meet their daily needs. Thus, preventing them from attending doctor’s appointments, ALS Clinic visits and enjoying the ability to travel with their loved ones. Being able to continue to enjoy day to day errands with her husband made the ALS journey easier to bear, per Ms. Williams. It is her wish to continue the legacy of her husband by supporting families as it relates to their transportation needs. Through a collaborative effort between the Williams family, community partners and The ALS Association, Georgia Chapter, we are excited to introduce you to “The Paul B. Williams ALS Transportation Program”.

The Paul B. Williams ALS Transportation Program will address the needs of existing pALS and their families through the following opportunities:

- Accessible Van Rentals
- Non-emergency Transportation
- Van Adaptations (lifts and ramps)
- Van Vouchers

**Accessible Van Rentals**

In collaboration with our community partners, pALS will be able to rent vans for a pre-determined time requested upon their application. The cost of this rental will be covered by the transportation program. pALS will be responsible for surcharges (gas, damages caused by pALS). pALS unable to drive must identify a driver and adhere to the legal ramifications regarding rentals set forth by the van rental company. Specifically, the drivers must be licensed, over the age of 25 and have proof of insurance. It is anticipated that pALS will utilize this program for local as well as long distance travel.

**Non-Emergency Transportation**

To maintain consistent health care, pALS need to be able to travel to their primary care physicians as well as attend their quarterly ALS Clinic appointments. Depending upon mobility, individuals that utilize motorized wheelchairs cannot travel via traditional forms of transportation. The ALS Association, through the Paul B. Williams ALS Transportation Program, will contract with non-emergency transportation companies within the community to provide this service to pALS. Request will be made at least 2 weeks prior to appointments to secure scheduling. pALS will need to be accompanied by a caregiver as the van drivers will only pick up and deliver. Once approved for the program, pALS/cALS will be provided an authorization code to present to the company when they schedule transportation. The ALS Association of Georgia will work in partnership with identified providers and billing will be forwarded directly to the Association.
Van/Car Adaptations

The Paul B. Williams ALS Transportation Program will provide financial support to pALS that need to have vehicle modifications to make personal cars/vans more adaptable to their existing needs. Some items include lifts and ramps. Services will be pre-approved and referrals will be made to preferred providers. If a preferred provider is unable to service the identified region, pALS can also access this program by requesting reimbursement for services with prior approval. This program will not address general maintenance and repairs of personal vehicles.

Van Vouchers

Understanding the importance of having ongoing access to transportation, The Paul B. Williams ALS Transportation Program will award 5 monetary grants in the amount of $1,000 per year to pALS that are purchasing an accessible van. This grant requires a written request by the applicant along with an application. The written request and application must be submitted prior to the purchase of the van. The applicants will be selected based upon need and impact.

Program Eligibility

- Have a diagnosis of ALS
- Must require alternate forms of transportation
- Reside within the program service area (Georgia)
- Priority given to those needing transport to ALS Clinic
- Minimum of two (2) weeks schedule prior to appointment

Administration:

- pALS/Family will submit transportation application to Care Services 2 (two) weeks prior to appointment.
- Once approved, pALS will receive an authorization code to be presented at time of scheduling.
- pALS/cALS will schedule transport with a preferred provider.
- Preferred provider will invoice The ALS Association once trip is complete by utilizing the authorization code provided by the pALS.
- Recurring trips require new authorization code.
- pALS/Family must notify The ALS Association of cancellation at least 48 hours prior to appointment or risk paying cancellation fee.
- pALS must be accompanied by a caregiver.