



SDSO TALKING POINTS

Safe Drivers Smart Options: Keys to Lifelong Mobility (SDSO) is a statewide strategy committed to the safe transportation of Michigan's aging adults.

Background:

Michigan has one of the oldest populations in the country, with 17 percent of Michigan residents aged 65 or older. This age group is the fastest growing in Michigan with Baby Boomers entering the senior age groups. In 2019, there were 1,545,777 licensed drivers (age 65 and older) in Michigan, representing 27 percent of all licensed Michigan drivers. The number of older licensed drivers in Michigan has increased 31.4 percent in the past 10 years.

Overview:

- SDSO provides information, training programs and activities considered best practices for Michigan. Designed to be used by aging adults, family and friends, and professionals who work with aging adults, the approach recognizes the important role that all these groups play in keeping Michigan's aging adults safely mobile.
- The SDSO website is designed to provide information to raise awareness and provide resources for key stakeholders committed to supporting lifelong mobility.

Resources for:

- Aging Drivers – staying active and safe behind the wheel.
- Family and Friends – assisting aging adults to drive safely and begin the process of giving up the keys if necessary.
- Law Enforcement and Health Care Professionals - assessing older adults' ability to drive safely, speaking with them about driving, and making a referral for a driver evaluation if needed.
- Find a Ride – Transportation options when driving is no longer an option.