

*North Carolina Senior
Driver Safety Coalition*

Member Handbook

Updated December 2024

ncseniordriver@office.unc.edu

About Us

North Carolina Senior Driver Safety Coalition



The NC Senior Driver Safety Coalition was formed in 2004 to harness the collective knowledge of professionals and research institutions working in the field of older driver safety. The Coalition also serves as the North Carolina Executive Committee for Highway Safety (ECHS) Older Driver Working Group (ODWG) charged with recommending strategies for reducing traffic-related deaths and injuries in the state involving older drivers.

Mission: To collaborate on methods for improving safety among older drivers and to advance awareness of viable transportation alternatives when driving is no longer an option.

Meet the Coalition Co-Chairs

Kristel Robison

Senior Research Associate, UNC Highway Safety Research Center
robison@hsrc.unc.edu

Kristel has been a member of the Coalition since 2016. She earned a Master of Social Work from UCLA in 2002 and has an extensive background in behavioral research. Kristel has served as the lead author on the Older Driver chapter of Countermeasures That Work and is an Event Coordinator for the CarFit program.

In addition to older drivers, Kristel also works on topics related to child passenger safety and teen drivers. Kristel is a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician Instructor and a member of the National Child Passenger Safety Board. Outside of work, Kristel enjoys camping, knitting, and spending time with her family.



Elizabeth Pinyan

Junior Research Associate, UNC Highway Safety Research Center
pinyan@hsrc.unc.edu

Elizabeth has been a member of the Senior Driver Safety Coalition since 2022. She has her Masters in Health Education and Health Communication from Johns Hopkins University. Elizabeth is a CarFit Event Coordinator, an active member of the Gerontological Society of America, and is passionate about collaborating to improve transportation safety for older adults.

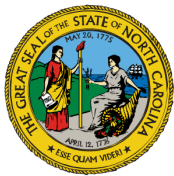
In addition to her work with senior drivers, Elizabeth is a Child Passenger Safety Technician and interested in health communications and health equity in transportation safety. Outside of work, Elizabeth enjoys exploring North Carolina on her motorcycle, reading, and working on projects at the makerspace.



Membership

Safe roadways are a shared responsibility among federal, state, county, and local governments, community-based organizations, interdisciplinary professionals, and community members. The NC Senior Driver Safety Coalition includes professionals from engineering, enforcement, safety, health, education, transportation, and aging agencies and organizations.

Current Member Organizations



NCDHHS



**PIEDMONT TRIAD
REGIONAL COUNCIL**



**WINSTON-SALEM
STATE UNIVERSITY**



Roles and Responsibilities

The NC Senior Driver Safety Coalition is an active working group. In addition to quarterly meetings, members are encouraged to participate in statewide and local initiatives such as the NC Strategic Highway Safety Plan, CarFit, and information dissemination. Additionally, the Coalition creates ad hoc working groups around specific topics (i.e. improving CarFit in the state, NHTSA Guideline 13 demonstration projects, and transportation alternatives). The time commitment varies depending on the initiatives, but are generally a couple of hours per quarter outside of meetings and participation at local events.

Members of the Coalition represent their communities, organizations and/or agencies and assist in strategic planning and implementation of activities by:

- Attending Senior Driver Safety Coalition quarterly meetings
- Serving as a liaison to member organization
- Serving on and actively participating in ad hoc working groups when the topic aligns with interest and/or expertise
- Advocating at all levels for effective policies that are proven to improve safety and mobility, with an emphasis on older drivers.
- Promoting the mission of the coalition whenever possible



Quarterly Meetings

The Senior Driver Safety Coalition meets quarterly through virtual meetings. Active participation is vital to the success of the Coalition. However, there will be times when members have scheduling conflicts and are unable to attend meetings.

Coalition members come with different types of backgrounds and experiences. We have established some “Ground Rules” to support fair conversations during our meetings.

- Come prepared to participate, ask questions, and share your experiences
- Respect other’s speaking time
- Respect personal views and opinions
- Respect member and business confidentiality

Communications

Coalition meeting details and information, such as upcoming events, trainings and guest speakers will be delivered via listserv at ncseniordriver@office.unc.edu. Additionally, coalition members are encouraged to use the listserv to share updates, relevant content, ask questions, and more. This channel will be organized and monitored by the UNC Highway Safety Research Center.



Upcoming Events

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY

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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Quarterly Coalition Meeting

January 23rd 1-3PM

Have an upcoming event you are hosting? Let us know ncseniordriver@office.unc.edu.