

Coordinated Transportation Update

AS PART OF THE COORDINATED PUBLIC TRANSIT HUMAN-SERVICE PLAN FOR THE TULSA REGION

AUGUST 25, 2008

August 6 Meeting Summary



Meeting Participants: Phil Brown (Victory Christian Center), Russell Burkhart (Indian Health Care Resource Center), Gloria Dialectic (Tulsa Day Center for the Homeless), Carolyn Dubie (Workforce Oklahoma), Dr. Nathaniel Goodman (Morton Comprehensive Health Center), Regina Jackson (Tulsa Transit), Lori Long (The Center for Individuals with Physical Challenges), Jim Lyall (Community Service Council), Victoria Martinez (Oklahoma DHS), Jamal Masih (Oklahoma DHS), Mechelle Meeks (Ability Resources), Alice Robison (Tulsa Transit), Sandie Sullivan (Area Agency on Aging), Jeff Summers (The Bridges Foundation), Gail E. Van Dalsem (Tulsa Transit), R.J. Walker (Osage Tribe), Eric Wiles (City of Owasso)

One of the most important parts of building an effective coordination plan is the identification and assessment of available resources and community needs. This has been one of the main goals of the Regional Council for Coordinated Transportation (RCCT) meetings.

The second RCCT meeting was held August 6 and included participation from organization representatives throughout the Tulsa Transportation Management Area. We hope to see more representatives from other organizations and agencies at the next RCCT meeting, which will take place November 5.

Clark Miller of the Area Agency on Aging and Jim Lyall of the Community Service Council were elected Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, of the RCCT.

A team from Tulsa attended the 2007 Easter

Seals Project Action in Washington D.C. Members of the team were Carla Lawson and Mechelle Meeks from Ability Resources, and Regina Jackson and Alice Robison from MTTA.

The team brought back from the workshop a travel training model to instruct Mobility Counselors on how to teach customers to assess the

best transit service for their needs and how to use the system so they can independently travel to and from their destination.

The program is geared to anyone with a disability. Any organization interested in training their staff to be Mobility Counselors should

contact Mechelle at Ability Resources.

Dr. Goodman updated the committee on the transportation services being provided for the homeless and low-income individuals by Morton Health. Morton vehicles go to locations not served by any other transportation option, inte-

REMINDER: To be eligible to apply for Federal funds, the organization has to participate in the coordination process through the RCCT.

grating these areas with the fixed route and networking and partnering with other organizations and their clients.

Morton also hosts workforce development training and assistance with completing job applications on site for homeless individuals who ride the bus. Morton is providing 4,000 rides a month at a cost of \$1.25 per client. Morton was one of the organizations awarded with New Freedom funds.

The RCCT discussed and brainstormed the needs and gaps in transportation services in the Tulsa Region. Phil Brown from Victory Christian Center pointed out the need for transportation for HIV-infected individuals, disabled veterans, previously incarcerated individuals, and homeless individuals from Day Center to and from jobs on weekends and night shifts.

Tim Armer made a presentation on transportation coordination best practices. Three examples from communities comparable to the Tulsa region were used to highlight partnerships between human service organizations, public

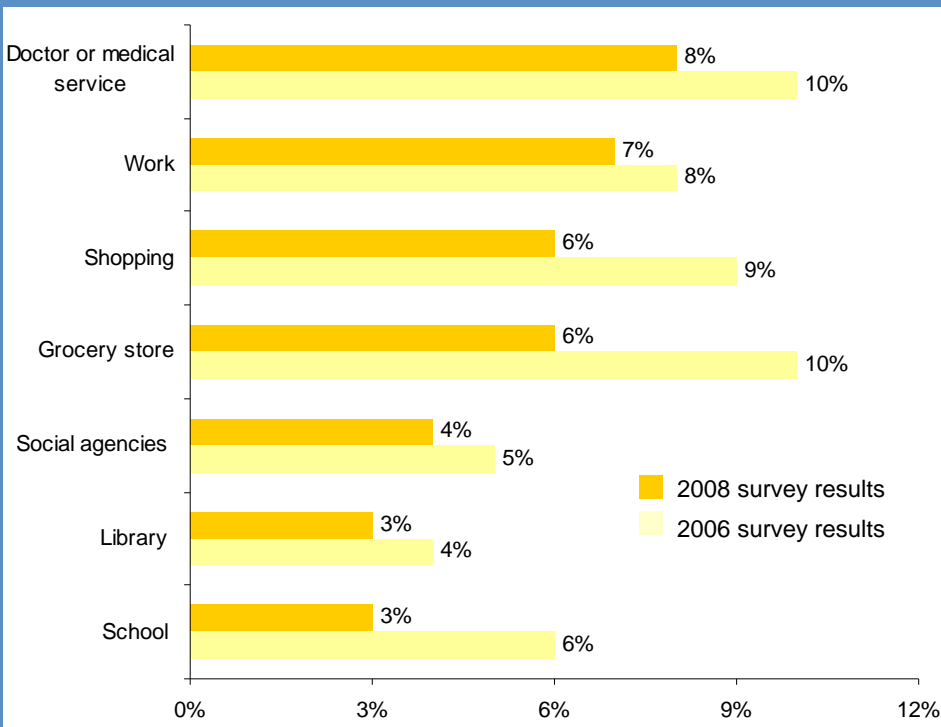
transportation providers, and employers.

Jamal Masih and Vicky Martinez, managers of the Elderly and Person with Disabilities Section 5310 Funding Program with the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, made a presentation on how the program works, as well as eligibility and application requirements. The 5310 Program provides capital assistance to help private non-profit organizations and public agencies provide for the transportation needs of elderly persons and persons with disabilities in urbanized and non-urbanized areas.

The presentations and other documents are available on the Coordinated Plan website at: www.incog.org/transportation/coordinatedplan.htm.

The transportation provider's inventory is constantly being updated, so please stop at our website and check the list. If your organization is not listed, please email transportation@incog.org and let us add your information to the list. It is very important for the Tulsa region residents to have this information available.

Transportation Survey



In a 2008 scientifically significant survey of the Tulsa Transportation Management Area, INCOG found that slightly fewer individuals are having trouble finding transportation to essential needs than they did in 2006. Of those who had difficulty, the majority said they were unable to afford gas, insurance, and parking fees.

Next Meeting: Nov. 5

The next meeting of the Regional Council for Coordinated Transportation will be held Wednesday, November 5 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the INCOG 5th Floor Conference Room (201 W 5th Street, Tulsa, OK 74103). The agenda will include:

- Educational Presentation on coordination best practices
- The Institute for Transportation Coordination Action Plan
- Information sharing with attendees - what's been done and what are the continuing needs?
- The Transportation Human Service Coordinated Plan update

Meetings are open to any interested organization. Organizations interested in applying for JARC and New Freedom funding through INCOG area strongly encouraged to send a representative and participate in the ongoing coordination process.