## TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

NO. 8-05

DATE
October 5, 2005

TO:

ALL STATE WORKFORCE LIAISONS

ALL STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES

FROM:

Maria Kniesler Flynn

Administrator

Office of Policy Development and Research

**SUBJECT:** 

Human Service Transportation Coordination Resources Developed by the United

We Ride Initiative

- 1. Purpose. The purpose of this Training and Employment Notice is to announce the availability of several recently released resources designed to facilitate the coordination of human service transportation systems. These resources were developed under the United We Ride initiative. United We Ride is an interagency Federal initiative that supports states and localities in developing coordinated human service delivery systems. In addition to awarding state coordination grants, United We Ride provides state and local agencies a transportation coordination and planning self-assessment tool, technical assistance, and other resources to help communities succeed.
- 2. Background. Transportation is a vital link that connects people to jobs and other critical services and activities and provides them with equal access to economic opportunities. Transportation is frequently cited as a barrier to both employment and access to One-Stop Career Centers' services for its customers who are transit dependent. Coordinating individual human service transportation programs makes the most efficient use of limited transportation resources by avoiding duplication caused by overlapping individual program efforts and encouraging the use and sharing of existing community resources. In communities where coordination is made a priority, citizens benefit from more extensive service, lower costs and easier access to transportation. Coordination can improve overall mobility within a community. It works by eliminating the inefficiencies within disparate operations and service patterns that often result from a multiplicity of providers, each providing transportation to their own clients.

To address this issue, President Bush signed Executive Order 13330 on February 24, 2004. It established the new Interagency Transportation Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility (CCAM). The purpose of the CCAM is to coordinate 62 different Federal programs across nine Federal departments that provide funding which is designated for or can be used for transportation. The Council is comprised of 11 Federal departments, including the Departments of Transportation, Health and Human Services, Labor, Education, Housing and Urban Affairs, Agriculture, Justice, Interior,

the Veterans Administration, the Social Security Administration and the National Council on Disabilities. The Department of Labor (DOL) works closely with the Department of Transportation which chairs the CCAM and other partners to respond to the important issues related to human service transportation coordination.

- 3. Recently Released Publications: The following publications have been developed as part of the United We Ride initiative and are available on the United We Ride website, <a href="https://www.unitedweride.gov">www.unitedweride.gov</a>
  - Report to the President on Human Service Transportation Coordination: The report outlines what it takes to coordinate human service transportation in order to meet fundamental needs of transportation disadvantaged individuals, CCAM member's action plans, and five broad recommendations. The Council's recommendations outlined in the report are targeted to strengthen existing transportation services to be more cost-effective and accountable, and to help providers be more responsive to people with disabilities, lower incomes, and older adults. The recommendations address: 1) coordinated transportation planning; 2) vehicle sharing policies; 3) cost allocation between agencies; 4) mechanisms for reporting and evaluation; and 5) a consolidated access transportation demonstration program.
  - Framework for Action: The Framework is a comprehensive evaluation and planning tool to help states and communities improve or start coordinated service transportation systems. This publication can assist the workforce investment system to develop partnerships that develop strategies for meeting the needs of its customers who need transportation services.
  - Building an Individual Transportation Plan: This tool is designed to help health and human service providers assist consumers with accessing transportation services. The tool helps transition specialists, employment counselors, physicians, social workers, and other providers integrate transportation into the individualized planning process.
  - Using Technologies to Support Cost Allocation among Human Services and Transportation Agencies. This brochure outlines key technologies and strategies available for allocating costs between various agencies and programs.

Additional resources on United We Ride and human service transportation coordination are also available at the United We Ride website. Other websites are listed in an attachment to this TEN.

- 4. **Action Required.** Recipients are requested to distribute this TEN to the state and local Workforce Investment Boards and other workforce development partners.
- 5. **Inquiries Contact**. Questions on this TEN should be directed to: Mary Ann Donovan at 202/693-3936, Adele Gagliardi at 202/693-3985 or Rande Chafkin at 202/693-2723.

## Attachment

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES ON HUMAN SERVICE TRANSPORTATION

- National Joblinks Employment Transportation Initiative: With funding from the Department of Labor and the Federal Transit Administration, the Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) implements this program. Joblinks is a program designed to help communities overcome one of the most serious barriers preventing low-income people, senior citizens and those with disabilities from getting and keeping jobs transportation. CTAA provides demonstration projects, technical assistance and conferences. <a href="http://www.ctaa.org//ntrc/is employment.asp">http://www.ctaa.org//ntrc/is employment.asp</a>
- CTAA's Information Station also provides community transportation news, resources, and ideas. <a href="http://www.ctaa.org/ntrc">http://www.ctaa.org/ntrc</a>
- Easter Seals Project ACTION: This is a federally-funded technical assistance
  project which matches public transportation interests and people with disabilities.
  It maintains a Clearinghouse which provides free video, print, and audio resources
  and also provides training to communities that seek to develop and enhance
  accessibility for people with disabilities in their local transportation system.
  <a href="http://www.projectaction.org">http://www.projectaction.org</a>
- Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) Program: Job Access grants are administered by the Federal Transit Administration and are intended to provide new transit service to assist welfare recipients and other low income individuals in getting to jobs, training, and child care. Reverse Communicate grants are designed to develop services to transport workers to suburban job sites. Eligible recipients are local governmental authorities and agencies and non-profit entities. www.fta.dot.gov