

**Regional Transportation Coordination Committee (RTCC) Meeting**  
**Monday, October 22, 2018 at 2:00 PM at CDTC**  
**Meeting Notes**



1. Welcome/Introductions – present were Donna Stresel, Sunnyview Rehabilitation Hospital; Diane Conroy-LaCivita, Colonie Senior Service Centers; Betsi Latanzo, Colonie Senior Service, Inc.; Renee Markle, Schenectady Senior and Long-Term Care; Greg Giuliano, Captain/Community Human Services; Bob O’Connell, Captain/ Community Human Services CareLinks; Linda Miller, Community Caregivers; Kevin White, Schenectady ARC; Les Arras, Wildwood Programs; Mark Castiglione, CDRPC; Mark Sheehan, Schenectady ARC; Marlene Hildenbrandt, Catholic Charities Senior and Caregiver Support; Maryellen Casey Usis, NNORC; Peggy Osborne, Town of Bethlehem Senior Services; Bryan Baszczuk, Acces-VR; Judy Dahoda-Taylor, Saratoga County Office for the Aging; Carrie Ward, CDTC; Rima Shamieh, CDTC
  
2. Review/Acceptance of July 23, 2018 meeting notes – accepted as written.
  
3. Presentation by Kristin Scholl from Alliance for Better Health about the Circulation Program. Circulation can be used by providers in the Healthy Together Network to call rides for people that need to overcome a social determinant of health but needs transportation for a use that is not covered under Medicaid. Users of the program must use Medicaid and have a Medicaid ID number. Service is intended to be used as a “ride of last resort,” not for regular use. Categories of ride purposes are: benefits navigation, clothing and household goods, education/support for chronic conditions, food assistance, housing and shelter, medicine management (pharmacy). Once access to the resource is established, the user’s support providers such as the manager, coach or assisting organization will need to figure out a permanent transportation solution. The Healthy Together Network uses a determinant assessment as a screening tool to identify referrals. Lyft provides the transportation, but that network cannot accommodate wheelchairs so this is something they’re trying to address. Rides are scheduled through the Circulation platform, which is integrated with the Lyft platform. If there is an organization that has the capacity to provide additional rides, they can join Circulation and will get paid for providing rides to Circulation users. A contract to become a transportation provider in the program would be required. Are 5310 vehicles restricted? Carrie Ward from CDTC will look into this. Meeting attendees had additional questions about what information would be given to users about organizational drivers, and what information would be given to the organizational drivers about the users they would be transporting? Ms. Scholl stated that she would send this information on to Carrie so she can forward it on. Carrie also stated that she would send out Ms. Scholl’s email address to the committee.
  
4. Coordinated Plan  
Survey discussion: Survey will be available online through the CDTC website and circulated via email and Facebook, and with the help of committee members. CDTC staff will also engage in in-person conversations at events and luncheons. Once the proposed edits are made, Carrie will create a simplified URL link and write an explanatory blurb for committee members to disseminate through newsletters or other means. Carrie will also format a hardcopy version of the survey for Saratoga County to use as their client transportation survey. If the survey can be finalized in the next few days, Peggy can put it into the Bethlehem newsletter.

Discussed survey edits:

- New language for #3.
- Add Lyft and Uber as an option in #9
- Change “bus” to “public transit/CDTA bus” in #9
- #6 and #7 are the same question

A committee member asked whether someone can fill out the survey on behalf of a senior. Carrie replied that yes, but information about that was removed because the wording was confusing.

Upcoming meetings to get input about the plan:

- let Carrie know about any lunch sites
- Colonie Lunch and Learn

5. Guardian Society Senior Transportation Guide update – Please send in photos of vehicles and people. Carrie will ask about whether a waiver is needed to use the photos.
6. 5310 status update – It seems that the list of applications received has an old date on it - Carrie will look and send the new one, if needed. The new solicitation is expected in early January 2019 with an eight week timeline to submit. Expect it to take about two years to actually get the vehicle.
7. Transportation Gaps Focus Groups update – the report has been generated. There was a lot of representation from people with disabilities. Major take-aways are that communication between providers and municipalities needs improvement; technical issues were identified as an obstacle, although the Navigator card had just been rolled out when the focus groups were held; the built environment, primarily with respect to pedestrian-related infrastructure, presents significant challenges.
8. Transit Research & Accessibility Center (TRAC) Project Status – An email went out this morning to people who indicated their interest in participating in the project. It provided information to help volunteers get set up, including access the training videos. There’s still time to volunteer to rate a trip.
9. Medicaid transportation and transit – Medical Answering Services’ sole contract is with the Department of Health for Medicaid. They must provide the lowest cost mode that is appropriate. A recent audit found that enrollees were being provided a higher mode than what was medically needed. Agencies must fill out “Form 2015” to justify a higher mode than transit.
10. America Walks Grant – This is a small grant but it is very easy to apply for it.
11. National Aging and Disability Transportation Center is offering a webinar on volunteer transportation programs on November 13 at 2 pm.
12. News from around the table:
  - Transportation Incident Management is back on 511
  - Donna Stressel at Sunnyview Rehab: CarFit season is complete. Looking for fire stations to hold another event in January. Carfit is a program that helps seniors improve safety while driving.
  - Mark Castiglione of CDRPC: CDRPC is holding a local government conference at HVCC on November 16.
  - Denise Weaver is no longer at Carelinks. They’re working on finding her replacement.
  - Colonie just hired four new part time drivers.
13. Next meeting – January 28, 2 pm