

# SUMMARY

## Transportation Coordination Network

Wednesday, March 19, 2008  
Regional Transportation Authority Board Room  
5658 Bear Lane ♦ (361) 289-2712

### [OPTIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITY OFFERED]

12 noon to 2:30 PM

#### *"Supporting Rural Family Caregivers"*

Participants were able to view *"Supporting Rural Family Caregivers"* a presentation sponsored by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services' New Freedom Initiative Subcommittee on Care giving. The session addressed issues confronting rural family caregivers and possible interventions to address these challenges as well as provided web-based education tools for family caregivers; mobile adult day care; transportation services; and telephone support groups. Surveys on the presentation were distributed and collected for mailing.

### REGULAR MEETING ITEMS

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

#### **Members Present:**

Gloria Ramos, REAL, Inc. Executive Director  
Noelia Ruiz, Community Action of S.TX – Transportation Director  
Robert Gonzales, SERCO  
Pam Miles, WorkForce Solutions  
Barbara Johnson, WorkForce Solutions  
David Ramos, Coastal Bend Center for Independent Living  
Mary Saenz, DARS  
Betty Lamb, Area Agency on Aging  
Judy Telge, Coastal Bend Center for Independent Living  
Linda Stover, RTA Manager of Paratransit and ADA (1 p.m.)  
Richard Bullock, CBCOG - Dir. of Planning & Development (3 p.m.)

#### **Coordination Update**

**JARC Funding Contract Application** – Brigida Gonzalez updated stakeholders on the status of the Coastal Bend Council of Governments (COG) application for Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) Funding Contract with the Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority (RTA). With receipt of RTA board approval during their March 5<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, the application will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration for final approval. *RTA received a letter acknowledging review and approval for the COG's JARC Application on April 11, 2008.*

**Medicare Transition from TXDOT to HHSC** – As the transition for oversight of medical transportation moves from TxDOT to HHSC, stakeholders were notified of TxDOT's effort to bring individuals together in a Regional Forum. Transportation providers and HHSC entities from this and neighboring regions will be invited to participate and exchange ideas to help meet transportation needs of HHSC. *A Forum was held in Alice, TX on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.*

**TAMU-CC conducts City Survey** – The University is preparing to conduct a city-wide survey in an effort to collect information on the effectiveness of services being provided in our community. We will be submitting

questions in hope of collecting insight into transportation issues. Stakeholders were encouraged to submit questions of interest.

**SERCO Coordination** – Participants were notified of preliminary meetings with SERCO management staff. The intent is to coordinate site visits with center staff in the surrounding 12 county region. These site visits will collect firsthand perspectives from staff regarding transportation service requests/needs of their rural consumers and communities.

### **Presentation Series: Janna Shoe, 2-1-1 Outreach Coordinator**

Ms. Shoe presented information to members on 2-1-1 centers and their nation-wide availability. Centers, locally available for the last 5 years, offer services at no cost to users. She provided information on registering your organization and making information available on your services as well as instructions on special transportation registration for individuals who may need emergency evacuation assistance in times of crisis. Other discussions included the most effective method to use when completing and submitting individual registration information, and recommended cycle for purging and refreshing of 2-1-1 databases. Ms. Shoe encouraged participants to enroll in the database, and to contact her for guidance on how to update your organization's existing information.

### **Web Site Demonstration**

A demonstration of the TCN web site featuring transportation providers and a description of the types of services being offered to consumers and communities was illustrated. Other examples of our web site categories discussed were Resources and News & Events. Stakeholders offered that the web site be developed using a "people first" perspective, and careful avoidance of the use of industry specific or transit jargon. Everyone was provided the web site address ([www.tcncb.org](http://www.tcncb.org)) and asked to please visit the site and offer feedback.

### **Potential Coordination Projects for consideration**

Input on possible coordination projects was requested.

**Operator Training / Educational Outreach** – Members were updated on an upcoming grant application that will be submitted to TxDOT on potential demonstration projects intent on supplementing and expanding existing operator training, and educational outreach to rural communities on the services available to them.

**Informational Call Center** – A reminder was provided on the upcoming April 9<sup>th</sup> CTAA sponsored webinar addressing Informational Call Centers.

**JARC/New Freedom Call for Projects** – Members were encouraged to consider projects where JARC or New Freedom funds could be used to improve, build, or expand services.