



Beyond the White LINES

Now Available!

Transportation Coordinating Committee Manual

The Greater WI Agency on Aging Resources, Inc. (GWAAR) released a new manual called, *Transportation Coordinating Committees: Connecting People, Connecting Communities*. Written and compiled by Transportation Specialist Carrie Porter, this manual includes information about all aspects of transportation coordinating committees; expansion of your committee, state and federal requirements of your committee, committee duties and bylaws, effective meetings and member engagement. The manual is found on the GWAAR website at this [link](#). There will be a webinar on July 16 at 2pm that will feature an overview of the manual as well as testimony from two aging unit directors about their experience with their local committees. See the attached flyer for details about the webinar.

The Federal Coordinating Council Reconvenes

Coordinating councils can important at all levels. Locally, they are the place where relationships and systems are built. Statewide and nationally, they are where policy is created and changed. The Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility (CCAM) is the Federal interagency council and was created by the United We Ride initiative.

The CCAM oversees Federal activities and makes recommendations that advance the following goals: simplify customer access to transportation, reduce duplication of transportation services, streamline federal rules and regulations that may impede the coordinated delivery of services, and improve the efficiency of services using existing resources. Chaired by the Secretary of Transportation, the Council is composed of the Secretaries of Health and Human Services, Education, Labor, Veterans Affairs, Agriculture, Housing and Urban Development, Interior and Justice as well as the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration and the Chairperson of the National Council on Disability.

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Beyond the White Lines is a publication of the Greater WI Agency on Aging Resources, Inc. dedicated to transportation, mobility and livable communities.

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The Federal Coordinating Council Reconvenes cont...

Member agencies of the CCAM including DOT, HHS and Agriculture recently convened around the new FTA Rides to Wellness health and transportation initiative. It is anticipated this committee will again become increasingly active.

Some may remember the WI Interagency Council on Transportation Coordination (ICTC). This group has not met since 2008 despite several exciting accomplishments including collaboration between Dept. of Workforce Development and WisDOT to fund employment transportation, a survey by the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance (OCI) about volunteer drivers and vehicle insurance, and work with DHS to include transportation coordination in aging plans. We call on the state to reconvene the ICTC following suit of the Federal CCAM.

Transportation Coordinating Committee Best Practice

Price County Aging Unit is working with the Bay Area Regional Transit system headquartered in Ashland to expand that public transit system into Price County. Transportation kept surfacing as an issue and when the local hospital saw the need and offered some financial assistance, Janine Dobson, Senior Services Division Manager knew it was time. Janine will admit that although lack of time was an issue, the hardest part was knowing where and how to start. Connecting with Tom Waby the Transit Manager at BART got her started and she continues to work with him, WisDOT, the local hospital, GWAAR and other partners.

Janine received support from the Commission on Aging and the Health and Human Services Board and began the work. As part of this project, a Transportation Coordinating Council (TCC) was formed. This 7 member council reports to the Health and Human Services Committee and includes representation from aging, human services, the hospital, and a citizen representing the needs of older adults and individuals with disabilities.

For Janine, the best part about this council is that decisions are made by a diverse group of people representing many sectors in the community and not just by her or the aging unit. The parameters of the transportation program and other policy decisions are a product of the TCC. They recognize moving forward they also need to involve the business community and ensure the community recognizes the value of funding this new service. Service is expected to begin in the Park Falls community once the required funding is secured from local stakeholders. Hear about Janine's committee during the TCC webinar July 16!

Events & training

WI/MN Joint Fall Transportation Conference

Oct. 19-21, Duluth MN. Registration is now open. Details can be found here.

<http://www.wurta.com/conference-2015.php>

Don't forget to apply for an RTAP scholarship.

WI Rural Transportation Assistance Program

RTAP training program – RTAP offers various training courses around the state for drivers and managers. A regional training calendar can be found at www.wisconsinrtap.com. Registration is free!

Going to the WI Association of Senior Center's joint conference in Eau Claire in Sept.?

Attend the session titled *To Drive or Not to Drive – Not an Easy Question* about retiring from driving and what resources are available presented by AARP, AAA and MN Transportation Alliance.