

Transit Action Group (TAG) Agenda
Tuesday January 16th, 2018 11am-1pm
ECIA
7600 Commerce Park
Dubuque, IA 52002

Meeting Minutes

Present: Margee Woywood, Crystal Giunta, Kara Huss, Ashley Robins, Katie Bahl, Jess Bleile, Dan Fox, Stacey Elliott, Greg Orwoll, Debra Christiansen, Carolyn Schaefer, Peggy Petlon, Michelle Huseman, Lori McKinley, & Tricia Wagner

TAG membership list passed around for updates. If you want to add someone let Tricia know and she will contact them.

RTA update: The Christmas Bus Decorating event was a huge success. ARC and Hills & Dales staff and consumers each decorated a bus using decorations the consumers made by hand. The Telegraph Herald came to the RTA garage and took photos and interviews and published it the paper (article was passed around the table). That evening the busses took everyone to Dairy Queen for dinner and through Reflections in the Park. We will do it again next year, even bigger!

Tricia has spent a lot of time in Manchester promoting Rides to Wellness/Delaware County Connections. Three meetings with Veterans, received two leads for volunteer drivers from that. Working on Guest of the Day and advertising with KMCH radio. On-screen ad is at Castle Theater. Delivering fliers to more business, agencies, group homes etc. Peggy Petlon is helping us to get in contact with the high school and providing rides to sporting events, etc.

Lori stated RTA will know full impact of MCO changes end of January/February.

Agency updates:

- Ashley Robins & Kara Huss, Hills & Dales –adjusting to the changes for their transportation. Every day is different, good group of clients, it's going fine.
- Margee Woywood, Goodwill - navigating the changes with the MCO's.
- Peggy Petlon, DCCS/ECR MHDD- Waiting on a date from the principal at HS in Delaware County to meet to discuss R2W for school activities. Free spaghetti supper for the Veterans and their spouses with speakers and information on

resources. VA and RTA are providing free transportation to and from the supper. Heading up a committee to determine how to proceed with the MCO changes, meeting coming up to discuss.

- Katie Bahl, Iowa Works – Workplace Stability Workshop coming up, condensed 2 hour training (2 times/locations offered), light breakfast provided. Ermina Soler will talk with employers about working with employees on daycare issues, transportation issues etc. Calmar Wilder Center on April 5, and Dubuque IowaWORKS on April 25. Contact Katie at Katherine.bahl@iwd.iowa.gov, or call 563-556-5800 ext. 48130.
- Dan Fox, ECIA – working on an eight county freight study looking at four counties in IA and four in IL. Dan is working on a bike and pedestrian master plan for the region so will have coordination with transit and make it easier for people to walk or bike to bus stops. Also working on Streets Project with City of Dubuque, incorporating more technology into the city's traffic signals, coordinating the signals and providing information that will allow people driving in the community to get across town faster.
- Greg Orwoll, DuRide – Have always provided discount for anyone on Title XIX, Medicaid or receiving food stamps. Determined there is a need to get other low income people to medical appointments who can't afford it. As of October 1 also providing half price rides to anyone in a low income situation. Goal is in year two to provide free rides to these individuals (pending funding). Participation has soared, there's more need than anticipated. Volunteer drivers help make this possible. Let DuRide know of anyone who needs the service. Eventually they may need to differentiate between medical trips and other types of trips. Let Greg know if you are interested in volunteering!
- Crystal Giunta, Unified Therapy – They have both an adult and a pediatric facility. Adult facility continues to grow, have all income levels. Like to come to these type of meetings because they get asked quite a bit by clients how to get to UT from the downtown area as they are currently only located on the west end. They are at 24-48 hours booking out for new patients, but can call Crystal same day if it's critical. Send her fliers/information and she will put in the waiting room for referrals.
- Stacey Elliott, NEI3A - working through MCO changes and weather situations. Working to get Group Respite for Alzheimer's and dementia patients in Delaware County set up. Meeting coming up, making progress. Will be starting in April. Contact Stacey if you know of anyone interested in participating. Taking referrals now.
- Carolyn Schaefer, Imagine the Possibilities – Looking forward to working more closely with RTA with all of the changes with the MCOs. Making progress tracking down case managers.

- Jessica Bleile, United Way - United Way didn't receive the Volunteer Generation Fund Grant so Tina Haskins is no longer with them, and Jess has taken on the volunteer opportunities. If anyone has any volunteer opportunity ideas, contact Jessica, and you may also use their Get Connected volunteer portal. Opened funding for New and Targeted Initiatives for 2018, accepting letters of interest through January 19th.
- Deb Christiansen, Imagine the Possibilities – Taking things day by day, even hour by hour right now with all of the changes. Working to get consumers out into the community 100%, even Day Hab. Biggest struggle is the weather.
- Michelle Huseman, EIRHA - Partner with RTA for a lot of stuff. Tricia went out on the bus in December and did a Learn to Ride for some Delaware residents. Hoping to really tap into the Delaware County Connections with residence at Manchester Manor. The goal is to make them more RTA self-reliant.

RTA Mission Statement Update Activity:

Divided up into 4 groups. Each small group shared stories about their experience with the RTA. Then each group chose a story to share with the large group, wrote it down and identified specific elements to be written on the large group sharing board. From these items listed on the sharing board, we grouped patterns and similarities, and then labeled the Big Ideas. Each small group then created their own mission statement based on the Big Ideas, wrote them on the sharing board and discussed as a large group. Following are the small group mission statements and large group discussion highlights/key words, all of which the RTA staff will review and compile into a revised RTA mission statement to be approved by the RTA Board of Directors.

Small group mission statements:

1. To provide individualized transportation services to individuals to meet their health, wellness, employment and community activity needs.
2. RTA aims to promote health and wellness to improve quality of life by providing individual, flexible and convenient transportation services for all individuals in the community.
3. The RTA works together with entities out in the community to promote health and wellness and improving quality of life by aiding in independence by transporting the general public, including children, the elderly and people with disabilities.

4. The RTA provides safe, convenient and efficient customized/flexible transportation for citizens of all ages and abilities in need of transportation in Dubuque, Delaware and Jackson Counties.

Large group discussion highlights/key words:

- We provide life enhancing, vital/essential/critical transportation to improve quality of life for our individuals.
- Affordable, rural, accessible, safety, hard to reach, at risk rural
- The only public transportation in (some) rural areas
- Show legislators how essential we are to peoples' lives
- Out in community
- Stakeholders
- Health, independence, individualized
- Convenient, flexible
- Promoting health and wellness and improving quality of life

Next meeting: February 20th, 2018. Tricia will send out email reminder requesting rsvp.