

Quadrant 4: Maximized In/dependence and Supports Caregivers
Meeting Minutes – March 14, 2007

The meeting was held at 9:30 a.m., at Radio Reading Service, in Boulder, and was facilitated by Kathy Phinney, Brandon Fields, and Emily Cooper. Co-chair Sarah Rebman was unable to attend.

The committee decided to continue its focus on Goal 17: *Caregivers are informed, educated, acknowledged, and supported*, with concentration on Strategy 17.2 A: *Awareness campaign that identifies the factors that make a person a caregiver ...*; but in order to accommodate the interests of committee members most concerned with transportation, the committee agreed to change its focus from Goal 15 to Goal 16: *Transportation is affordable, accessible, flexible, reliable and safe*, with concentration on Strategy 16.2 (see below).

The committee will divide into two sub-committees: one addressing Goal 16 (Jon Swanson, Aya Medrud, Mark Venzke, and Kim Ann Wardlow) and the other addressing Goal 16 (others). Brandon Fields and Sarah Rebman will help facilitate the transportation group; Kathy Phinney and Emily Cooper will work with the caregiving group. At the regular quadrant meetings, each sub-committee will meet separately for 1 ½ hours, then the whole quadrant committee will come back together for the final 30 minutes, during which each sub-committee will have 15 minutes to report on its work and get everyone's input.

The remainder of the meeting was spent working on the transportation strategy:

1. *Choose your strategy:*

16.2: Provide a seamless, countywide system of transportation services that includes: network of public, fixed-route services ..., paratransit services ..., incentives to private transportation services ..., and incentives to groups and organizations ...

2. *Develop the strategy-specific goal:*

Success would look like:

- Transportation options are automatic and easy
- Transportation is available and accessible when it's needed
- Responsive, flexible, on-demand, accommodates weather changes and special events
- Unlimited destinations – not just doctor appointments, also social events
- Includes out of county destinations

- Results of BCASD survey: all answer “yes” to questions about whether they can get where they want
- More door-through-door service (like Special Transit)
- Volunteer travel companions make it easier for elders
- Resource collaboration with places that elders go that ensures elders are accommodated and feel welcome
- Riders don’t feel stigma or frustration about using public transit – they have good travel training
- Transportation services are well funded
- All geographic areas are covered
- All people use public transportation more!

3. *Assess what’s being done and by whom:*

- Special Transit
 - Door-through-door services for elders and persons with disabilities, low-cost or supplemented, unlimited destinations within communities, some service between communities, wheelchair equipped
 - Friends and Family Mileage Reimbursement Program
 - Travel training – Easy Rider Program
 - Contracts with Care Link, other agencies
 - Free caregiver ride-along
 - Meals to Wheels (to congregate meals)
 - Group trips (City Senior Services, Circle of Care, communities)
 - Medicaid provider (through Logisticare)
 - Subcontracts with RTD to operate Access-a-Ride, Call-n-Ride
 - Have to deny some rides, so use Friends & Families Program, cabs, volunteers (Red Cross, RSVP)
- Logisticare
 - Broker for Medicaid transportation services (ST, cabs, other providers)
- Access-a-Ride
 - Physician certified, application and qualification required
 - Wheelchair equipped
 - Curb to curb – door through door only if needed
 - Regional (includes Denver)
 - Rider must live within .75 miles of fixed RTD route
- RTD
 - Fixed routes – on-line and printed schedules, can call for info
 - All wheelchair equipped
 - Special fares for elders, persons with disabilities
 - Passes available
 - Airport, football games, other special routes
 - Access-a-Ride, Call-n-Ride, Park-n-Ride

- Private
 - Care-a-Van (Chris?) – wheelchair equipped van
 - Admire
 - Careful Wheels
 - Pridemark ambulance
 - Home care companies
 - Cabs
 - Long term care facilities
- Volunteers
 - Lafayette LIFT
 - Red Cross
 - Respite Care Volunteer Program
 - Skill Share (formerly Service Exchange)
 - Faith in Action

4. *Where do we need to target our efforts?*

- Learn more about current resources
- Model programs in other communities
- Affordable, same-day service
- Service (maybe with escorts) for persons with extreme needs
- Regional service
- Greater incentives for seniors to evaluate their driving skills, and behind-the-wheel testing in all communities
- Greater public awareness and education
- Better understanding of users' options
- More rural service
- Lower insurance rates for providers
- Greater coordination with riders' destinations (stores, etc.)
- Better parking for vehicles (vans, buses)
- Access-a-Ride not limited to within .75 miles of fixed route

Points 5 and 6 deferred to Transportation sub-committee

7. *Who else needs to be involved?*

- Circle of Care (Joan Raderman)
- RSVP
- Riders
- Red Cross
- Neighborhood organizations (Common Hearth?), neighborhood liaisons
- Boulder County strategic planning council
- Faith communities

- Service organizations
- Medical centers / doctors' offices
- Skill Share
- Elected officials, transportation department
- Center for People with Disabilities
- Stroke Association and other disease organizations

All of the members are asked to fill in details of “who’s doing what” before the next meeting, which is Wednesday, April 11, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m., at Radio Reading Service.

The meeting concluded at 11:30 a.m.

Submitted by:
Emily Cooper