

Happy New Year!

Happy New Year and welcome to the January 2013 issue of *E-News*! We've made some changes in order to be more responsive to our readers' needs. Each issue of the *E-News* will focus on a specific topic or theme and will be published on a monthly basis during the school year. This month's theme is **TRANSPORTATION**.

Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged

This Commission is an independent agency responsible for the coordination of transportation services for older adults, *persons with disabilities*, persons of low income, and *children at-risk*. Every county in Florida has a Local Coordinating Board that is assigned to provide transportation services to the identified groups of people. The Coordinating Board is composed of representatives from numerous local agencies and representatives from the service groups identified, as well as representatives from the local Public Education Community and the Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. One of the tasks of the Local Coordinating Boards is to identify local service needs regarding a person's need to access medical services, work, school and other independent living areas. Additional information on the structure of the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged can be found at www.dot.state.fl.us/ctd/index.htm

The services of the Commission are intended for those persons who cannot obtain their own transportation due to their age, disability, or income. Eligibility criteria are, at a minimum:

- No other funding available
- No other means of transportation available
- Cannot utilize public transit
- Physical or mental disability
- Age
- Income status as a specified percent of the poverty level
- No self-declarations
- Inability to pay

Each county in Florida has a Community Transportation Coordinator who can provide additional information regarding specific eligibility. A listing of Community Transportation Coordinators may be found at www.dot.state.fl.us/ctd/contacts/ctcbycounty.htm

Brevard Increases Transportation Routes

Space Coast Area Transit (SCAT) fixed route ridership has increased as a direct result of the advocacy efforts of the Legislative Task Force (LTF) of the Interagency Council of Brevard. The Brevard County Board of County Commissioners funded a greater percentage of SCAT's budget in order to increase transportation services after a letter-writing campaign and public statements of support at local county meetings. The entire community now has additional access to the transportation system, allowing individuals to get back and forth to work later in the evenings and to attend post-secondary education opportunities. Fixed route ridership has continued to grow since the expansion occurred and has exceeded 100,000 passenger boardings for ten consecutive months.

Congratulations to the Interagency Council of Brevard for their continued efforts to serve those with disabilities and contribute to the entire community! For more information on transportation for students with disabilities, contact Kathy Lowe, Brevard Public Schools, at lowe.kathy@brevardschools.org. The Space Coast Area Transit website, www.ridescat.com, contains information on the public transit system including maps, schedules, rates, and van pools.

Lee County Newsletter Focuses on Transportation

Opening Doors to Self-Determination is an electronic newsletter published quarterly by Lee County Project Transition, an interagency council. Its purpose is to share ideas, suggestions and teacher tips regarding the development of self-determination knowledge and skills in the lives of students. Each issue highlights a topic related to self-determination. The topic for the upcoming winter edition is transportation.

The e-newsletter subcommittee developed a transportation survey which was disseminated to the interagency council members to better understand the transportation resources available in the community. Questions included:

- How do clients get to your facility?
- Does your agency provide training to access the community? If yes, please describe.
- Does your agency provide transportation to your clients? If yes, please include cost and eligibility.
- Are there transportation barriers for clients to access your agency and/or the community?

The newsletter will include information regarding community resources related to transportation and suggested activities for teachers to incorporate into their classes. For example, students could research transportation options for getting from their house to the local mall, taking into account cost and travel time. Resources in the Lee County newsletter will include local, state, and national resources such as:

Transportation Disadvantaged, <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/ctd/contacts/plannersbycounty.htm>, a listing of transportation resources by county.

Easter Seals Project ACTION, <http://www.projectaction.org/>, which includes sections dedicated to *Enhancing Youth Mobility and Transportation Options*, <http://www.projectaction.org/initiatives/youthtransportation.aspx>, and the

Integrated Self-Advocacy Curriculum for Transportation: Helping Students Develop Skills to Support Choice in Accessible Transportation, <http://www.projectaction.org/Initiatives/YouthTransportation/SelfAdvocacyCurriculum.aspx>.

The newsletter is expected to be published later this month and will be posted to the newly developed Lee County Project Transition website at http://ese.leeschools.net/programs_jm/Transition/project_transition.htm.

More Transportation Resources and Events

Transportation Webinar

<http://www.project10.info/files/Feb2013TranspoWebinar.pdf>

Join Judy Shanley, Director of Student Engagement and Mobility Management with Easter Seals, and Greg Akin, Director of Transportation in Volusia County Schools, as they address education-pupil transportation collaboration in a free Regional Transportation Webinar, **Educators, Pupil Transportation, & Public Transportation Working Together to Support Student Post-School Transition**, on Tuesday, February 5th, 2013, 3:00 - 4:15 p.m. EST.

LET'S GO! A Guide to Getting Around Your Community in Florida

<http://www.fddc.org/sites/default/files/file/publications/transportation%20guidebook.pdf>

This guide, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, was published in 2009, but its contents are still useful. It contains information on how community transportation works as well as a glossary, acronyms, abbreviations, symbols, a listing of county-by-county transportation services for persons with developmental disabilities and their families, and more .

Other News and Events

2013 Florida Juvenile Justice Association Adolescent Conference

<http://www.fjja.org/>

The theme of this year's conference is "Public Private Partnerships: the Power to Make a Difference for Youth, Families and Communities." It will be held at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center in Orlando on February 19-20, 2013.

Workshops and trainings will highlight evidence-based practices, share innovative program approaches, and celebrate success stories from across the country. CEUs will be offered.

Other News and Events—continued

Project 10 Regional Institutes

Got the winter doldrums? Take some professional development time and meet with your colleagues for a day of updates, information, and networking related to secondary transition. There is no cost, but reservations are required. Lunch is on your own. Dates and locations are:

Northwest Region 1: February 1, 2013, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, FDLRS Miccosukee, Tallahassee, FL, or February 15, 2013, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, FDLRS/PAEC, Chipley, FL. Contact Lori Garcia at lorigarcia@mail.usf.edu

Northeast Region 2: January 23, 2013, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, Building R, Room 001, Santa Fe State College, Gainesville, FL, Contact Patrick Mulvihill at pmulvihill@mail.usf.edu

East Central Region 3: January 24, 2013, 9:00 am to 3:30pm, Jim Miles Center, Polk Public Schools, Lakeland, FL. Contact Heather Mack at hmack1@mail.usf.edu

West Central Region 4: February 19, 2013, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, John R. Trinkle Center, Hillsborough Community College, Plant City, FL. Contact Federico Valadez at fvaladez@mail.usf.edu

South Region 5: February 20, 2013, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm, Sawgrass Technology Park, Sunrise, FL. Contact Lisa Friedman-Chavez at lfchavez@mail.usf.edu

World Arts Film Festival Call for Submissions

The World Arts Film Festival (WAFF) is seeking submissions from first-time and established filmmakers for a wide range of short film screenings, panels, workshops, and exhibits at its inaugural festival, April 11-13, 2013, at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Jacksonville. Founded by the non-profit World Arts Education as part of its global educational outreach, the festival will bring diverse groups of filmmakers of all ages and backgrounds, including those with special needs, to meet their audiences and mentor each other in this new venue. The submission deadline is February 28, 2013. For more information on WAFF and the festival submissions process, go to <http://www.worldartseducation.org/>.

Project 10 Website Updates

The following items were recently added to the Project 10 website at <http://www.project10.info>:

A-Z Library

- Assistive Technology
- Challenges in the Transition from High School* (GAO Report)
- Child Labor Laws
- Dropout Prevention for Students with Disabilities
- Skills to Pay the Bills* (curriculum & videos)
- Universal Design for Learning

Conference Presentations

- National Dropout Prevention Network Conference resources

Effective Practices > Interagency Collaboration

- Challenges in the Transition from High School* (GAO report)

Employment > Resources Related to the Employment of People with Disabilities

- Let's Get Everyone to Work!* (videos from FDDC)

FDOE TAPs and Memos

- 11/07/12 BEESS Memo, Changes to Legislation Impacting Federal Ability to Benefit (ATB) and State of Florida Financial Aid Eligibility
- 11/14/12 BEESS Memo, Clarification of Requirements for Measurable Postsecondary Goals

Project 10 Website Updates—continued

The following items were recently added to the Project 10 website at <http://www.project10.info>:

What's New

Council for Exceptional Education Webinar Series on Secondary Transition for Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders (January 24, February 14, and February 21, 2013)

Florida Division of Career Development and Transition Accepting Nominations for the “Making a Difference” and the “Debra Husted Memorial Dreams Can Come True” awards (through March 15, 2013)

Project 10 Regional Institutes

Region 1: February 1 or 15, 2012; contact Dr. Lori Garcia , lgarcia@mail.usf.edu , for more information

Region 2: January 23, 2013; contact Pat Mulvihill, pmulvihill@mail.usf.edu, for more information

Region 3: January 24, 2013; contact Heather Mack , hmack1@mail.usf.edu, for more information

Region 4: February 19, 2013; contact Federico Valadez, fvaladez@mail.usf.edu, for more information

Region 5: February 20, 2013; contact Lisa Friedman-Chavez, lfchavez@mail.usf.edu, for more information

Free Transportation Webinar, “Educators, Pupil Transportation and Public Transportation Working Together to Support Post-School Transition” (February 5, 2013, 3:00 pm)

“Graduation Requirements “(new online module on standard high school diplomas available at FCIM)

VISIONS XX Call for Presentations (deadline extended to March 1, 2013)

Students with Disabilities: Better Federal Coordination Could Lessen Challenges in the Transition from High School (GAO Report)

Let's Get Everyone to Work! (FDDC employment and transition videos)

NCWD/Youth's *Skills to Pay the Bills* curriculum (new videos added)

College Students with Disabilities: What Factors Influence Successful Degree Completion? (new report from the John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development and the Kessler Foundation)

About Project 10 E-News

Project 10 E-News provides short information summaries and resource links related to secondary transition.

Have a question?

Want to find or recommend a resource?

Have some great news to share?

Send us an email at project10@stpete.usf.edu, and we'll take it from there!

For back issues of *Project 10 E-News*, visit the *E-News* page on the Project 10 website at <http://www.project10.info/Newsletter.php>.