

Creating Mobility Management Systems & Including Education in Coordinated Transportation Planning

Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG)
Transportation Ambassador Program
June 2012

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Today's Agenda

- Overview of Easter Seals Project ACTION
- United We Ride – Leading Inter-Agency Coordination
- Mobility Management – Leveraging Coalitions
- Engaging Educators Case Study
- Reforms & Strategies in Accessible Transportation
- Discussion: What are you doing in your community?

Easter Seals Project Action (ESPA)

- **Mission:** promote universal access to transportation for people with disabilities...
- Supports Transportation Precepts of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- Begun by Congress twenty three years ago to build bridges of understanding between the Transportation and Disability Community
- Cooperative Agreement funded by the **Federal Transit Administration and Administered by Easter Seals**
- Aligned with **Easter Seals** work to improve the lives of children, youth, and adults with disabilities

Four Functional Areas to Help Local Organizations Build Accessible Transportation Capacity

- **Training Events** – travel training, webinars, online training
- **Technical Assistance** – 800#, email, in-person coalition building events
- **Applied Research** – fund catalyst and gap filling programs to stimulate academic inquiry and leverage new product development
- **Outreach** – build awareness & create partnerships



Building Cross-Disciplinary Coalitions Among:

- Disability community and families
- Public and private transportation industry
- Government
- Human service agencies
- Advocacy and professional associations
- Technical assistance intermediaries
- K12 schools and higher education



Voices from Youth

I feel like I am independent. I don't need to depend on my mom and dad to take me places. Now I can ride the bus to get to my job and to the movies with my friends.

These are some of the reactions from youth and adults with disabilities who have gained independence and mobility due to the simple fact that they can now get a ride to work, school, the mall or the library.

Leverage Public Transportation for All

- Facilitate a culture shift
 - drivers education to transportation education
- Provide role models and examples
- Build collaboration across mobility management & education
- Support performance measurement
- Develop platforms for sharing and learning



United We Ride



- Federal interagency initiative
- Established in 2004 by Executive Order, the Federal Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility (CCAM) - 60 Federal programs that fund services for transportation-challenged populations
- Improve the availability, quality, and efficient delivery of transportation services
- Transportation plays a critical role in providing access
- Transportation services are often fragmented, underutilized, or difficult to navigate

United We Ride - Supporting Administration Priorities

- Veteran and Military Families
- Health & Wellness
- Economic Recovery
- Open Government

Person-Directed Mobility Management

Mobility management works at the community level by ensuring that transportation is accessible and the pathways to transportation are accessible. At the community level, mobility managers connect with transportation service providers and communities on developing coordinated transportation plans and policies that promote accessible transportation and accessible pathways for people of all abilities

<http://www.projectaction.org/Initiatives/MobilityManagement.aspx>

ESPA Mobility Management Activities

- ESPA is a partner in the Partnership for Mobility Management - CTAA and APTA
 - <http://web1.ctaa.org/webmodules/webarticles/anmviewer.asp?a=1790>
- ESPA hosts the mobility manager independent living coaches (MMILC) program
 - CIL and MM model
 - http://projectaction.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=ESPA_mobility_management

Being a Mobility Manager Includes:

- Developing and managing transportation services
- Focusing on individualized customer markets
- Establishing a variety of services tailored to meet the needs of those markets
- Coordinating service delivery network
- Designing and managing a transportation infrastructure
- Disaggregating rather than aggregating service planning
- Measuring performance

What do I Need to Know in my Role as a Mobility Manager?

- The Accessible transportation resources
 - Mode, Population, Requirements, Fares, Routes
- The Riders
 - Who, needs, human services organizations, communication channels
- The System
 - Technology, communication, process, documentation

I Also Must Know About...

- Performance Measurement
 - Adds value to your program
 - Contributes to efficiency & effectiveness
 - Facilitates understanding around gaps and needs
 - Reinforces the integrity of work – to you, funders, and customers.

Staying Sharp: Getting Involved Locally & Nationally

- Participate in national forums
- Share ideas and strategies
- Learn about local efforts
- Identify coordinating forums and mobility management systems in your community

Coordinated Transportation Planning to Improve Secondary Transition A Local Story

The Worcester Regional Transit Authority (WRTA) had a goal of creating a new model of travel training that would teach transition-age students with disabilities how to use the fixed route system prior to being introduced to paratransit

Partners:

- Transit Authority
- Mobility Management System
- School District
- Teachers
- Parents
- Students



Coordinated Travel Training Pilot Program

Action Steps:

- Obtain buy-in from all partners
- Hire a qualified travel trainer
- Meet with teachers for input
- Identify students for the pilot program
- Implement travel training pilot program
- Measure results



Coordinated Travel Training Pilot Program

Model

- Integrating travel training into existing curriculum
- Role of travel trainer and teachers

Perceived Benefits Identified through Focus Groups

- Students
- Parents
- Educators



Benefits From The Student's Perspective

- I don't have to rely on others
- Other kids learn to drive; using public transportation is my mobility solution
- I'll be more independent
- I'll feel more confident
- Using public transportation supports my ability to live, learn, work, and play in my community



Benefits From The Family's Perspective

- I won't have to "chauffeur" all the time
- She'll be more independent after I'm gone
- He'll be more like other kids his own age
- My child will be able to practice safety skills
in a controlled, but real environment
- Using public transportation supports my child's ability to
live, learn, work, and play in our community



Benefits From The School's Perspective

- Travel training addresses transportation needs in the IEP
- Students learn how to travel independently to and from work or internship
- Decreases the burden on school transportation services
- Provides mobility solution/option for parents whose kids cannot participate in driver's education



Coordinated Travel Training Pilot Program

Outcomes:

- Year 1
- Year 2

Plan going forward:

- Replicate model at the middle school
- Encourage more schools to include travel training in IEPs
- Link travel training with new transit technology



Comparison (2-year view)

Existing model

High School → Paratransit services → Small % travel trained for fixed route

Coordinated travel training model

High School → Travel Training during High School → Over 60% successfully using fixed route upon leaving High School



Reaching Education Audiences...

Message is that Mobility Management can be aligned with School Reforms

- College and Career Readiness
- Common Core
- District & School Curricular and Programs

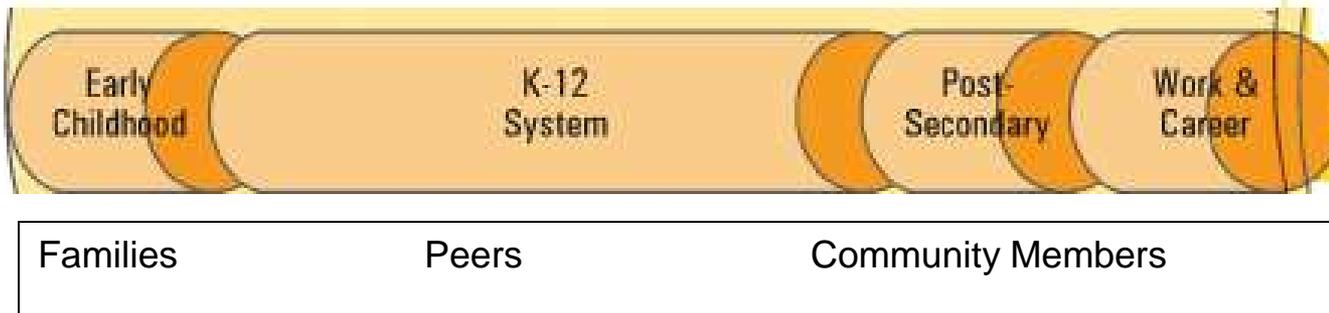
Why is Transportation Education Important to Students, Families, Educators, and Schools?

College and Career Readiness

Ready by 21 Insulated Pipeline

Transportation, Health, Mental Health, Housing, Financial

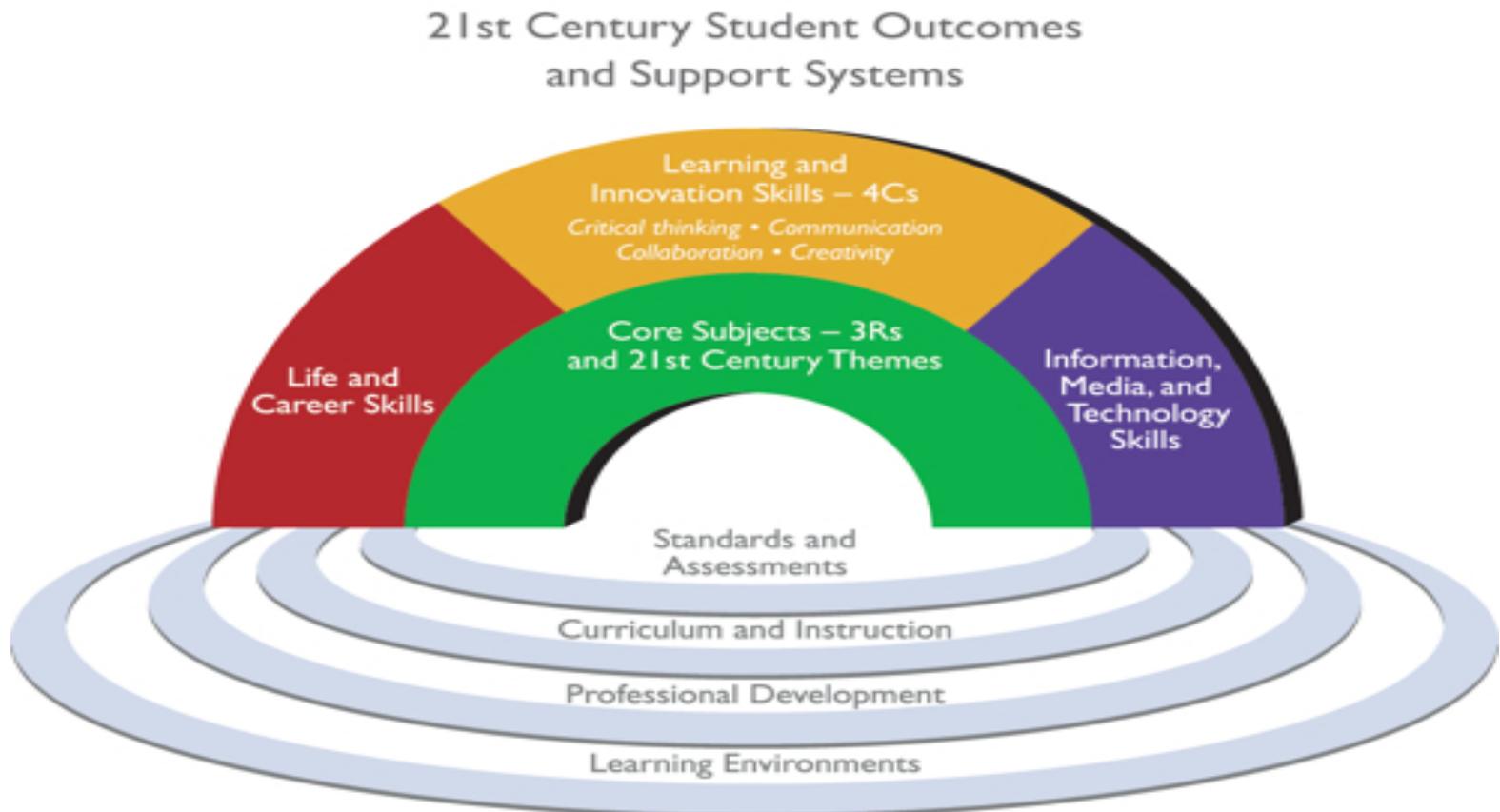
ECD & Child Care Providers After-School Programs Civic, Social, Work Opportunities Social & Strategic Supports & Coaching Placement



<http://www.readyby21.org/>

Why is Transportation Education Important to Students, Families, Educators, and Schools?

Implementation of the Common Core Standards



Strategies to Integrate Accessible Transportation and Transition Services

- Conduct resource mapping of transportation resources & travel training services
- Learn about mobility management and coordinated planning in your community
- Ensure IEP goals around accessible transportation
- Invite transit professionals into events
- Use & visit transit – field trips
- Embed transportation content into curriculum and instruction
- Integrate transportation content into professional development

Strategies to Integrate Accessible Transportation and Transition Services

- Share transportation resources
- Look for grant opportunities to focus on accessible transportation
- Connect with local teacher education and rehabilitation preparation programs
- Understand travel instruction and its components

Engage Transportation Stakeholders

- Invite pupil transportation professionals to your meetings, event, IEPs.
 - National Association for Pupil Transportation
www.napt.org
- Organize events to address a continuum of transportation – across education, pupil transportation, and community transportation
- Use public transit for work experience & field trips

Yellow School Buses as the First Step

- Simulate public buses
 - Fare cards
 - Develop schedules and route maps
 - Alerting drivers
 - Replicate social variance

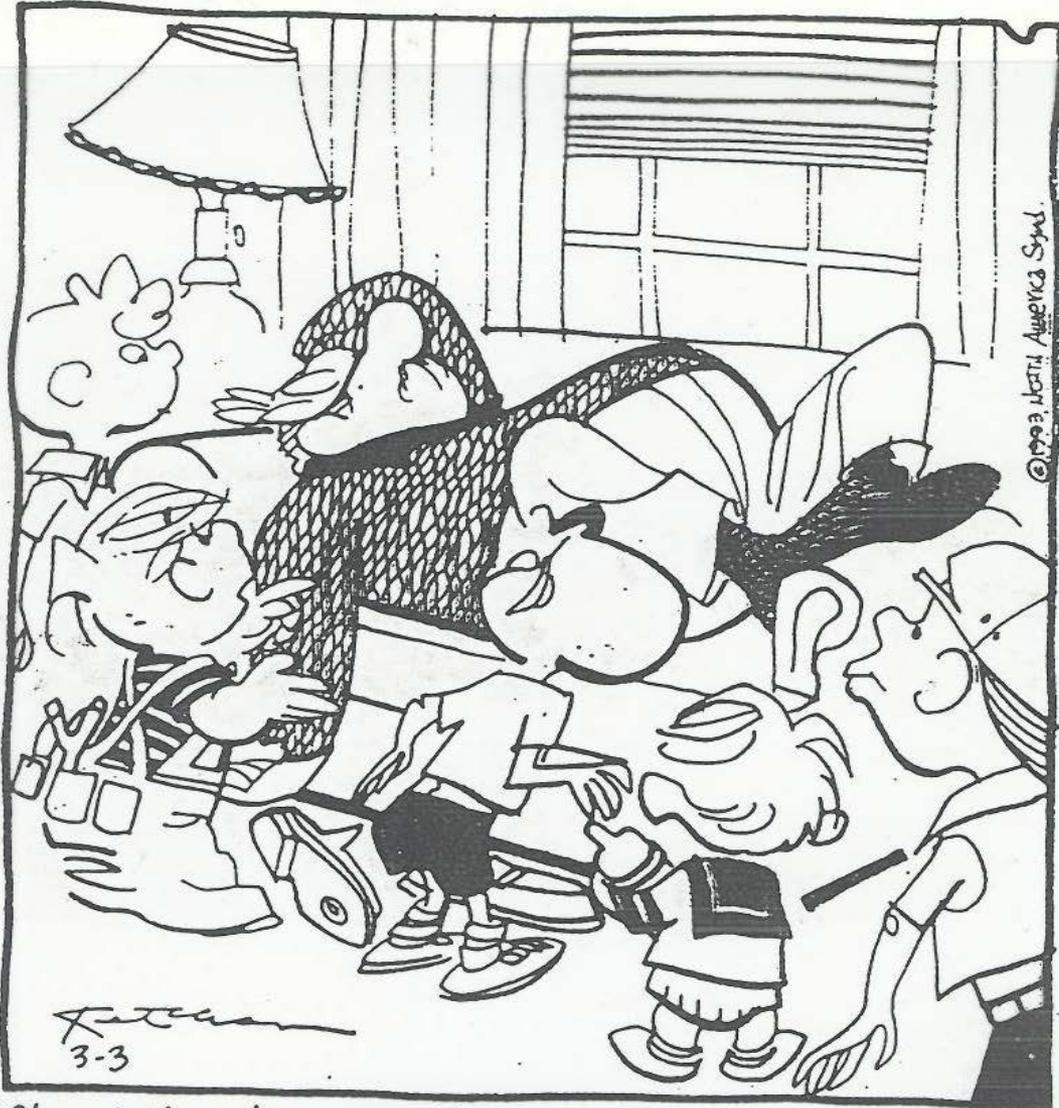
School Transportation News Online -
<http://www.stnonline.com/webcasts>

Share your Successes Regarding Transit-Connections...

- Present at events
- Communicate with district and community
- Write articles and stories
- Document your work – incorporate stories in news briefs and reports



DENNIS



"C'MON, MR. WILSON! WE CAN'T DO ANY FOLLOWING
UNTIL YOU DO SOME LEADING!"

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