



PRESENTED BY  
The National Center for Mobility Management  
and the Department of Transportation,  
Federal Transit Administration

# WEBINAR: TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY OPTIONS TO SUPPORT POSTSCHOOL TRANSITION FOR YOUTH WITH AUTISM

**FEBRUARY 11, 2020 | 3:00 - 4:00 PM ET**



*Sponsored by the National Autism Coordinator and the Office of  
Autism Research Coordination, National Institute of Mental Health*

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# Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility (CCAM): Encouraging Partnerships to Improve Transportation Options for Youth with Autism



*February 11, 2019*

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## CCAM Mission and Organization



### Mission

The CCAM issues policy recommendations and implements activities that improve the **availability**, **accessibility**, and **efficiency** of transportation for the following targeted populations:



**Individuals with Disabilities**



**Older Adults**



**Individuals of Low Income**

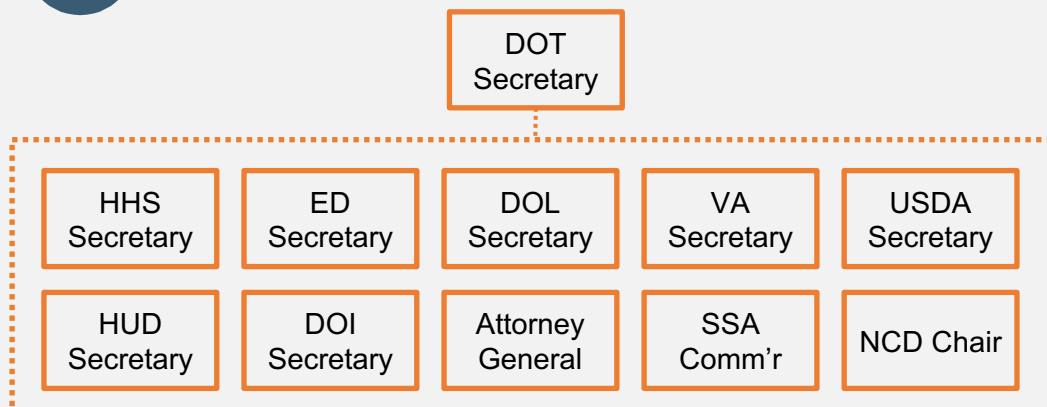


### History

The CCAM is an interagency partnership **established in 2004 by Executive Order 13330** to coordinate the efforts of the Federal agencies that fund transportation for targeted populations.



### Organization



# Public Transportation



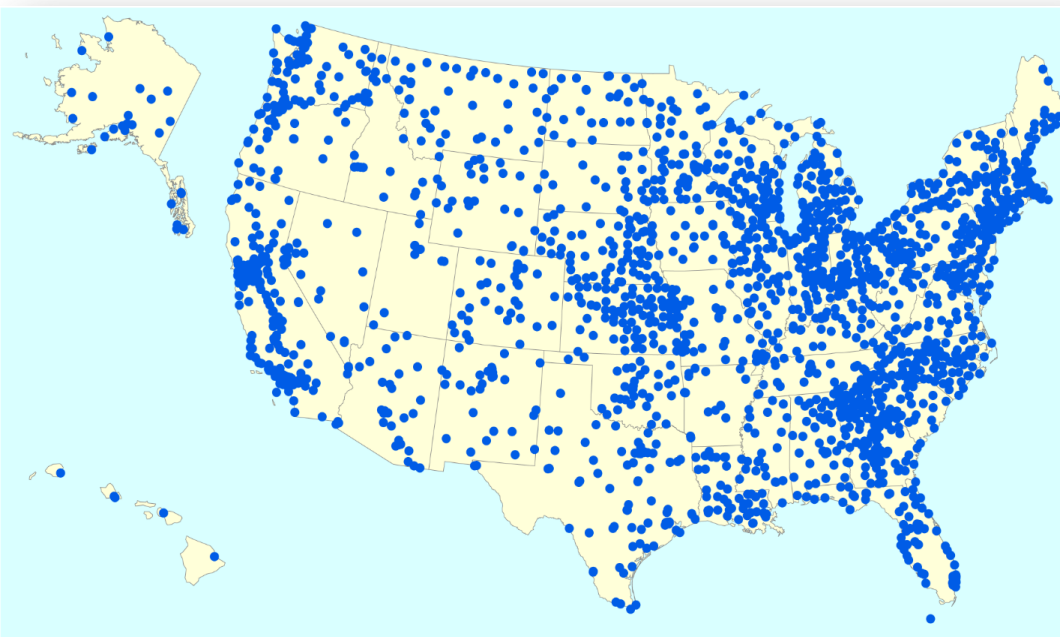
U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Federal Transit Administration**

## Transit Passengers

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) provides funding that delivers over 10 billion trips to public transportation customers, supporting access to jobs, education, health care and other important activities.

## Transit Agencies & Assets

- 4,000 public transit providers
  - 900 FTA grantees (States, transit agencies & Tribes)
  - 3,000+ Recipients of FTA funds through the States
- 130,000 transit vehicles







# Section 5310 Project: Ypsilanti, Michigan



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Federal Transit Administration**

## Programs To Educate All Cyclists (PEAC)

- PEAC is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization
- Mission: empower individuals with disabilities through cycling, active transportation, and self-advocacy education. Biking and alternative modes of transportation play a critical role in increasing community access, fostering social involvement & self-esteem, and promoting healthy lifestyles among individuals with disabilities. So everyone can ride. <https://www.bikeprogram.org/>

## Active Transportation Program

- Teaches young adults with developmental disabilities how to more independently walk, bike, and use transit in their communities. Teaches young people how to be advocates for more equitable transportation options in Michigan and beyond.



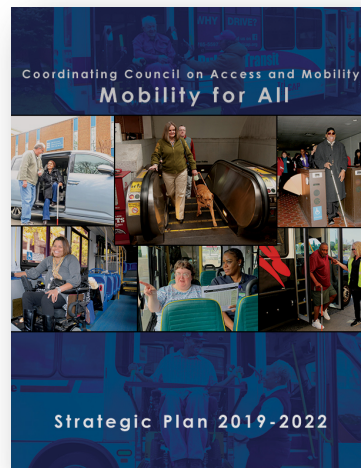
# Access and Mobility for All Grant Program



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Transit Administration

## CCAM Pilot Program

On October 29, 2019, during the [USDOT Access and Mobility for All Summit](#), Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao announced a [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) for the [Access and Mobility for All Grant Program](#), which seeks to improve mobility options through strategies to enhance mobility and access to community services for older adults, individuals with disabilities, and people with low incomes. The \$3.5-million program will fund projects that enable transportation connections to jobs, education and health services.



### Goal 4: Demonstrate Innovative Coordinated Transportation

- Objective 1:** Implement and evaluate CCAM pilot programs  
**Objective 2:** Incorporate the use of innovative technologies in coordinated transportation

The [CCAM](#) directed the development of an *Advancing Mobility Management Course* offered by the National Transit Institute (NTI). The new 2-day course aims to improve coordination between transit and non-traditional stakeholders. The interactive course highlights community partnerships that improve coordination and helps participants identify new partners to expand networks and resources.

The course is free for public transit and government agencies.

### *2020 Courses:*

September 25-26, 2019 – St. Cloud, MN

February 5-6, 2020 -Phoenix, AZ

February 24-25, 2020 – Nashville, TN

March 25-26, 2020 – Springfield, MA

May 5-6, 2020 – Denver, CO

June 16-17, 2020 – Ithaca, NY

The course is designed to build the capacity of community professionals to implement and scale up mobility management strategies and initiatives, and expose participants to promising practices in the field.

**Register:** [www.ntionline.com/advancing-mobility-management](http://www.ntionline.com/advancing-mobility-management)



# Free Transportation Resources



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Federal Transit Administration**



## National Center for Mobility Management

website: [www.nc4mm.org](http://www.nc4mm.org) phone: 1-866-846-6400

email: [info@nc4mm.org](mailto:info@nc4mm.org) Annual Community Grants



## National Aging and Disability Transportation Center

website: [www.nadtc.org](http://www.nadtc.org) phone: 1-866-983-3222

email: [contact@nadtc.org](mailto:contact@nadtc.org) Annual Community Grants



## Rural Transit Assistance Program

website: [www.nationalrtap.org](http://www.nationalrtap.org) 1-888-589-6821

email: [info@nationalrtap.org](mailto:info@nationalrtap.org)

# Transportation and Mobility Options to Support Postschool Transition for Youth with Autism



Office of National Autism Coordination  
Office of Autism Research Coordination  
National Institute for Mental Health  
Webinar, February 11, 2020



**Judy L. Shanley, Ph.D.**  
**Asst. Vice President, Education & Youth Transition**  
**Easterseals Director, National Center for Mobility Management**



# Today we will Talk About..

- Challenges and opportunities Related to Transportation and Mobility Options for Youth
- Strategies to focus on transportation in schools and adult service programs
  - Learn about a peer to peer mentoring program to teach transportation advocacy
- Mobility Management Resources and Systems
- Discussion: What are you doing in your community?



# Panelists

Judy Shanley,  
Easterseals,  
NCMM



Austin Carr



Genelle Thomas, PYD



*If you always do what you've always done,  
you'll always get what you've always got.*

In Fierce Conversations, By *Susan Scott*



# We Have...Legislation & Policy Across School, Adult Services, and Community to Reinforce a Focus on **Inclusive** Transportation

- Least Restrictive Environment
- Inclusion
- IDEA
- Access to the General Education Curriculum
- Home & Community Based Services
- Americans with Disabilities Act
- Higher Education Opportunity Act
- State Employment First Initiatives
- Olmstead Act
- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act



# So, Why Does Mobility and Transportation Pose a Barrier to Student Transition?



# Understanding Root Causes

- Students lack knowledge and skills
- Students are fearful
- Families are fearful
- Teachers are fearful
- Lack of connections with public transportation
- Lack of transportation options - rural
- Inconvenience of transportation options
- Cost of transportation

# 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*

*Spontaneous Choice*

# Ideas to Focus on Transportation Education...



- Engage families, students, human services, and colleagues
  - Hold a transportation summit
  - Invite students who use transit, businesses, Voc Rehab
- Conduct resource mapping of transportation resources & travel training services – shared services (church, school, business) – student projects
- Include mobility & transportation in IEP, service plan, and pre-ets goals
- Invite transit professionals into events
- Enable students to do transportation-related projects & service learning
- Look for grant opportunities to focus on accessible transportation (CCAM)
- Integrate transportation content into professional development for educators and adult service providers
- Simulate bus using classroom or non-bus setting
- Establish travel buddy or peer to peer mentoring programs



# What Happens in Rural Areas?

- Work with transit providers and planning organizations to create service
  - Volunteer driver programs
  - Demand response systems
  - Engage employers, health care – non-traditional service providers
  - “Ruber” service – organic ride share

# Building Connections to Support Transportation Strategies...unlikely sources....



# Transit and Mobility Managers



# What is Mobility Management

Mobility management is an approach to designing and delivering transportation services that starts and ends with the customer. It begins with a community vision in which the **entire transportation network**—public transit, private operators, cycling and walking, volunteer drivers, and others—works together with customers, planners, and stakeholders to **deliver the transportation options that best meet the community's needs.**



# Engaging with Transportation Providers and Policymakers

- Contact your state Department of Transportation's transit/public transportation office
- Contact your local mobility manager
- Participate in community coordination councils



# The National Center for Mobility Management

## Can Help you Make Connections

*The mission of the National Center for Mobility Management (NCMM) is to facilitate communities to adopt transportation strategies and mobility options that empower people to live independently and advance health, economic vitality, self-sufficiency, and community.*

[www.nationalcenterformobilitymanagement.org](http://www.nationalcenterformobilitymanagement.org)





# About the NCMM



- National Technical Assistance Center
- Launched in early 2013
- Jointly operated by three national organizations:
  - Easterseals
  - American Public Transportation Association
  - Community Transportation Association of America
- Through a cooperative agreement with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), U.S. DOT



*Always believe that something  
wonderful is about to happen.*



# Contact Information

- Judy Shanley
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  - 312-551-7227





A group of four young adults are walking away from the camera on a paved sidewalk. From left to right: a person with short dark hair wearing a grey hoodie and blue jeans; a person with shoulder-length dark hair wearing a tan jacket and blue jeans; a person with long brown hair wearing a maroon shirt, seated in a black motorized wheelchair; and a person with long brown hair wearing a black sweatshirt and a prosthetic leg, walking barefoot. In the background, there is a brick building with large windows, a statue of a person, and some trees. The text "Leveraging Peer Mentoring to Improve Transportation Advocacy of Young Adults with Disabilities" is overlaid in white on a semi-transparent dark grey rectangle in the center of the image.

# **Leveraging Peer Mentoring to Improve Transportation Advocacy of Young Adults with Disabilities**





## Project basics

### Transportation Advocacy Mentoring Initiative

1. Demonstration project paired young adults with disabilities from Massachusetts with young advocates with disabilities in Michigan, who already had experience and success advocating for inclusive transportation options.
2. Series of interactive mentoring and educational sessions, young adults from Massachusetts prepared to engage in their own advocacy project.
3. Funded by the Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Community Living, through an agreement with the Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA).
4. Collaborators were Easterseals, Partners for Youth with Disabilities (PYD), and PEAC.



## Why is this project important?

1. Help youth think about inclusive mobility options
2. Assist transit providers to consider the voices of youth with disabilities in service planning
3. Improve range of accessible transportation options
4. Highlight the viability of careers in transportation careers





## **Project Implementation**

1. Finding collaborators
2. Recruitment of advocates
3. Peer mentor training
4. Introductions/Get to know each other
5. Learning sessions
6. Advocacy project
7. Closure
8. Evaluation



A group of diverse young people are sitting in a circle on folding chairs in a workshop. They are all looking towards a woman on the right who is seated in a motorized wheelchair. The woman has short blonde hair, wears sunglasses, a grey sweatshirt, and a blue lanyard. She is speaking and gesturing with her hands. The workshop has a wooden floor, a white door with a blue archway, and shelves filled with various materials in the background. The text "Keys to project Success" is overlaid on the left side of the image.

## Keys to project Success

## Keys to Success

1. Recruiting a diverse group of young adults with prior leadership training.
2. Supportive training for the peer advocates.
3. Process driven by advocates.
4. Clear and realistic metrics for evaluation.





Austin Carr

## Advocate Perspective

1. Why did you apply to be a transportation advocate?
2. What did you learn from the peer mentors in Michigan?
3. Can you describe your team's advocacy project?
4. What did you learn from participating?
5. How are you using the skills you learned?

