History: United We Ride & Coordinated Transportation

- More than 80 Federal programs funding transportation
- Different eligibility, different requirements
- Service duplication
- Service Gaps
- Excess capacity
- Customer service nightmare
UWR Objectives

• Coordinated Planning
  – Getting the BORPSAT

• Mobility Management
  – Broad set of tools & tasks to improve transportation choices

• One-Call Centers
  – No wrong door, one call for your ride

• State Leadership
Veterans & Service Members--Mobility Challenges

- Veterans & Service Members
  - 13% of veterans have disability, 25% of OEF/OIF veterans
  - 40% of veterans live in rural areas
  - Recent vets face PTS (37%) and TBI (10-20%) challenges
  - VA only provides transportation to medical care
  - OEF/OIF veteran unemployment: 9.2% in April ’12; but 29% for 18-24 men

- Military Families
  - Professional military leaves more spouses, children
  - 63% of military families live outside bases
  - Military spouses face 26% unemployment
Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative

Direct Funding Partners
- Department of Transportation
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Department of Labor

Other Partners
- Department of Defense
- Department of Health & Human Services
- Military and Veterans Service Organizations
About “VTCLI”

- Connect veteran & military community members to existing community transportation resources
- Build out One-Call/One-Click Centers in local communities
- Capital technology investment
- Program planning, marketing, outreach & evaluation
- 2011 – 55 grants awarded, $34M
- 2012 – 90 grants, $29M
  - 38 grants - $26.6M-capital
  - 52 grants - $2.4M-research
Broad Funding Eligibility

Section 5309 Capital

- Hardware (Computers, Servers)
- In-Vehicle Technology
- Software
- Other Capital Costs
  - Facility-Related Capital (Purchase, Lease, Alteration)
  - Design & Engineering
  - Project Administration (Up to 10% of Costs)

Section 5312 Research

- Marketing
- Outreach
- Coordinated Planning
- Performance Measurement
- Other support activities instrumental to implementing One-Call/One-Click project
FY 2011 & 2012 VTCLI Funding Distribution
$63 Million awarded
38 States plus Northern Marianas Islands & Guam

States with statewide projects
States with local projects
Local projects

AK, HI & insular areas not to scale
VTCLI Project Goals

• Establish or expand a one-call/one-click transportation resource center
  – Include resources for veterans, service members and military families
  – Promote use of center with military community

• Create partnerships between transportation providers and veterans and military communities

• Increase involvement of veterans and military communities in local Coordinated Human Services Transportation Planning process
What does success look like?

• Grantees complete an operational one-call/one-click center
• The project areas and grantees better understand the transportation needs of veterans, service members and military families
• Grantees and partners improve coordination to effectively meet these needs
• Grantees develop effective measures of outcomes for various stakeholders
VTCLI Technical Assistance Team

- American Public Transportation Association,
- Armed Forces Services Corporation
- Easter Seals
- Harman Consulting
- Joblinks Employment Transportation Center
- National Resource Center for Human Service Transportation Coordination (NRC)
3 Step Model to Serve the Military Community

Phase 1: Needs Analysis
Perform an Inventory of Needs for Service Members, Veterans, and Military Families in Your Community

Phase 2: Resource Planning
Undertake an Analysis of What Needs Can Be Met based on Current and Planned Resources

Phase 3: Outreach
Communicate Current and New Transportation Programs
TA Strategy – Public Website

Concept: Create one-stop source for information on inclusion of veterans and military families in coordinated public transportation, as well as for “public” information of and about VTCLI projects

Content includes:

• Links to One-Call Toolkit and related documents
• Technology Deployment checklist and related materials
• Guide to Engaging Your Military Community
• Bookshelf on research & literature related to transportation for veterans, service members and military families
• Material on operating funds, coordinated planning, etc.
• General information on VTCLI, its partners and its projects
TA Strategy – Open Gov Tools

- Shared Workspace - DOL’s “ePolicyWorks” platform – online community to facilitate peer-to-peer exchange and to help keep FTA and TA partnership abreast of sites’ focuses and progress
  - Content may include:
    - Maps and other visually presented data for VTCLI
    - Abstracts of VTCLI projects
    - Sites’ reports on progress and/or technical assistance
    - Site-specific information not appropriate for mass distribution
    - Opportunity to address and share issues, topics of concern

- Online Dialogue Tool – hold public online dialogues to facilitate
  - Development of coordinated plan to include veterans needs
  - Development of One-Call/One-Click implementation plan
Veterans National Dialogue

“Strengthening Transportation Choices So We Can Serve Those Who Have Served Their Country”

• Easter Seals Project Action conducted the dialogue from May 7 to June 8

• Conducted with the support of DOT, VA, DOD, DOL and HHS.

• Registrant Key Areas of Interest
  – Public transportation -31%
  – Veterans services-27%
  – Human services-10%
  – Medical & private transportation -10%
    (5% each)
Veterans National Dialogue
Key Findings

• Funding
  – Provide funding operational costs for transportation
  – Create half fares for veterans
  – Improve & provide funding for rural transportation for veterans
  – Add transit benefits to VA Smart Card

• Technology
  – Transportation options on smartphones

• Collaboration
  – Partner to improve rural transportation for veterans
  – Implement travel training for vets
  – Create partnerships between senior and veterans’ transportation options
  – Encourage VA hospitals to collaborate with transit
For more information and technical assistance resources:

www.fta.dot.gov/veterans

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