



October 2009

LATEST NEWS

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WELCOME NEW PARTNER AGENCY



ERM would like to welcome the "Think First Injury Prevention Program" (Bethesda North Trauma Services).

Please visit their web site at:
http://www.trihealth.com/ser/trs/trs_ipProgram.aspx

PLEASE DONATE



Dear Matt,

Welcome to the October 2009 edition of *The Journey*, the monthly newsletter of the Everybody Rides Metro Foundation. Everybody Rides Metro exists to help social service agencies serve their clients. We take this opportunity to share with you the care and concern each agency provides to their community.

Please take a moment to forward this email on to anyone you think may be interested. Use the "forward email" link at the bottom of this email to send it on to others.

Partner Spotlight: on Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services



Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services

The mission of the Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services is to assist persons with mental illness and related barriers to lead productive and fulfilling lives.

Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services (GCB) is the primary contact for clients and their families - a comprehensive resource to access and benefit from a full range of services. Skilled and caring professionals treat clients with compassion, patience and dignity as they provide the individualized services needed. GCB can address their clients' housing, psychiatric, medication, vocational, social and other support needs. GCB is their "one stop" serving over 4000 clients a year in Hamilton County.

Psychiatric services include case management, psychiatrists, nurses, a health clinic and an on-site pharmacy. Supportive services include a range of housing options, residential programs, assertive community treatment (ACT), transitional youth services, PATH/Homeless outreach, forensic/court projects, vocational programs, deaf/mental health treatment, substance abuse/mental illness (SAMI) programs, social and recreational programs and money management (payee services).

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Your tax-deductible donation helps to provide reliable transportation for those in need of employment, education, healthcare, and vital human services.

ACTIVITY REPORT

August 2009

Rides by Category:

Education	5,047
Healthcare	5,196
Jobs	19,825
Services	4,395

Total Rides Provided:
34,463

Total Clients: 5,450

Total Reimbursed to Agencies: \$38,037.70
(includes transfers reimbursed)

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PARTNER?

OR, IF ALREADY A PARTNER, INTERESTED IN BEING FEATURED IN *THE JOURNEY?*

We would love to speak with you further about what your organization does and how Everybody Rides Metro can help you (or has already helped you) with your work. Please contact Rita Potts at 513-632-7609. [Click here to email Rita.](#)

One of the most important programs is Transitional Youth Services. This program smoothes the transition from children's mental health services to adult mental health services for clients ages 16 to 18. The Transitional Youth Team helps clients adjust and transition from youth-oriented programs to the community services available to them as young adults.



Touchstone Employment Network of GCB is where Pam enrolled in March of 2009 to search for a job. She had been looking for work within walking distance of her home in Clifton. Pam does not own a car nor did she have money for a bus. Unfortunately she was not able to find work within walking distance. Touchstone was able to give her bus tokens and thus an opportunity to apply to places in the community outside of her neighborhood. As a result, Pam was interviewed and now works in the children's section of a bookstore, a dream job for her! Her employers love her and she is happy. She is doing so well they have expanded her hours. Initially she was given bus tokens to get to and from her job until her first paycheck. Now she is able to purchase bus fare on her own. The benefit of getting free bus tokens played an important role in her finding and keeping this wonderful job.

The ACT team's focus is on client recovery in the community. Clients have an interest in increasing attendance at day treatment programs, medical and lab appointments, and visits with family. The ACT team explored the idea of a training group to educate and train clients on how to utilize the bus system to access community resources independently. Two ACT case managers took a small group of clients to obtain bus cards, researched available bus routes to a nearby day treatment program, and used the bus to take this group of clients to intake appointments at the day treatment program in the area. Additional bus trips and training appointments were conducted to increase client comfort and their ability to use appropriate social and budgeting skills when riding the bus. Some clients still expressed fear and paranoia related to traveling on public transportation. Staff researched the available bus routes with the client and followed the bus on its route to increase the client's comfort. The pilot program was successful. The ACT team will expand its Bus Training group in the summer of 2009 by using bus tokens for training and then assist with purchasing bus cards for ongoing independence.

"As a private non-profit agency GCB has been limited in its ability to help clients who do not have the resources to ride the bus. Many of our clients are without income, experiencing hardship or in the process of getting an income. The ERM project has allowed GCB to maximize its ability to help clients make it to appointments like seeing a psychiatrist for medicines or getting a job. With the

VISIT OUR WEB SITE



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Please visit the ERM web site, where you will find interesting and helpful information: get the latest news, calculate your carbon footprint, find out how partner agencies use Metro bus tokens to help their clients get to essential services for sustainable lifestyles.

Join Our Mailing List!

Everybody Rides Metro program GCB has been able to more than double its bus token dispersement for the same cost. It has been tremendously beneficial to our clients" said Steve Tomsic, Community Living Services Manager.

Thank you again...

Thank you again to everyone who attended our ERM Thank You Luncheon on Thursday, September 17 at Crossroads Community Church.



Partner Spotlight on: Alcoholism Council of the Cincinnati Area, NCADD

The Alcoholism Council strives to be Greater Cincinnati's lead advocate and resource on alcoholism and other drug abuse and to promote effective solutions to these and other related problems.

The vision of the Alcoholism Council is a community free of the abuse of alcohol and other drugs and the disease of addiction.

As a direct outgrowth of this mission, their goals are to: decrease the incidence of alcoholism and other drug dependence; eliminate the stigma associated with alcoholism and other drug dependence; raise community awareness of the risks associated with the use and/or abuse of alcohol and other drugs; promote public policy that supports effective solutions to problems related to alcohol and other drug use/abuse and to raise awareness of their role in the community.

Information and referral is also a major component of programming; currently the council handles over 12,000 phone calls per year providing crisis counseling, referrals to appropriate services, literature fulfillment and self-help schedules for all types of substance abuse twenty-four hours a day, 7 days a week, year round.

Clinicians conduct detailed screenings for alcohol and drug use problems, and when needed, make an appropriate referral within the Hamilton County Alcohol/Drug Addiction Services Network. Clinicians also offer full chemical dependency assessments designed to identify the most appropriate care, using "core" issues, so the caller can get help right away and easily interact with providers in the network without having to frequently "re-tell" their story. Speed is important to address addiction, yet at times the most appropriate service is not immediately available. In these cases, the Recovery Health Access Center's (RHAC) transitional support, a team of professionally trained clinicians, keeps daily contact with the client to meet his or her needs until comprehensive treatment becomes available.

The main program using Everybody Rides Metro tokens is called the Hamilton County Juvenile TASC Mentoring Program that provides young people with positive role models and activities to promote their psychological, physiological and social well-being. The goal is to provide the tools young people need to make informed and appropriate life choices.

"The young people who stay in the program and find employment would not be successful if they did not have Everybody Rides Metro providing them a way to have transportation during their job search and other important sessions," said counselor Angelia Hudson.

**Thank you,
Everybody Rides Metro Foundation**

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