



December 2009

LATEST NEWS

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REMINDER

Effective December 27th the tokens will cost \$1.75 and if you have any of the old Brass tokens (\$1.50 value) you will be able to exchange them for an equal dollar value of Silver tokens at the ERM office beginning December 16th on the regular sales days: Monday, Wednesday or Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. or between 2:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

You will have until January 29th to make the exchange.

PLEASE DONATE



Dear Matt,

Welcome to the December 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 IKRON



IKRON's mission is to assist adults and youth who use IKRON's services to build self-confidence, attain greater self-sufficiency, lead more meaningful and fulfilling lives and obtain and maintain satisfying employment. Monica Negrila, Program Coordinator, says: "Everybody Rides Metro tokens have helped clients get to job interviews and really makes a difference in day-to-day life. Many

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE.](#)

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

ACTIVITY REPORT

November 2009

Rides by Category:

Education	5,123
Healthcare	3,732
Jobs	23,494
Services	3,292

Total Rides

Provided: 35,641

Total Clients: 3,555

Total Reimbursed to Agencies:

\$39,538.10
(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

clients would be isolated in their homes if tokens were not provided." Tokens are provided for two weeks so the client can work and receive their first paycheck.

IKRON was founded in 1969 as a University of Cincinnati Rehabilitation Center. Its history demonstrates many "firsts" in Southwest Ohio: certified Mental Health Facility, use of milieu therapy for treatment, vocational rehabilitation services for people with dual diagnosis of substance abuse and mental health challenges, and the application of psycho-social rehabilitation to alleviate the problems of mental health. The IKRON heritage continues today with modern methods and tools, and program choices.

One program is the Transitional Youth Program which offers career planning, employment readiness training, job development and placement, remedial education, and both individual and group therapy. This supportive employment program helps bridge the gap for youth ages 16-22 transitioning to adult services. The curriculum is designed to assist youth with mental health issues to establish a meaningful role in society. At the beginning of the program, each youth is assigned an individual job developer who meets with them weekly to assist with obtaining and maintaining employment. Attendance is expected from Monday through Wednesday, 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. On Thursdays and Fridays, an optional employment readiness training program is provided.

Another program that youth or adult participants can utilize is the Computer & Office Processing Essentials (COPE) training. This is designed to train, prepare, and build skills and confidence in the individuals so they can obtain successful employment in today's computerized office environment. Keyboarding, Microsoft Office 2003, Data Entry, Computerized Medical Office, Call Center Simulations and job assistance techniques are all offered in this area.

The Vocational/Education Skills Training Sessions include: career search, clerical/office skills, computer literacy, eliminating barriers to work, employer expectations, food and beverage preparation, goal setting/decision making skills, interviewing skills, job maintenance, remedial education, resume building, social skills training and woodworking.

At IKRON even the lunch area is fully utilized by clients being trained

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.](#)

VISIT OUR WEB SITE



[CLICK HERE TO VISIT OUR WEB SITE.](#)

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!

in food and beverage preparation and by participants who can enjoy wonderful meals at breakfast and lunch in a delightful setting.

Partner Spotlight on Valley Interfaith Food and Clothing Center

The Valley Interfaith Food & Clothing Center's (VIFCC) operational mission of VIFCC is to assist our neighbors with emergency relief, our vision is to help our clients break their cycle of dependency, and restore their



dignity and status as productive participants in our society. As such, we are working with other agencies to transform the Valley Caring Center into a facility which is perceived by clients as a "new start" rather than as a "last resort".

VIFCC has been dedicated to providing food, clothing and emergency financial assistance to their neighbor's in need since 1963. Recently there has been a dramatic increase in the number of families seeking this assistance. Their clients may receive two (2) complete clothing outfits for each family member, and choose basic food staples from their Choice Pantry once a month. The amount they receive from the Pantry is based on the number of people in their household. Emergency financial assistance is limited to twice in a lifetime with two years in between, usually to forestall utility disconnection or eviction. They also provide funds for emergency medical prescriptions and bus tokens for transportation to job interviews, doctor appointments, agency appointments or educational purposes. In 2008, they served over 18,000 individuals and that number is growing.



VIFCC is currently assisting clients in 13 area communities with the majority of residents in Lincoln Heights and Lockland. They are the only official food and clothing agency in these 13 communities. They help an average of 45 families each day. Most of their

clients need food (85%), about half (51%) need clothing, and 21% need emergency financial help. In an effort to break the dependency mode of many, they have recently added job search assistance to their services.

In August, 2009 VIFCC completed another one of their special programs, "Back-2-School" sponsored by the Dater Foundation for the third year. Back-2-School provided over 700 children with new shoes, back-packs, a new outfit or school uniform, and school supplies.

They will begin gearing up for another of their special programs, "Fill-the-Sleigh" Christmas Program, which will provide over 450 families with a holiday food basket. The basket includes a frozen turkey, stuffing, and new toys and clothing for the children of the participating families.

Barbara Campbell, Executive Director of Valley Interfaith Food & Clothing Center, says "Everybody Rides Metro helps provide transportation for so many of their clients that might not get to job interviews or doctor appointments without the tokens."

Happy HOLIDAYS!

The Everybody Rides Metro Board and staff wants to wish you Happy Holidays and the best in the New Year for each of our partners.

Everybody Rides Metro Foundation

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