

COORDINATED PUBLIC TRANSIT-HUMAN SERVICES
TRANSPORTATION PLAN

FRANKLIN COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA



Prepared by the Franklin County Planning
Department in coordination with the Franklin
County Public Transit-Human Services
Coordinating Committee

MAY 2007

I. OVERVIEW

Franklin County, located in south central Pennsylvania, is comprised of 15 townships and 7 boroughs. It encompasses 754 square miles and has an estimated population of 140,000 persons. The county operates under an elected three member Board of Commissioners and provides many public services and community programs to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of its residents.

Franklin County's roots are deeply embedded in the Commonwealth's history with its origins in the earliest land grants provided by William Penn. Most early western settlement in the County occurred during the early 1700's. Chambersburg was settled in 1734 by Benjamin Chambers. Franklin County, named for Benjamin Franklin, was established on September 9, 1784. In that same year, the General Assembly named Chambersburg as the county seat and in 1795 the first courthouse was constructed.

Historically, Franklin County has been a predominantly agricultural community, with development concentrated in five major boroughs: Chambersburg, Greencastle, Mercersburg, Shippensburg, and Waynesboro. Franklin County still maintains a healthy agricultural economy, ranking second in Pennsylvania in the production of milk, meat, apples, and corn. Agriculture remains vitally important both economically and culturally; however, development pressures are encroaching on many formerly agricultural areas and as a result the rural profile of the county is beginning to change.

Franklin County has maintained a consistent moderate rate of growth in population and economic activity the convergence of several major highways and access to rail lines has allowed the county to become a major center of new development activity.

With a diverse economy, the residents of Franklin County enjoy the advantages of both urban and rural opportunities, however; that being said there are many disadvantages to this scenario as well, such as access to public transportation and various human and health services.

II. DEMOGRAPHICS

Franklin County, according to the 2000 Census, had a population of 129,313. This is a 6.8% increase since 1990. Pennsylvania during that same time period experienced a 3.4 % growth rate. Currently, according to the most recent census estimates Franklin County had a population of 139,991 in 2006. This is an 8.3% increase since 2000. In contrast the state has seen an increase of just 1.3% during that same time. (see Fig. 1)

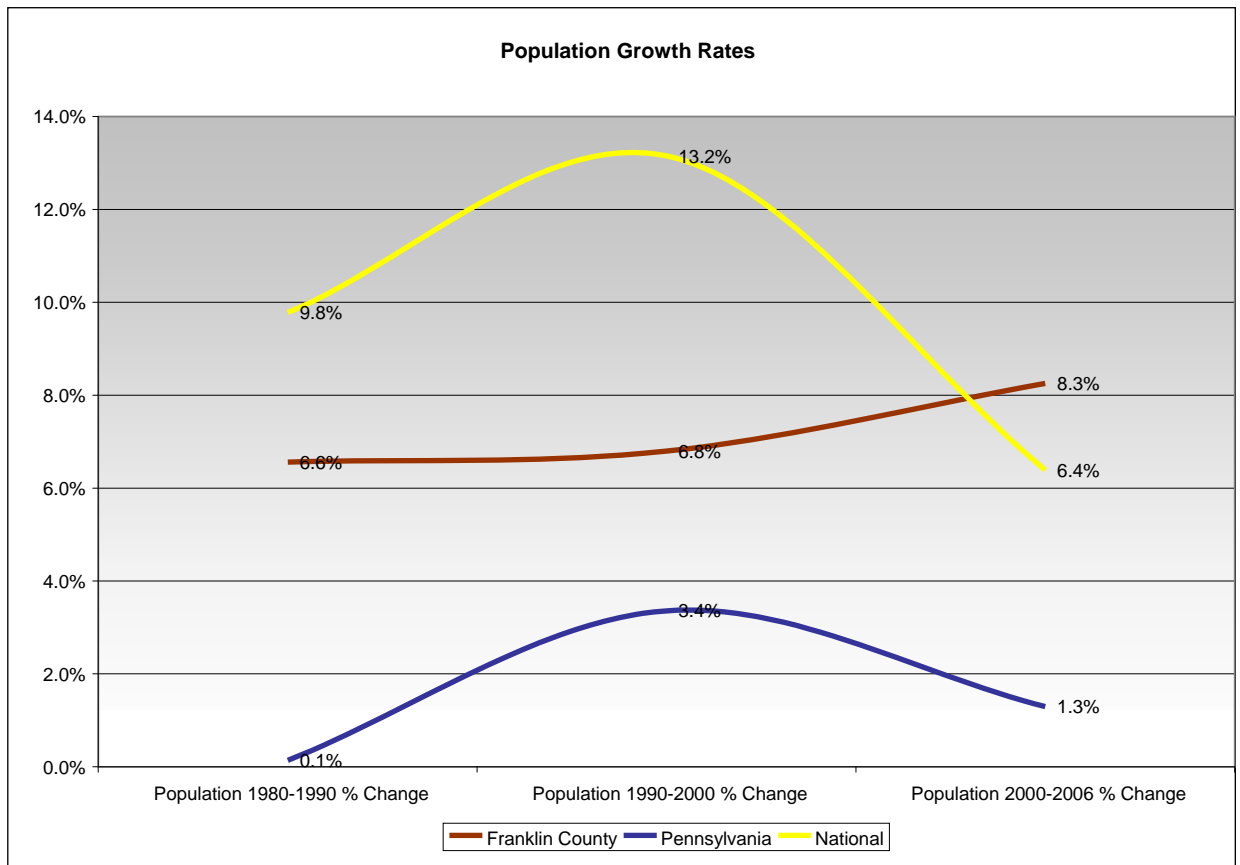


Figure 1

The composition of the population determines the various service needs in a given community. Franklin County has seen a steady increase in aging population over the years with currently more than 16% of the population being over 65 years of age. (see Fig. 2) Likewise, the median age of the population has increased from 35.3 years in 1980 to 39.4 years in 2005.

As a result of an aging population and with many persons living on fixed incomes, the poverty rate has increased among older individuals while the

poverty rate among the remaining population has remained steady. (see Fig. 3)

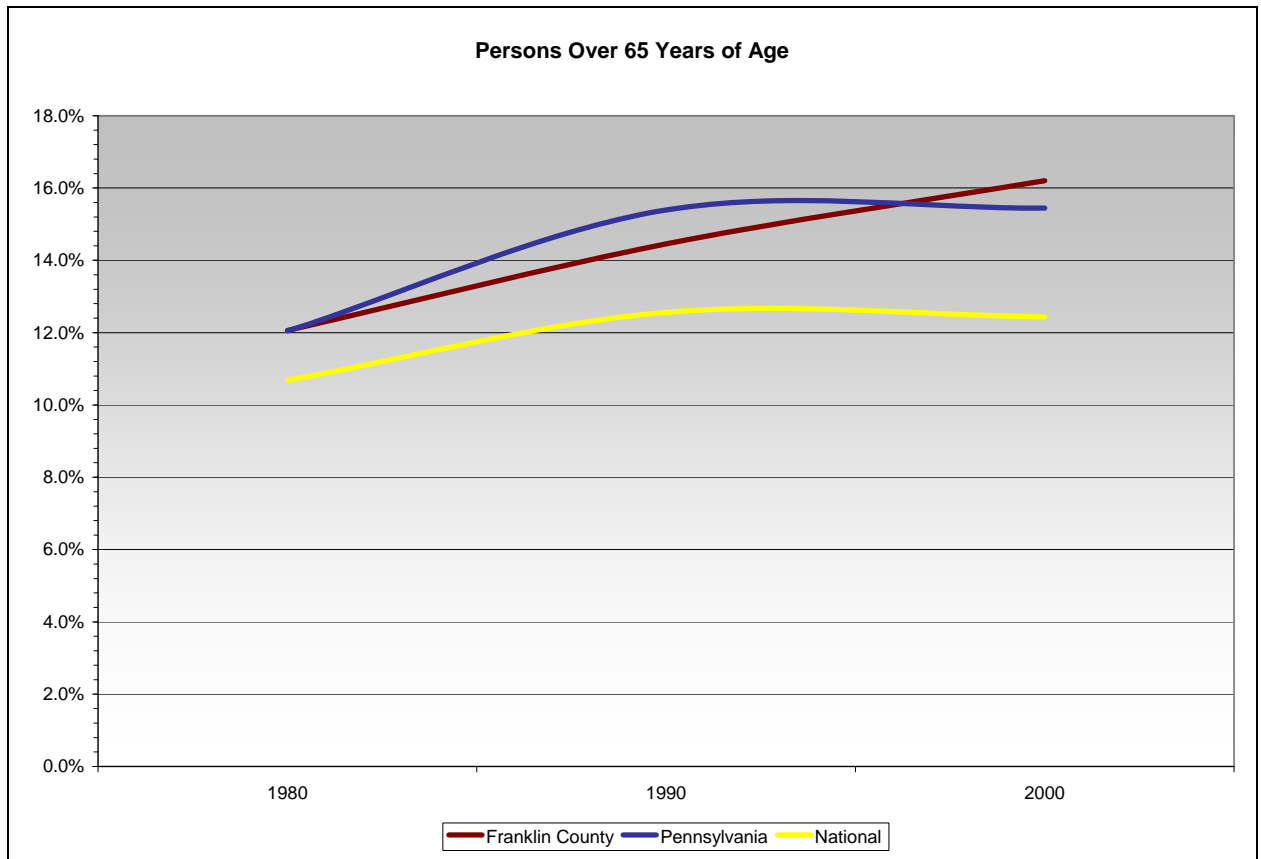


Figure 2

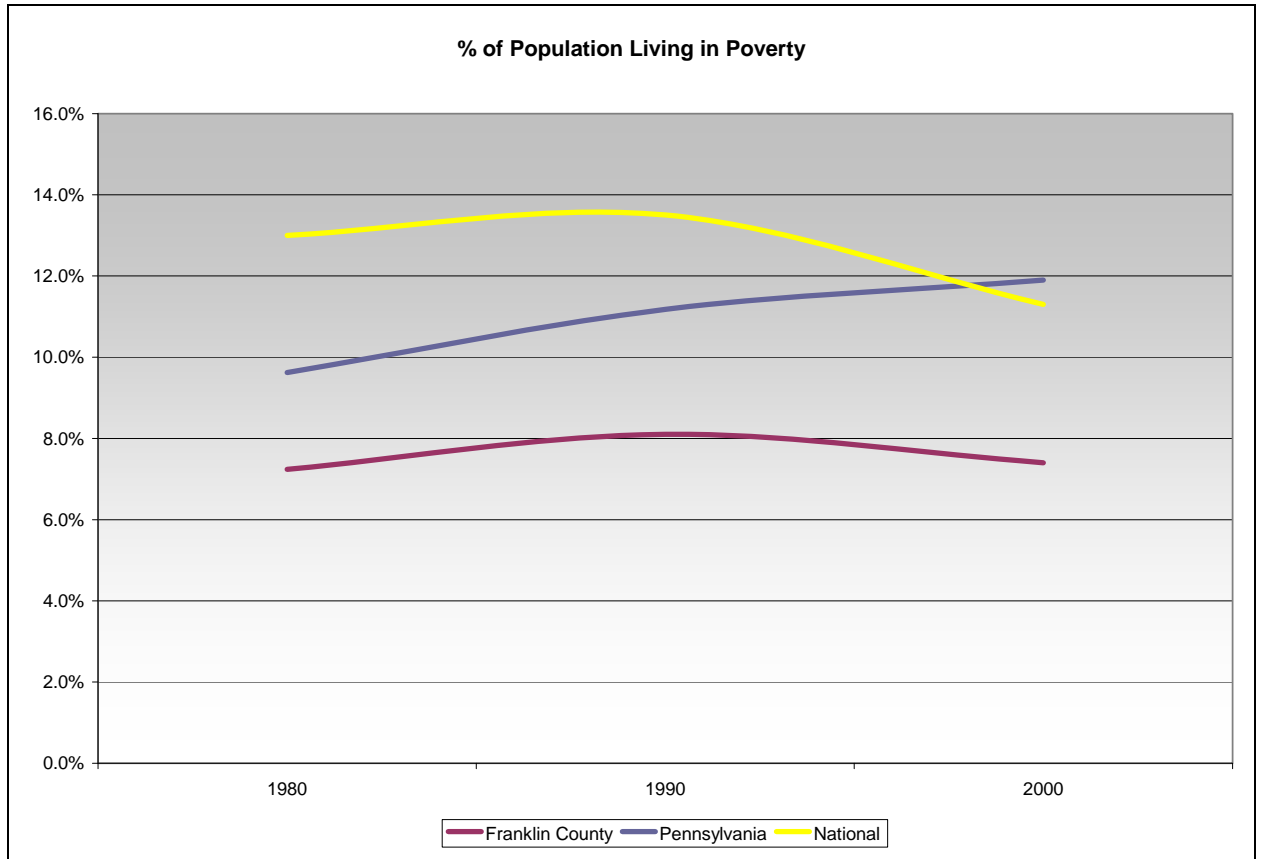


Figure 3

III. CURRENT SERVICE PROVIDERS

Following are the current providers of organized transportation for the public in Franklin County.

A. Franklin County Integrated Transportation System - The Franklin County Integrated Transportation System, FCITS for short, is a shared-ride demand responsive transportation program. FCITS is available to senior citizens, medical assistance clients and the general public. Following are details about the services provided by this program. Funding is made available through the Pennsylvania Lottery as administered by the Department of Transportation, the Department of Welfare, cooperating agencies and fares. The contact information for FCITS is as follows:

Address: 201 Franklin Farm Lane
Chambersburg, PA 17201
Phone: (717) 264-5225

Toll Free: 1-800-548-5600

FAX: (717) 262-4975

This transportation service is available to the following clients:

1. Senior Citizens - Transportation service is provided to persons 60 years of age and older for medical appointments (including pharmacies), agency appointments, senior centers, beauty shops, banks and grocery shopping. Beauty Shops, Grocery Shopping and Banks are done only on Mondays thru Friday between the hours of 10:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.
2. General Public - Transportation is also available to the general public provided 24-hour advance notice is given. The general public client must pay the full fare, which is currently \$13.00 per one-way trip, at the time of pickup by their assigned vehicle. The age 60 and up population is sponsored in part by Area Agency on Aging and the lottery.
3. MATP (Medical Assistance Transportation Program) - Transportation is provided to Valid Access Card holders for medical and medical-related appointments.
4. PwD (Persona with disabilities): Provided for persons with permanent or short-term disabilities between the ages of 18-64.

To reserve a ride:

- You must complete an intake form. This can be done over phone.
- You may give the information over the phone; however, your signature is required on the MA form at the time of your pickup by your assigned vehicle.
- Must give 24-hour notice on all appointments, prior to 12:00 noon of the previous day.
- Must notify office if any information changes, such as, phone number and/or address.

FCITS also administers a reimbursement program for MATP (Medical Assistance Transportation Program) Through the Franklin County MATP, Medical Assistance will reimburse mileage for medical appointments that a family member or another person provides for you. These appointments

can be in or out of Franklin County. To receive reimbursement for mileage, you must have a current valid MA card and obtain a mileage reimbursement form from the Transportation Office prior to your appointment. This form must be signed by your doctor and returned to FCITS. The current reimbursement for mileage is .36 cents per mile. The Franklin County Controller's Office mails all reimbursement checks.

FCITS has a no-show policy in effect. For non-medical assistance clients, any ride reservation that the passenger does not keep or cancel at least 2 hours prior to the scheduled pick up time shall be considered a "NO-SHOW". That individual is charged for only the actual ride missed. Any other rides reserved throughout the day will be automatically cancelled at no charge. The FIRST no-show for an individual is considered a courtesy no-show, with no charges to the passenger. You MUST pay for the second and all subsequent no-shows at the normal General Public Fare rate before any future trips can be taken. For medical assistance clients, any ride reservation that the passenger does not keep or cancel at least 2 hours prior to the scheduled pick up time shall be considered a "NO-SHOW". Any rides reserved throughout the rest of the day will be automatically cancelled. At the time of the FIRST no-show the client will receive a written warning. The SECOND no-show will result in an additional written warning. The THIRD no-show will result in a thirty day suspension from using the service.

The hours of operation for the Franklin County Integrated Transportation Service are as follows:

- Transportation service is provided Monday through Friday.
- Office hours are 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Trips for medical appointments are provided between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.
- All medical appointments must be finished by 3:00 p.m. to receive transportation home from the appointments.
- A 24-hour notice must be given for all appointments.
- To schedule transportation, contact the FCITS Office.

The FCITS Rate Schedule is:

- Senior Citizens\$ 1.50/one way (To find out eligibility for no fare contact the Franklin County Area Office on Aging at 717-261-2513.)
- General Public\$13.00/one way
- Medical Assistance No charge
- Persons with disabilities (18-64) \$1.95 one-way

B. Chambersburg City Cab – This taxi service provides an alternate form of transportation service for the residents of Franklin County. The city cab is a daily 24-hour operation with the following mileage rates:

- \$3.50 for the first mile
- \$1.50 for each additional mile

The Chambersburg City Cab only provides pick-up in Franklin County but will deliver to any destination.

IV. TRANSPORTATION NEEDS AND SERVICE GAPS

According to a study conducted by the Delta Development Group, Inc.¹, eighty-five percent (85%) of the population in Franklin County is dependent on the private automobile for commuting to work, appointments, etc. It is noted in the study that places that lack adequate public transit often have difficulty meeting the needs of low-income groups and disabled populations. For these people lacking the means to support private automobile ownership, public transit or ride sharing can be a lifeline to job opportunities, healthcare services and other support networks. For the elderly and physically disabled, access to some means of transportation may mean the difference between home confinement and true community engagement. Stuck at home, these people are relying upon the availability of para-transit services or the kindness of family friends and neighbors to enable them to keep appointments for job interviews, medical care and volunteer responsibilities.

Additionally, according to the most recent needs assessment conducted by the Franklin County Area Agency on Aging², it was identified that there continues to be a lack of satisfactory transportation services to fully meet the needs of older Franklin County residents.

¹ Community Investment Initiative , Final Report 2005.

² Four Year Plan of the Franklin County Area Agency on Aging, July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2008.

Finally, through the cooperation of various human service agencies, transportation organizations, advisory councils (identified in Appendix A) and the general public of Franklin County; various needs and service gaps continue to be identified time and again. Data indicates that there is a significant portion of the population that require transportation services that are unable to afford it. Through the demand-responsive transportation service, Franklin County provides approximately 50,000 trips annually to 960 active clients. The ridership of this service encompasses persons with disabilities, the elderly, mental health and mental retardation clients, medical assistance clients and the general public³ (see Figure 4).

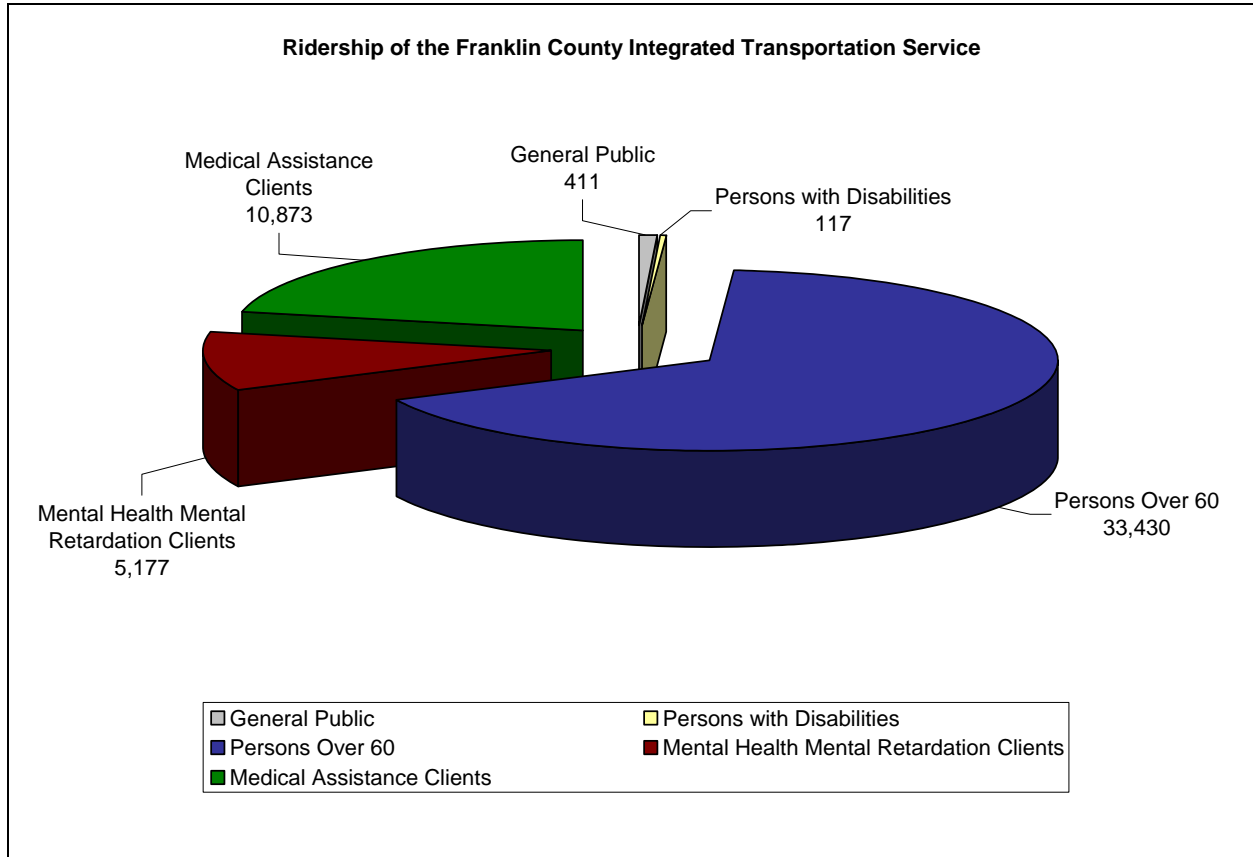


Figure 4

Based on the current population figures, the county’s demand-responsive program serves approximately 4% of the targeted population of aging,

³ Franklin County Integrated Transportation, May 2007.

disabled and low-income. While, the Chambersburg Cab Service provides for an additional portion of this targeted population, because of the cost⁴ there are many that will be unable to afford transportation services. One of the primary issues is that many riders have children or other persons accompanying them on trips and do not have the flexibility in scheduling or the financial resources to meet this burden.

A fixed route service with lower fee schedules would be beneficial to this community, but the rural nature of Franklin County does not lend itself to an economically viable service. The county previously had a fixed-route service that ran through the more populated segments of the community. The Chambersburg Transit Authority (CTA) was created in 1991 to provide public transportation in Chambersburg Borough. CTA expanded service to include Waynesboro in 1997 and operated until 2004. Low ridership and lack of funding prompted the Authority to disband and there is currently no other fixed route service provided in Franklin County.

V. GOALS AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

Recent history concerning a fixed-route service, dictates that there will likely be no other service of this nature in the foreseeable future. As such, the primary transportation goal in the county is to further enhance the current demand-responsive system already in place.

Implementation strategies to achieve this goal will include the following:

1. Obtain funding for the following initiatives:
 - Keeping the demand-responsive service fleet maintained and operational,
 - Enhancing the current programs including shared-ride, and
 - Improving the volunteer transportation program.
2. Regular annual meetings of the county's Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordinating Committee, created to develop the draft Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan. This committee will meet each year to review applications submitted for funding through the Federal Section 5310, Job

⁴ Franklin County Transportation Advisory Board.

Access and Reverse Commute (JARC), and New Freedom programs.

3. The Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordinating Committee will present information to and obtain input from the Franklin County Transportation Advisory Committee regarding the plan and funding opportunities at least annually.

APPENDIX A

Supporting Documentation

1. Franklin County Public Transit-Human Services
Transportation Coordinating Committee
2. Franklin County Transportation Advisory Committee

FRANKLIN COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSIT-HUMAN SERVICES
TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE

The Franklin County Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan was developed in cooperation with various human service agencies, the Franklin County Public Transit-Human Services Coordinating Committee, input from the Franklin County Transportation Advisory Committee and the general public. A public notice was advertised seeking input from any interested persons. Notes from the committee meeting and the public notice are included here for reference.

Franklin County Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordinating Committee Members:

Nancy Clayton, Caseworker – Mental Health/Mental Retardation
Sherrri Clayton, Senior Planner – Franklin County Planning Department
Traci Kline, Director – Franklin County Area Agency on Aging
Cathy Maloney, Case Manager Supervisor Cross Systems
Gloria Strine, Director – FCITS
Melissa Reisinger, Managed Care Director – Franklin County Human Services
Beverly Rock, Admin Assistant – Franklin County Human Services
Phil Tarquino, Director – Franklin County Planning Department
Odessa Trinkle, MATP Coordinator - FCITS
Richard Wynn, Director – Franklin County Human Services

**PUBLIC SERVICE TRANSIT-HUMAN SERVICES
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

MAY 11, 2007

MEMBERS PRESENT

Nancy Clayton, Cathy Maloney, Melissa Reisinger, Gloria Strine, and Richard Wynn

STAFF PRESENT

Phil Tarquino, Sherri Clayton, Rochelle Barvinchack

NOTES

The committee was formed to meet a new federal requirement related to Section 5310 funding. When an entity applies for Section 5310 funding, it needs to have a coordinated human services transportation plan in place.

While Franklin County is not recognized as a PADOT planning partner, the Franklin County Planning Commission has been charged with the development of this plan.

The plan needs to be implemented by June 1, 2007, so the Franklin County Planning Commission will be adopting the completed plan at its May 31, 2007 meeting.

Franklin County Integrated Transportation System is the only applicant requesting funding this year. The planning commission is responsible for prioritizing applicants and the transportation committee reviews the applicants. The transportation committee will meet annually for the review.

The planning commission will prepare the plan, send out drafts, and notify members of meeting dates. The plan will cover the basic requirements, but can be amended as needed.

Staff and members discussed a possible meeting with advocacy groups in order to obtain comments on the plan. The Transportation Advisory Board was mentioned as a way to get information and feedback, but the next meeting is not until after the June 1 deadline.

Staff is currently utilizing census data and a needs assessment from the Area Agency on Aging to compile information for the plan and members are encouraged to contact the office if they have any additional information for use in the plan. The use of local knowledge and/or experience is encouraged.

Discussion ensued regarding rates for services and complaints from the general public regarding increases. It was noted that many persons requiring services for themselves also have to pay for additional riders, i.e. to supervise children, etc. It was also noted that various

sectors in the community may also have specific needs for example there is currently a need for transportation in the Hispanic community.

It is important to keep in mind that shared transportation has to be fair across the board. Some rural counties have developed innovative ways of addressing transportation issues. Franklin County may have difficulty with similar solutions due to funding constraints.

LEGAL NOTICE

The Franklin County Planning Commission has been designated as the entity responsible for the preparation of a Public Transit-Human Service Transportation Plan to meet federal requirements. Any individuals interested in providing comment on the draft plan should contact the Franklin County Planning Department where it will be available for review. The plan will be approved at the next meeting of the Franklin County Planning Commission to be held on Thursday, June 7, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Franklin County Planning Department, located at 218 North Second Street in Chambersburg, PA.

Individuals needing special accommodations to attend the meeting should contact the Planning Office 717-261-3855.

FRANKLIN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

The mission state of the Franklin County Transportation Advisory Council is as follows:

The Franklin County Transportation Advisory Council shall be committed to promote the best interests of and to enhance the Franklin County Integrated Transportation System in Franklin County by forming a committee devoted to the public interest in a Shared-Ride program in Franklin County. The Franklin County Transportation Advisory Council believes that the promotion and development of a Shared-Ride program will serve the public interest of people with disabilities, low-income families, and the community.

Franklin County Transportation Advisory Council Members:

Areli Breese, Franklin County Cross Systems Adult Services
Barry Drexler, Greater Chambersburg Partnership
Beverly Rock, Franklin County Human Services Administration
Carol Hughes, Lutheran Social Services
Cathy Maloney, Franklin County Human Service Cross Systems
Chris Malone, Goodwill Industries
Christina Burns, Franklin County Integrated Transportation Service
Derrick Donnell, Career Link
Ed Franchi, Keystone Health Center
Gloria Strine, Franklin County Integrated Transportation Service
Jan Trimmer, Franklin County Mental Health/Mental Retardation
Jim Fennen, Consumer
Karen Bert, AHEDD
Katherine Berard, Wilson College
Kelly Thomas, Borough of Chambersburg
Kenny Wuertenberg, Mental Health Associates
Kimberly Lucas, Franklin County Human Services Cross Systems
Loretta McClure, Franklin County Risk Management
Marie Steinbacher, Literacy Council
Melissa Stevens, Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services
Patti Eaton, Citizen
Paul Cullinane, Downtown Chambersburg Incorporated
Penni Baker, AHEDD
Penny Stoner, Legislative Aide to Representative Robert Kauffman
Robert Thomas, Franklin County Commissioner

Sherry Wengert, Citizen

Stacy Gregson, Legislative aide to Senator Terry Punt

Stephanie Donnelly, Franklin County Commissioners Office

Traci Kline, Franklin County Area Agency on Aging

Tracy Clark, Cold Weather Drop-In

Trish Elliott, Franklin County Mental Health/Mental Retardation

Vicki Krenitsky, Menno Haven – Elder Care Program

Transportation Advisory Council Meeting

November 15, 2006

1:00 P.M.

Human Service Building
425 Franklin Farm Lane
Chambersburg, PA 17201

Meeting called by: Odessa Trinkle

Recorder: Cathy Maloney

Present: Derrick Donell, Career Link, Areli Breese, Cross Systems, Kathie Berard, Wilson College Vicki Krenitsky, Menno Haven (Elder Care Program), Robert L. Thomas, Franklin County Commissioner, Kelly Thomas, Consumer, Traci Kline, Office of Aging, Jim Fennen, ForSight, Mindy Haulman, Consumer, Janice Trimmer, Franklin County MH/MR, Cathy Maloney, Cross Systems, Gloria Strine, FCITS and Odessa Trinkle, FCITS.

Proceedings:

- The meeting was called to order by Odessa
- The September meeting minutes were approved as written.

People with Disabilities grant update:

- Gloria Strine discussed the Persons with Disabilities funding and explained that she and Odessa had to prepare a marketing plan. Gloria reported that they would be meeting with a Consultant from Penn DOT on Thursday, November 16. She stated that some of the issues to be discussed were zoning and bid procurement. Gloria stated that the Grant has not yet been received and that the Budget was not signed at this time.

Committee Structure and Purpose:

- Commissioner Thomas questioned the purpose of the Committee and if it was for People with Disabilities only or overall transportation. Gloria reported that the purpose was for overall transportation. Commissioner Thomas also asked if Gloria and Odessa have looked into what other surrounding counties are doing and how they are handle their transportation issues.

- Odessa explained that she has been directed to organize the structure of the Committee. Odessa stated that she has not structured committees in the past and opened the floor for discussion from the group. Odessa distributed copies of "Robert's Rules of Order" for the group.

- Commissioner Thomas stated that it is necessary to have a vision for the Advisory Board. Traci Kline explained the structure of the Senior Advisory Committee for the Office of Aging.

- Gloria stated that they would need to write procedures for Grievances and an Appeals process. She also stated that they have written two policies thus far regarding wheelchair weight limitations and how to handle situations when there is no one available to receive a consumer once they are returned to their home. She explained that these policies have not yet been submitted to the Commissioners.

- Jim Fennen questioned how this committee will work and if there will be flexibility in the hours of operation and other procedures once the transportation program gets started. This brought further discussion on the organizational structure of the Advisory Board. Questions arose regarding voting, whether or not a quorum would be necessary for a meeting and/or vote, how often to meet as well as reviewing policies and guidelines.

- Derrick stated that he was a part of the Advisory Board that launched the CAT system in Dauphin County. There was a motion by Kathie Berard that Derrick Donnell be Chairman of the Advisory Board. Vicki Krenitsky seconded this motion. Commissioner Thomas moved that Kathie Berard be the Co-Chairperson of the Board and Traci Kline seconded it. A motion was made that Odessa Trinkle be Secretary of the Board and appoint a Recorder of minutes at each meeting. Areli Breese seconded this motion.

- Derrick stated that the Board would need to establish voting regulations. Commissioner Thomas stated that he would share with the Executive Committee, the By Laws he helped to write for the Head Start Board.

- It was recommended by Derrick that everyone read Robert's Rules of Order prior to the next meeting. Kathie requested a copy of the Proposal and Budget. Odessa stated that she would send the link to the Penn DOT Website to each one of the Board members along with a copy of the minutes.

Marketing Information:

- Odessa distributed a marketing packet outlining strategies for the program and ideas for Logo. There was discussion as to how to involve the community, particularly students in the design of the Logo for the transportation system. Kathie stated that some Wilson students may be interested in creating brochures for the program as an Internship, however, a time is a critical component for the students.

Outreach to Hispanic Community:

- Odessa stated that she is working with Diana Martes at the Hispanic Center to have transportation information translated in to Spanish. She also discussed having a flip chart for the Drivers of the vehicles that would assist in communicating with non-English speaking consumers. Derrick stated that he has a contact at CAT that he would call and question how they handle situations of language barriers with their consumers and report this at the next meeting. Areli offered help with translation and educating the Hispanic community regarding the rules and regulations for the in the transportation program.

Assessment of Meeting:

- Derrick proposed that the Board meet on a monthly basis until details of the organization and the program are more defined. Everyone in the group agreed. It was established that the group would meet on the second Wednesday of each month. Those in the group stated that the locations of the meetings could be determined by availability at the various agency locations. The next meeting will be held at the Human Services Building on December 13, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.

- Prior to the December meeting the Committee is to review the following: Robert's Rules of Order; Marketing 101 and the Website link for the Penn DOT. The next meeting the group should be prepared to discuss a Mission Statement. Derrick requested the Mission Statement be concise and describe who we are and what we do. Derrick also stated that he would like to keep the meetings to a one-hour time frame.

Meeting Adjourned:

- The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Transportation Advisory Council Meeting
January 10, 2007
1:00 P.M.
Career Link Building
Chambersburg, PA 17201

Meeting called to order by: Derrick Donnell, Chairman

Recorder: Cathy Maloney

Present: Derrick Donnell, Career Link; Areli Breese, Cross Systems; Tracy Clark, Franklin County MHMR; Penny Stoner, Rep. Rob Kauffman's Office; Stacy Gregson, Sen. Terry Punt's Office; Karen Bert, AHEDD; Barry Drexler, 21st Century Committee; Carol Hughes, Lutheran Services; Eugenia Sites, FCITS; Rick Wynn, Franklin County Human Services; Kathie Berard, Wilson College; Vicki Krenitsky, Menno Haven (Elder Care Program); Jim Fennen, ForSight; Cathy Maloney, Cross Systems; Gloria Strine, FCITS and Odessa Trinkle, FCITS.

Proceedings:

November Meeting Minutes

The November meeting minutes were approved after Kathie Berard made a clarification regarding the availability of Wilson College students.

Transportation Advisory Council

Derrick distributed drafts of the Franklin County Transportation Advisory Council Bylaws. These bylaws outline the function and purpose of the Advisory Council and determine that meetings will be held the second Wednesday of each month.

There was discussion as to who should be attending these meetings. Gloria Strine stated that our membership should consist of representatives from various human services agencies, businesses and consumers.

Cathy Maloney suggested that Joanne Cochran at Keystone Health Center be extended an invitation to attend the meetings or appoint a representative since their patients often have difficulty with transportation. Odessa requested that Cathy extend this invitation to Joanne Cochran.

Update on Person's with Disabilities Funding

Gloria Strine reported that grant monies have been received (\$164,000) and there are now eight (8) months left on the contract.

Odessa explained that this money is to be used to implement the program, which includes developing internal office procedures, updating computer software along with marketing and outreach in the Franklin County communities.

Gloria reported that the grant determines and outlines the hours of operation for the PWD vans. She stated that she and Odessa are working with a consultant through Penn DOT and will have the implementation plan submitted and hopefully approved by March. The target date to begin transporting is May 2007.

Marketing and Outreach

There was discussion regarding a Guest Essay in the newspaper in order to reach consumers. Odessa distributed copies (rough drafts) of posters and brochures for consumers.

Carol Hughes stated that she felt the brochure was a good informational piece for the workers in human services but that the general public may not be able to understand the material. Several in the group agreed with this statement.

There was also discussion regarding the materials being translated for the non-English speaking consumers.

Gloria reported that she and Odessa would be attending a meeting in Harrisburg on January 19, 2007 regarding marketing materials and reaching out to the consumers.

Wheelchair Policy (Draft)

Copies of the policy were distributed and Gloria reviewed the policy with the group. This policy outlines requirements of wheelchairs allowed on the vans. The policy includes the weight limits and types of motorized vehicles that will be accepted and those that are not acceptable.

Leaving Client Unattended Policy (Draft)

This policy outlines the rules regarding van drivers leaving consumers at their homes when no one is available at the home to receive the consumer upon return. Gloria explained the necessity of this policy.

Hispanic Community

Odessa reported that she met with Diana Martes at the Hispanic American Center regarding services for children without social security numbers or identification.

Shared Ride

There was a question about discussing the CTA for the general public and it was decided that this meeting would only discuss the "Shared Ride" system.

Self-Sufficiency Standard Study

Derrick distributed copies of the self-sufficiency standard study for Franklin County since the minimum wage has been increased.

Meeting Schedule

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, February 14, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. The following meetings were also scheduled: Wednesday, March 14, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. and Wednesday, April 11, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. These meetings will be held in the Human Services Building on Franklin Farm Lane.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Transportation Advisory Council Meeting
March 28, 2007
1:00 P.M.
Human Services Building
Chambersburg, PA 17201

Meeting called to order by: Derrick Donnell, Chairman

Recorder: Genie Sites, Odessa Trinkle

Present: Derrick Donnell, Career Link; Areli Breese, Cross Systems; Tracy Clark, Franklin County MHMR; Karen Bert, AHEDD; Carol Hughes, Lutheran Services; Eugenia Sites, FCTS; Michael Rzomp, Risk Management; Stephanie Donnelly, Franklin County; Hannah Herman Snyder, County Solicitor; Ryan Miller, Area Office of Aging; Melissa Stevens, Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services; Marie Steinbacher, Chambersburg Literacy Council; Rick Wynn, Franklin County Human Services; Kathie Berard, Wilson College; Matt Tracey, Menno Haven (Elder Care Program); Ed Franchi, Keystone Health Center; John Hart, Franklin County Administrator; Marcia LaBonte, Cold Weather Drop-In; Trish Elliot, Franklin County MR; Brenda Thomas, Franklin County MR; Susanne McKinney, Consumer; Bill Shumacker, Consumer; Wendy Rock, Consumer; Mindy Hartman, Consumer; Kenny Wuertenberg, Mental Health Association, Jim Fennen, ForSight for Vision; Gloria Strine, FCTS and Odessa Trinkle, FCTS.

Proceedings:

January Meeting Minutes

The January meeting minutes were read and approved.

Update on Person's with Disabilities Funding

Odessa announced that Franklin County Transportation will begin offering trips under the PwD program beginning April 2, 2007. PwD has been advertised in the Record Herald, Shippensburg Sentinel, Public Opinion, Valley Forum, and the Mark Graham Show. A commercial on 104, WAYZ will begin airing the month of April. Odessa also thanked all agencies for their support and distribution of application packets.

Transportation Advisory Council

Derrick reviewed draft of the Franklin County Transportation Advisory Council Bylaws. Derrick led the committee collectively through each section of the by-laws.

Discussion occurred regarding section 3.01, defining membership. After debate it was decided unanimously that membership would be defined as "people who live or work in Franklin County and have a vested interest in the transportation needs of county residents." By-laws will be typed up by the chairman and distributed through the secretary via email. All sections of the by-laws were voted and agreed upon.

New Phone Line System

Odessa announced that Franklin County Transportation offices will be upgrading their phone system to operate more efficiently by adding a number menu selection for consumers.

Escort Policy

Franklin County Transportation is in process of reviewing the policy for medically necessary escorts. Mindy discussed the need for escorts for orientation of new travel destinations.

Wheelchair Policy (Draft)

Gloria revisited the wheelchair policy and reiterated the height, width and weight guidelines. She further explained the mechanical and size limitations of the lift vans. She also explained that the policy was well within the standards of a 'common wheelchair' as defined by the Department of Transportation. Kenny Wuertenberg raised the issue of the weight limitations. Gloria discussed alterations that can be made to mobility devices that do not have adequate securement sites. Trish Elliot suggested that there be sub-committee created to investigate weight limitation solutions.

Meeting Schedule

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, May 9th, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Pa Career Link building.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

**Section 5310/JARC/New Freedom
Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan
FFY 2007 Certification**

The Franklin County Planning Commission, the locally designated Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) and the lead agency, has formally adopted a locally developed Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (coordinated plan) from which projects selected for Federal fiscal year (FFY) 2007 funding under the Section 5310 Program, Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) Program, and New Freedom Program shall be derived.

Franklin County is the only Pennsylvania County within the boundaries of this coordinated plan.

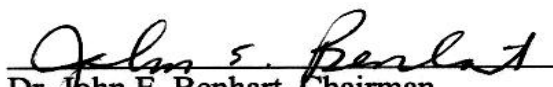
The TPO has established a Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordinating Committee which includes the participation of representatives of public, private, and non-profit transportation and human service providers and members of the public (e.g. individuals with disabilities, older adults, and individuals with low incomes). Although participation by every group listed is not required, the TPO has documented its good faith efforts to solicit involvement.

The TPO coordinating committee has reviewed all Section 5310, JARC and New Freedom Program applications for funding from within the boundaries of the coordinated plan and provided an assessment of transportation needs for individuals with disabilities, older adults, and individuals with low incomes.

Through its comprehensive review, the TPO coordinating committee has identified strategies and/or activities to address identified service gaps and set relative priorities for implementation by determining the priority order of all Section 5310, JARC, and New Freedom Program applications for funding from within the boundaries of the coordinated plan.

The TPO has developed and adopted a coordinated plan (attached) that includes at a minimum the following elements:

- List of the groups that were represented by participants of the coordinating committee,
- Documentation of the TPO's good faith efforts to solicit involvement in the coordinating committee,
- TPO's identification of strategies and /or activities to address identified service gaps and set relative priorities for applications for Section 5310, JARC, and New Freedom funding within its jurisdiction, and
- Prioritized list of such applications.


Dr. John E. Benhart, Chairman
Franklin County Planning Commission


Date

Attachment (coordinated plan)