

CLARK COUNTY AL-TRANS INC.

MISSION: "To assure the availability of affordable and accessible transportation services for ALL residents of Clark County"



A member of the Illinois Public Transportation Association



BACKGROUND

Transportation is vital to rural America, as it significantly contributes to community and economic development by allowing all residents to obtain services essential to maintaining a healthy quality of life, providing a link to jobs and offering businesses access to customers. Consequently, more than 35 downstate Illinois counties lack access to adequate public transportation.

In May of 2002, Soyland Access to Independent Living (SAIL) began an assessment survey to identify unmet needs and service gaps in the tri-county Illinois area of Coles, Clark and Cumberland counties. Survey respondents consistently noted the availability of adequate transportation as a priority. While Coles and Cumberland counties had access to transportation networks, no formal service existed in the Clark County area.

With the assistance of the Illinois Coalition for Community Services, a grassroots committee of stakeholders was formed in Clark County to address rural transit opportunities and potential. The committee began meeting monthly in April of 2003 and proceeded to build an organizational framework and membership base.

Twenty-six community leaders and concerned residents attended a strategic planning session in March of 2004 at the Community Center in Martinsville, Illinois. The purpose of the session, facilitated by University of Illinois Extension, Clark County and the East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging (ECIAAA), was to begin designing rural public transit options for Clark County.

TRANSPORTATION: CRITICAL ISSUES IN CLARK COUNTY

- 3061 (18%) of Clark County residents are aged 65+. (2000 Census)
- During the next two decades, Census projections indicate this population segment will increase an additional 20% nationwide.

There are currently 2584 licensed drivers aged 65+ in Clark County. This indicates nearly 500 individuals in this age bracket must rely on the availability of an alternate transportation source. (Illinois Secretary of State's Office)

There are 3148 individuals in Clark County categorized as having a disability. (2000 Census)

According to the Clark County AL-TRANS Transportation Survey results:

- 42% of respondents must travel outside the county for medical appointments,*
- 37% to pick up medications and 18% for other necessary appointments.*
- 44% would pay for the provision of a transportation service.*
- 43% would require transportation on an ongoing basis.*
- 74% of respondents were over age 50.*
- 26% have a unique mobility issue.*
- 23% have no driver's license.*
- 21% can't afford to own and/or maintain a personal or family vehicle.*

CLARK COUNTY MEDICARE PATIENT STATISTICS

INPATIENT VISITS

Terre Haute Union Hospital: 2001

Approximately 42 per month (499 total)

Casey	69
Dennison	12
Marshall	276
Martinsville	93
Westfield	3
West Union	37
West York	9

Terre Haute Regional Hospital: 2003

Approximately 135 per month (1614 total)

Casey	257
Marshall	1045
Martinsville	198
Westfield	14
West Union	100

Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center: 2002-2003

Approximately 39 per month (472 total)

OUTPATIENT VISITS

Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center: 2002-2003

Approximately 1648 per month (19,770 total)

AP & S Clinic: 2002-2003

Approximately 1455 per month (17,457 total)

AL-TRANS NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

The collaboration of organizations, agencies, governmental units and committed concerned citizens is essential to forward education and awareness for Clark County's public transportation needs and design of a workable system for ALL county residents.

HOW CAN YOU HELP

**Committee Meetings:
3rd Thursday of Each Month
Martinsville Public Library
2:00 PM**

- Become an AL-TRANS Committee Member
- Become an AL-TRANS Ambassador
- Volunteer organizational assistance
- Donate professional expertise
- Offer other in-kind contributions
- Offer financial contributions payable to:

**Clark County AL-TRANS INC.
P.O. Box 232
Marshall, IL 62441**

a local, non-profit organization

SUPPORTING AGENCIES, ENTITIES AND INDIVIDUALS

- Casey Senior Center
- Clark County Board
- Clark County Health Department
- Clark County Life Center
- Clark County Probation Office
- Clark County Residents
- Clark County Economic Development Committee

- Community Care Systems
- Department of Human Services, Clark County
- East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging (ECIAAA)
- Embarras River Basin Agency
- Human Resources Center
- Illinois Coalition for Community Services
- Martinsville Township
- Office of State Representative Roger Eddy
- Office of State Senator Dale Righter
- Peace Meal
- Soyland Access to Independent Living (SAIL)
- University of Illinois Extension, Clark County
- Western Illinois Rural Transit Assistance Center
- York Township

For further information contact:

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