



# The Road Ahead

Volume 10, Issue 2

July, 2011

Our mission is to support providers of travel instruction for the purpose of teaching people with disabilities and seniors to travel safely and independently.

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## It's Not Too Late!

ATI's Eleventh annual conference will be held **August 12-14, 2011** at The Holiday Inn Historic District in **Philadelphia, PA**

Join us for the latest in winning strategies in the field of travel instruction. Enjoy learning from a wide variety of experts in their field as well as networking with your peers. It is also the perfect time to explore the numerous historic sites and enjoy a Philly cheesesteak.

Take advantage of the Early Bird Registration fee of \$175 for Members and \$250 for Non-Members! You must register by **July 29th** in order to take advantage of these rates. After July 29th, conference registration will be \$225 for members and \$300 for nonmembers. Conference packets will not be mailed this year, please visit [www.travelinstruction.org](http://www.travelinstruction.org) to view conference registration forms.

The conference will be held at The Holiday Inn Historic District, 400 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA. Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-THE-BELL.

For more information on the conference, please call Peggy Schmidt at 215-699-2733 or Cecile Charlton at 610-892-9440.

To view the complete conference agenda, visit [www.travelinstruction.org](http://www.travelinstruction.org)

### See Inside For:

- Accessible Taxi News
- NJTIP's Transportation Conference
- Handling travel training referral overloads
- MTA New York City welcomes new travel training program
- Don't forget to renew your ATI Membership!

The Road Ahead Staff:  
 Editor-in-Chief: Jonathan Rubell  
 Editorial Assistants: Michael McDermott  
 Terry Moakley

[www.travelinstruction.org](http://www.travelinstruction.org)



## 2011 Board of Directors Openings

On behalf of the ATI Board, I am pleased to announce the call for nominations for ATI Board Members for the coming year, 2011-2012. We will hold the election on Saturday August 13<sup>th</sup>, the second day of our Annual Conference.

Board members will be required to be present for at least three (3) conference call board meetings throughout the year. The times & dates will be determined using meetingwizard to determine which dates are convenient for the most members. You will receive more information on the logistics of these phone meetings after being elected to the board.

If you wish to nominate someone or if you have a personal desire to serve, please complete the Nomination or Application Forms attached in this email. As part of our continuing sustainability efforts, this year's nomination process is designed to be entirely electronic. Nominations, resumes, and letters of support will all be emailed to the Election Administrator, Louis Hoffman.

There is a single three year term up for election and three one year terms up for election. Please specify one or three years under term.

**The Nomination and Authorization Form must be completed in full and submitted through email no later than 5 p.m. Eastern Time August 1, 2011.** The information requested in the form is very important, as this information will assist the ATI membership in selecting people who will do the best job for the association and the industry. A list of candidates will be released before the yearly meeting.

If you have questions regarding the election process or campaign guidelines, please contact ATI's Louis Hoffman at 201-616-8623 or email [lhoffman@njtip.org](mailto:lhoffman@njtip.org)

Thanks!

Louis Hoffman

ATI Election Administrator



## Board Candidate Application Form

### ATI Board Candidate Application

Term Desired: Three Years \_\_\_ One Year \_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 First                      MI                      Last                      Familiar name

### Residence

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### Employer

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your title \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Type of business or organization \_\_\_\_\_  
 Primary service(s) and area/population served \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred method of contact ( ) Work ( ) Residence

**Please list boards and committees that you serve on, or have served on** (business, civic, community, fraternal, political, professional, recreational, religious, social).

Organization	Role/Title	Dates of Service
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____



## Board Candidate Application Form

- Finance, accounting
- Personnel, human resources
- Administration, management
- Nonprofit experience
- Community service
- Policy development
- Program evaluation
- Public relations, communications
- Education, instruction
- Special events
- Grant writing
- Fundraising
- Outreach, advocacy
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any groups, organizations or businesses that you could serve as a liaison to on behalf of [name of org].

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Please tell us anything else you'd like to share.

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**Thank You For Applying!**



## Board Nomination Form

### Board Nomination Form

**Candidate Information**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home address \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Employment/Position \_\_\_\_\_

Education \_\_\_\_\_

Previous experience (if any) with **(name or org)**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please circle any of the following skills or experience that the candidate possesses.

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Finance, accounting              | Management, administration                  |
| Grant writing                    | Nonprofit experience                        |
| Fundraising and special events   | Teaching experience, curriculum development |
| Public relations, communications | Contacts, networking                        |
| Other _____                      | Other _____                                 |

Affiliations or organizations the candidate belongs to (e.g., membership, professional, civic).

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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**Submitted by**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Has this person been contacted to determine their interest in being nominated? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

If "yes," would he/she be willing to serve if elected? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

**Office Desired: Three Years** \_\_\_ **One Year** \_\_\_

**Thank you for your nomination**



## **Reminder: ATI Member feedback requested on Travel Training definitions:**

ATI Board Members have worked this past year to develop a standard definition of services are provided by travel trainers. An increased number of individuals who want, and need, to develop independent travel skills and/or maintain their independent mobility in the community has created a demand for travel training services. The range of providers of travel instruction services now includes public transit agencies, school systems, non-profit agencies, adult service provider agencies, senior centers, rehabilitation centers, and independent living centers. It became clear to ATI that the definition of travel training needed to be re-considered to reflect the expanded purpose of travel training and the range of services offered by the provider agencies to meet the needs of students/clients they serve. It is important to ATI to receive member input in creation of a final document. Please take a moment to review the definitions and provide us with your feedback by Monday, **August 8, 2011**. We will attempt to incorporate the feedback received and plan to release a final version of the definition at this year's conference in August.

Please submit comments by going to our website at [www.travelinstruction.org](http://www.travelinstruction.org)  
Thank you in advance for your time and consideration in assisting to make our Association stronger.



## **THE JACK GORELICK AWARD 2011**

### **Presented to an Outstanding Supporter or Practitioner of Travel Instruction**

Each year, the Jack Gorelick Award is presented to an outstanding supporter or practitioner of travel instruction. It is awarded to an individual who has demonstrated the spirit and intent of Jack Gorelick, by promoting the inclusion of persons with disabilities into the life stream of our communities through independent travel and the use of public transportation by all people.

**Nominations of individuals for the award are made by a letter that includes:**

- accomplishments of the nominee in the practice and support of travel instruction for persons with disabilities other than blindness
- number of years involved with providing and supporting travel instruction for persons with disabilities other than blindness
- place of employment (or former employment, if retired)
- additional activities or service to the disability community.

**Two additional letters from members of the community that support the nomination of the individual for his/her work in the field of travel instruction, should be included.**

The nominations and letters of support are to be RECEIVED no later than **July 29, 2011**, to:

**Association of Travel Instruction  
Jack Gorelick Award  
PO Box 2042, Madison Square Station  
New York, NY 10159**

**Applications may be emailed to:  
Mary Riegelmayr: [RIEGELMAYER.MARY@cuyahogabdd.org](mailto:RIEGELMAYER.MARY@cuyahogabdd.org)**

Individuals nominating a person for the award will be notified when a recipient has been selected.



## ATI Scholarships and Grants

### JACK and HELEN GORELICK SCHOLARSHIP

The Jack and Helen Gorelick Scholarship was established in recognition of the praiseworthy work being done by hands-on travel trainers and travel instructors. The scholarship is to be provided annually to advance the knowledge and skills of travel trainers and travel instructors through education at meetings and conferences. The ultimate purpose is to further opportunities for travel trainers and travel instructors to enhance the lives of those receiving services, and to promote the work of the Association of Travel Instruction.

One scholarship in the amount of \$750 will be awarded annually to an outstanding travel trainer/travel instructor selected by the ATI Board of Directors. **The primary purpose of the award is toward tuition in the area of human services.** Recipients must be members of ATI, and they are required to report to the Board on the use of the award. Subject to approval of the Board of Directors, a scholarship may be used to attend the ATI Annual Conference, or for some other purpose that will advance the profession of travel training.

### ELIZABETH K. MAGUIRE GRANT

The Elizabeth K. Maguire Grant was established in appreciation of the essential and praiseworthy work being done by travel trainers. The grant is to be provided annually to advance the knowledge, skills and networking opportunities of travel trainers through participating at meetings and conferences. The ultimate purpose is to further opportunities for travel trainers to enhance the lives of those receiving travel training services, and to promote the work of the Association of Travel Instruction. The grant of \$750 will be awarded annually to one or more than one outstanding travel trainer(s) selected by the ATI Board of Directors. The minimum grant to any individual is \$250.

**The primary purpose of the award is toward attendance at the ATI Annual Conference.** A travel trainer recipients must be a member of ATI for two years, and they are required to attend the ATI Annual Conference the year the award is granted. Subject to approval of the Board of Directors, any grant money not used for attending the ATI Annual Conference may be used for some other purpose that will advance the profession of travel training.



## ATI Scholarships and Grants

### STEVEN W. “BEAR” DICKERSON ATI CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE GRANT

The Steven W. “Bear” Dickerson Conference Attendance Assistance Grant was established to provide some measure of financial assistance (in the form of a partial reimbursement of travel costs) to a **consumer of travel instruction/travel training who has a desire to attend the ATI annual conference for the year in which he/she applies.**

The recipient of this award need not be a member of ATI, but in order to be considered for this grant the candidate must have completed a period of travel training or be a current active student (no age requirement) of a travel training program, and have a recognized disability as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Applicants for this grant must also submit a verification letter of their travel training status from the director/trainer providing their travel training program. The ATI Board of Directors will review the submitted applications, and they will award a grant of \$600 or less to the selected consumer at the ATI Annual Conference in the year the grant is awarded.



## ATI Scholarships and Grants Form

### SCHOLARSHIP & GRANT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES & FORM -- 2011

All Scholarship and Grant requests must be mailed to the **ATI President, The Association of Travel Instruction, P.O. Box 2042, Madison Square Station, New York, NY 10159**. Applications must be **RECEIVED no later than Friday, July 29, 2011**, to be considered. Applications may also be emailed to Mary Riegelmayr: [RIEGELMAYER.MARY@cuyahogabdd.org](mailto:RIEGELMAYER.MARY@cuyahogabdd.org)

Recipients of these awards may be self-nominated, or nominated by an organization or individual. A brief summary of the candidate's work in the field, education, length of service and contribution to the field is required if submitting as a travel trainer/travel instructor. The awards and certificate of appreciation will be presented by ATI at the Annual Awards Banquet at the 2011 Conference in Philadelphia, PA.

#### Step 1. Complete the Form Below

Scholarship/Grant Applying For: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Education: High School \_\_\_\_\_ Community College \_\_\_\_\_ College \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

#### Step 2. Include a Brief Summary of the Applicant's Qualifications/Need, and Other Requested Materials Before Mailing



## Why Wheelchair Accessible Taxis?

By Terry Moakley  
*New York*

A couple of weeks ago, I was part of an accessible taxi panel presentation to members of the United States Access Board in Washington, DC. This independent Federal government agency's mission includes developing standards for the design of transportation systems and vehicles available to the public.

I was happy to make this presentation because as an employee and Board of Director at United Spinal Association in New York City, I have been working for many years with other persons with disabilities to improve access to the city's yellow taxi and livery systems, with a combined total of 35,000 vehicles.

One good reason for wheelchair accessible taxis is that public transportation does not go everywhere, even in a city like New York. One of the points that I made in my Access Board visit was the positive impact accessible taxis could have for people with disabilities living in suburban and rural areas, too.

Then there's the rising cost to provide ADA paratransit service. It cost New York City Transit more than \$458 million to provide this service in 2010. If wheelchair accessible taxis were more readily available, some ADA paratransit users might prefer hailing a yellow cab or telephoning a livery cab for some trips.

I also believe that more wheelchair accessible taxis could enable people with significant disabilities to enter the workforce. Last I heard, the unemployment rate of this population nationwide is slightly under 40%.

There are recent developments in New York that could result in positive change. Between late 2009 and earlier this year, a "Taxi of Tomorrow" design competition was held by the city. While one of the three finalists was a wheelchair accessible taxi, the city crowned an inaccessible winner. A New York State legislator filed an ADA complaint about this, and the U.S. Department of Justice has launched an investigation.

Also, several wheelchair using New Yorkers recently sued the New York City Taxi & Limousine Commission for allowing approximately 1,100 inaccessible minivans to be operating as yellow cabs. I'm not an attorney but the basis of this lawsuit is language in ADA transportation regulations which says that "equivalent facilitation" must be provided if vehicles other than automobiles are used in demand-response service. The judge in this matter decided in May to let this case proceed.

Finally, the availability of the first wheelchair accessible automobile, the MV-1, is just around the corner and it was designed, among other uses, to be an accessible taxi. I believe that the U.S. Access Board is paying attention to accessible taxi developments in New York and other cities because such events may lead to positive change in their regulations.



## NJ TIP Travel Instruction Graduate is Keynote Speaker at NJCDD Transportation Conference

**By Melody Bundy**

*NJ TIP Program Manager*

On June 18, one hundred individuals with disabilities attended a full-day transportation conference in Trenton, NJ, that was planned and hosted by ATI Board Member Louis Hoffman and NJ TIP Inc. The conference was sponsored by the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities for members of the Monday Morning project, which encourages self-advocacy on disability-related issues in New Jersey.

The conference focused on advocacy skills related to public transportation and reviewed all of New Jersey's public transit options including fixed-route buses, trains, light rail systems, and paratransit services. Travel instructors demonstrated trip planning skills using both telephone and internet resources. The attendees learned how to use mobile devices to access bus and train schedules utilizing "mybus" and "CooCoo" and to receive real time transit alerts from NJ Transit.

The keynote speaker was NJ TIP graduate, Diana Stolfo. Diana is a 29-year-old from Bergen County, NJ. In November of 2010, she began travel instruction because she was moving out of her parents' home and moving into her own apartment in a community built specifically for people with disabilities. Diana, who has Down syndrome, does not let her diagnosis stop her from doing anything: she holds four jobs including administrative work at a local church and as a teacher's assistant at a dance school. She uses public transportation to commute to, from and between her jobs.

She spoke about how important public transportation has been in her transition from living under her parents' roof into her new independent life style. Diana has started a travel training group in her community. She teaches other residents how to get to various destinations using public transit. Diana is a strong self-advocate who believes that people with disabilities need to learn and discover their own abilities.



## **HANDLING CUSTOMER REFERRAL OVERLOADS**

**By Michael McDermott M.Ed.**

*St. Louis Mo.*

Staffing for St. Louis Metro's travel training program these days consists of myself, one full time travel trainer, three part time travel trainers, plus two part time trainers that I only get in case of emergencies.

I currently have 16 referrals with an August 15<sup>th</sup> 2011 start date plus 6 referrals for training to Junior Colleges with start dates close to August 15<sup>th</sup>. To get everyone trained by when they need it requires training certain customers in advance.

Step one is creating all the customer route plans as far in advance as possible. This way I can see which trainees have the easiest and the hardest routes. The next step is meeting all these referrals for their pre training assessments. Some of the referrals have been through the program before for training to different destinations. These people I don't need to see again as they would have been assessed already before their previous training.

After these assessments, I now know my trainee's level of functionality plus the difficulty of their routes. I can now rank customers in order of whom to train first. The highest functioning trainees with the easiest routes get trained furthest in advance whenever we can squeeze them in our schedule around other trainings. The next highest get trained in advance in 'actual time' to the job and then back home immediately upon arrival. This way they are receiving the training support of having to get up and out the door to get to work at a certain time. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and final group to be trained are the referrals determined to be the most challenging for effective training (i.e. lower functioning and most challenging bus/train routes). Training this group in 'actual time' and on days they really need to be at their destination is the most supportive.

In conclusion, 'advance training' when coupled with an understanding of your customer's abilities and the route challenges they face can work very effectively in getting a large number of referrals trained when you are facing a training deadline.



## New York City Travel Training



**METRO SERVICES**  
**CP of NYS**  
 Where Possibilities  
 Become Realities



### **Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State and MTA New York City Transit**

ANNOUNCE...

A **FREE** Travel Training Program  
 for qualified Access-A-Ride Customers

Through personalized one-on-one instruction, trainees will learn to travel independently on one round trip bus or subway route to a destination of their choice in New York City. Travel Training can enable people with disabilities to safely and confidently travel by bus or subway in New York City's five boroughs as well as allowing greater flexibility in making and changing travel plans.

Trainees will master the following skills:

- Traveling safely at all times
- Planning a trip (use of schedules, signs, telephone, information services and landmarks)
- Remembering and following directions
- Requesting information/help from appropriate sources
- Identifying the correct stop at desired destination
- Coping with service disruptions, delays and emergencies
- Correctly using mobility aids (such as wheelchairs and scooters) on accessible mass transportation

Travel training is funded by MTA New York City Transit and provided by Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State at no cost to trainees. Access-A-Ride customers 18 years and older may apply.

To apply or for more information  
 Call 212-947-5770 ext. 627 or  
 Email [traveltraining@cpofnys.org](mailto:traveltraining@cpofnys.org)

[www.travelinstruction.org](http://www.travelinstruction.org)



## 2011-2012 ATI Membership Form

### Association of Travel Instruction (ATI) Membership Categories and Sponsorship Packages

#### Membership Categories – 2011 -- 2012

**Individual Membership** – an Individual Member supports the mission of ATI, receives newsletters, annual conference presentation/registration information, conference registration discounts, and other benefits of ATI membership. An Individual Member will be listed on the ATI Registry upon reading, accepting, and signing the corporation's Code of Ethics.

**Organizational Membership** – an Organizational Member supports the mission of ATI. Each organizational member designates annually one individual as its ATI voting member. Said individual receives newsletters, annual conference registration/presentation information, conference registration discounts, and other benefits of ATI membership. The organization and its designated voting member will be listed on the ATI Registry upon reading, accepting, and signing the corporation's Code of Ethics.

**Auxiliary Membership** – an Auxiliary Member supports the mission of ATI and receives the newsletter. Auxiliary members have no voting rights in ATI, and they are not eligible to be listed on the ATI Registry.

#### Sponsorship Packages – 2011 – 2012

**Bronze Sponsorship** – a Bronze Sponsorship of the Association of Travel Instruction is available to any individual or entity that supports the mission of ATI, and the work of ATI members in their home communities. Bronze sponsors will receive ATI's quarterly newsletter, and they will be recognized prominently in each newsletter issue throughout the year. Bronze sponsors will be displayed on an "ATI Sponsors" page on the ATI website, and they will also receive information about ATI's annual conference.

**Silver Sponsorship** – a Silver Sponsorship of the Association of Travel Instruction also is available to individuals/entities that support the mission of our organization and the work of its members. Silver sponsors will receive ATI's newsletter, will be recognized prominently in each newsletter issue and on the "ATI Sponsors" website page, and will receive ATI annual conference information. In addition, Silver sponsors will be mentioned prominently in each monthly issue of ATI's e-newsletter.

**Gold Sponsorship** – a Gold Sponsorship of the Association of Travel Instruction also is available to individuals/entities that support the mission of ATI and the work of its members. Gold sponsors of ATI receive our print and e-newsletters, are recognized in every issue of both newsletters and on the "ATI Sponsors" website page, and receive annual ATI conference information. In addition, Gold sponsors will be prominently mentioned in the same year's conference Call for Papers and registration documents, and they will be extended an invitation to address members at the same year's annual conference.

**Please go to the next page to complete your Membership/Sponsorship form, and return it with a check or money order to the Association of Travel Instruction. Thank you for your support.**



## 2011-2012 ATI Membership Form

### ATI MEMBERSHIP and SPONSORSHIP FORM 2011-2012

The Association of Travel Instruction is a professional 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization, founded in 1998 and incorporated in 2001. Travel instruction/travel training is short-term, intensive teaching of individuals with disabilities and seniors to travel safely and independently on public transportation systems within the community.

ATI's goals include disseminating current information on travel training/travel instruction; providing opportunities for professional development through our newsletters and conferences; educating the public on the benefits of travel training; promoting the essential competencies for those engaged in the practice of travel training/travel instruction; and, maintaining and encouraging compliance with the organization's Code of Ethics for travel trainers and travel instructors.

**Please enroll/renew me today until June 30, 2012 as a (circle one):**

- |                                   |                            |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Individual Member -- \$40      | 4. Bronze Sponsor -- \$250 |
| 2. Organizational Member -- \$100 | 5. Silver Sponsor -- \$500 |
| 3. Auxiliary Member -- \$20       | 6. Gold Sponsor -- \$1,000 |

**Please type, print, or write clearly the following information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization/Company/Employer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**ATI Members Only-JobDuties:** \_\_\_\_\_

Referred By (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

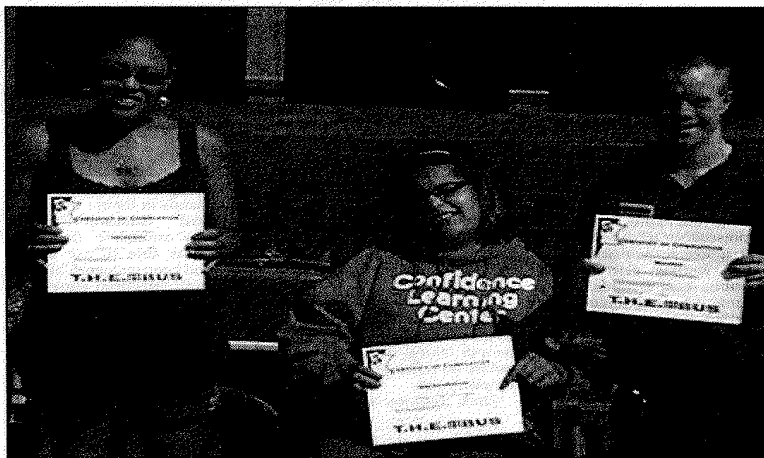
**Please return this page with your check or money order, made payable to ATI, to:**

ATI Membership  
P.O. Box 2042  
Madison Square Station  
New York, NY 10159

Questions or Change of Address?  
Karen Wolf-Branigin  
[kwolfbranigin@easterseals.com](mailto:kwolfbranigin@easterseals.com)  
Terence Moakley  
[tmoaklev@unitedspinal.org](mailto:tmoaklev@unitedspinal.org)



## Travel training aims to increase independence for area residents



Gaining independence by learning how to arrange for rides on The BUS are three residents of Northwoods Cottage of Bagley. They were recently awarded certificates for successfully completing the training on how to best utilize this public transit service. The three are (from left) Carly Gunvalson, Keisha Brusewitz and Mitch Willard.

**By Tom Burford**

It's a concept that seems foreign to folks like me who have ridden a city bus or a Greyhound bus. This concept is the need to train persons in the art of riding public transit busses.

Here in rural America, where public transit is a relatively new service, hooking up with the bus is not always so easy. That's why Mark Hoiland serves as a "travel trainer" for Tri Valley Transit, which provides service with The BUS in Bagley, as well as a commuter service that serves Bagley, Shevlin, Clearbrook, Gonvick and Leonard.

Hoiland said his primary trainees are children, senior citizens and physically or mentally challenged individuals. The level of training required depends upon each client's skill levels.

The training can include several factors: how to call in one day prior to schedule a ride; what clothes to wear so the client can be prepared for weather conditions; being ready so the bus driver doesn't have to wait; having all belongings ready and packed; having a ticket or cash ready for the driver; and picking a seat and fastening the seat belt

for safety. Some of the clients need to learn how to safely walk up and down the steps of the bus or how to utilize the lift.

In Clearwater County Hoiland has been training three clients who reside at Northwoods Cottage near Bagley, which is operated by Mike and Janet Haugen. He noted that the Haugens were open to having their clients trained to ride The BUS. One improvement that resulted from this training is that the three have gained more independence. Instead of relying on others to arrange a ride for them at a time that might not be as convenient, they can now decide where they want to go and when. For example, Hoiland said they can schedule a ride to the Bowl Inn or the Library. One of the clients, Mitch Willard, rides The BUS to and from his job at Galen's SuperValu.

He recently awarded three certificates of training completion to those residents: Mitch Willard, Keisha Brusewitz-Hensley and Carly Gunvalson. These three are Hoiland's first graduates of the training program to receive certificates in Clearwater County. Hoiland noted that by learning to utilize public

transit, these three persons have gained a greater level of independence. They have joined with their peers trained by Hoiland in the other five counties of Tri-Valley Transit's service area which entails the counties of Clearwater, Polk, Norman, Marshall, Pennington and Red Lake.

The training is free, and Hoiland reminded that anyone can ride The BUS. He noted it takes some time for rural people to get accustomed to the idea of riding a bus rather than driving a vehicle. His training service has varied from individuals to groups. There are no income restrictions to ride The BUS, but those age 5 and under must be accompanied by someone age 16 or older. The busses are handicap accessible, too.

The service varies from in-town service to commuter service. Some areas provide service from small towns to regional trade centers.

The goal of Tri Valley Transportation is to "provide quality public transit service as efficiently and safely as possible." Their mission is "to improve the quality of life for people and communities by providing opportunities to meet their needs and realize their potential."



**Don't Forget to...**



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Like ATI on Facebook and you will receive news and other updates on your Facebook newsfeed.

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TMoakley@vetsfirst.org*

**The Association of Travel Instruction  
P.O. Box 2042 Madison Square Station New York, NY 10159**

**[www.travelinstruction.org](http://www.travelinstruction.org)**