



Transportation in Indian Country

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MISSION: To promote the availability of accessible transportation options that serve the needs of **Older Adults, People with Disabilities, Caregivers and Communities.**

MAJOR OBJECTIVES:

- Person-centered technical assistance and information & referral
- Training: webinars, online courses/forums
- Interactive communication and outreach strategy
- Coordination and partnership strategy, including stakeholder engagement
- Investment in community solutions
- Independent program evaluation



A Network of Transportation Options



- Driving
- Walking/Biking
- Public Transit: Fixed Route, Dial-a-Ride
- Paratransit
- Private Options: Taxi, Uber, Lyft
- Volunteer Driver Programs
- Information and Referral/Assistance ~ “Transportation Options Counseling”
- One-Call/One-Click Transportation Resource Centers
- Travel Training
- Mobility Management

Why Transportation is important in Indian Country

Specific transportation challenges in Rural and Tribal areas (*identified at n4a Annual Conference Senior Mobility Fair, 2018 and by NCST Elder Mobility Advisory Group*):

- **Long distances/spread out areas**
- Lack of infrastructure: bad roads, not enough vehicles
- **Lack of options**
- **Funding/ Rising operational costs**
- **Lack of drivers**
- Difficulty filling seats
- Multi-week trips to the same destination
- **Few volunteers**
- **Lack of coordination**
- Increased isolation of elders without transportation



Why Transportation is important in Indian Country



Transportation was frequently identified as one of the Title VI Program's greatest needs in the 2017 Survey of Title VI Programs. Specific needs include:

- Vehicles
 - Mechanical problems/need for a vehicle mechanic
 - Vehicles past their useful life
 - Need vehicles
 - Need specific types of vehicles, such as a van to transport elders or a truck to deliver meals

- Funding to increase driver hours/more drivers

“Transportation for the elders and homebound meals. Caregiver visits are not able to be done due to lack of transportation.”

Why Transportation is important in Indian Country

2017 Title VI Survey offers additional insights into transportation challenges:

- Distances the program travels to provide services: Mean 40.8 miles; Median 20 miles; Range 0.5-700 miles
- Transportation in Indian country may be provided by car, SUV, passenger van, ferry/boat, plane, four-wheel drive/ATV, or snow machine
- More than 50% of transportation services to medical appointments & 37% of non-medical transportation is provided with funding other than Title VI
- Non-medical transportation was identified as being an unmet need by 63% of survey respondents

“Transportation is a severe unmet need.”

What makes a successful program in Indian Country?

Excerpted from the 2017 Title VI Survey: What are you proud of?

- “We are trusted by the elders”
- “Our office is the hub of the community”
- “Knowing each client on a personal level”
- The Senior Program partners with other tribal programs”
- “Being able to serve our elders is one of our cultural traditions”
- “Dedicated staff, regular training, strong community support”

Getting in the Mobility Mindset : Questions to Ask

- Are you working with the Community Health Representative (CHR) to coordinate transportation services?
- Are there other partnerships that your programs have been able to develop that help with the transportation options for elders?
- Have you developed rules and responsibilities for both drivers and riders to follow? What has been your experience in drivers and riders following the rules and expectations?

Getting in the Mobility Mindset : Questions to Ask

- What complications or issues have you experienced in providing transportation to elders?
- What funding have you been able to access for your transportation programs?
- Have you implemented any creative or innovative solutions to address transportation challenges?
- Are the Title VI program and Tribal Transit in your area working together?

Federal Transit Administration's Technical Assistance Centers

- National Aging & Disability Transportation Center

www.nadtc.org



- National Rural Transit Assistance Program

www.nationalrtap.org



- National Center for Mobility Management

www.nationalcenterformobilitymanagement.org



- Shared Use Mobility Center

<http://sharedusemobilitycenter.org/>

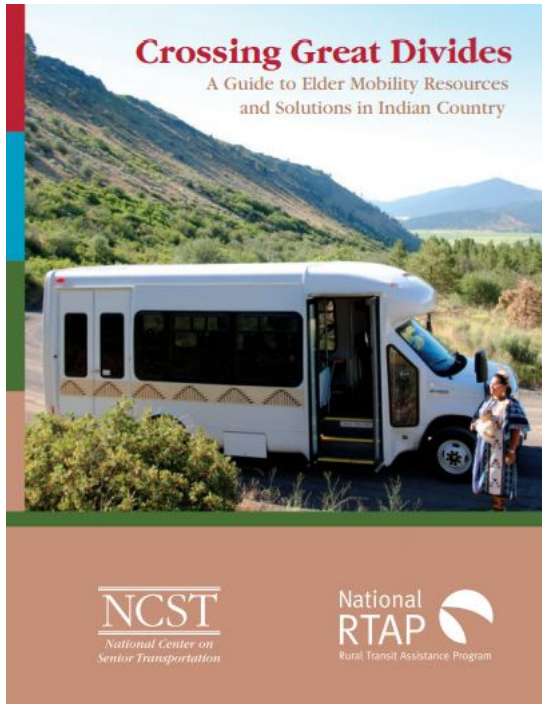


Opportunities/Training

- National Transportation in Indian Country, September 17-20, 2018 in Duluth, MN <https://www.nticc.org/>
- National Tribal Transportation Conference, September 24-27, 2018 in Oklahoma City, OK <https://ttap-center.org/events/national-tribal-transportation-conference/>
- NADTC Online Mini-Course on Volunteer Transportation, November, 2018. www.nadtc.org



Resources



Funding ideas/alternatives to grants

Helping elders reach destinations

Ideas for expanding ridership

Partnerships & collaboration

http://www.nadtc.org/wp-content/uploads/Crossing_Great_Divides-Cover.pdf

Resources

2017 National Title VI Program Survey: Serving Tribal Elders Across the United States

https://www.n4a.org/Files/Title%20VI%20Survey/Title%20VI%20Program%20Survey_508.pdf

Accessible Transportation in Rural Areas

<https://www.nadtc.org/wp-content/uploads/NADTC-Accessible-Transportation-in-Rural-Areas.pdf>

2017 Trends Report: Rural Travel Training

<https://www.nadtc.org/resources-publications/2017-trends-report-topic-spotlight-rural-travel-training/>

Strategies for Enhancing Rural Transit Operations Mini-Course

<https://www.nadtc.org/event/strategies-for-enhancing-rural-transit-operations-mini-course/>

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