

The Transporter



Issue No. 65 Summer 2016

Transportation Information for Business Executives & Elected Officials in Northern New Jersey & Monmouth County

An Event to Recognize “Champions for Change”

Join Meadowlink on Thursday, October 27th to honor corporate, municipal and school leaders for implementing transportation and safety programs that make a difference in our communities. The “Champions for Change” event will be held at the Meadowlands Environment Center at 2 DeKorte Park Plaza in Lyndhurst from 9 to 11 a.m.

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Bob Atkins. An Associate Professor at Rutgers University, Dr. Atkins serves the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation as National Program Director of its New Jersey Health Initiatives (NJHI) program. NJHI is the Foundation’s signature statewide grant making program.

Awards will be presented in three categories:

1. Safe Routes to School awards for municipalities and schools who promote safe walking and biking
2. NJ Smart Work Place awards for businesses implementing transportation programs like carpools, vanpools, and shuttle services.
3. Volunteer Driver awards for those who donate their time to drive older adults and riders with reduced mobility

Additionally, the Transportation Program of the Year award will be given to an organization for outstanding commitment and success in implementing a transportation program.

For more information and to RSVP please contact:

Kinga Skora (201) 939-4242
kskora@ezride.org



Members of the Alliance for a Healthier Asbury Park at a training event sponsored by the RWJ Foundation to learn how to work across sectors. Shown in photo (L to R) Lisa Lee (Meadowlink), William Wells (Asbury Park School District), Allison Cerco (Hackensack Meridian Health), Jim Konopack (Monmouth University School of Nursing & Health), Nina Summerlin (West Side Citizens United), Dianna Harris (Asbury Park Community Development Initiative) and Abigail Mary Dunne (Center for Creative Leadership)

Meadowlink Receives a \$200,000 Award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to Help Build a Culture of Health in Asbury Park

Meadowlink was awarded a \$200,000 four year grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation through its New Jersey Health Initiatives (NJHI) program. The grant supports the Alliance for a Healthier Asbury Park coalition. “We are delighted that the Foundation has decided to fund this project in Asbury Park,” said Perry Frenzel, Chairman of Meadowlink, “and Lisa Lee will serve as the Grant Project Director on behalf of Meadowlink”.

The grant provides funds and training to foster collaborative work between organizations from different sectors that are working in Asbury Park. The goal will be to work together to develop and implement an action plan to reduce barriers to health for residents. The Alliance grew out of a NJ Partnership for Healthy Kids mini-grant in 2014 to start School Health Councils (SHCs), and a partnership between the Asbury Park School District &

Board of Education (BOE), the Monmouth County Health Department (MCHD). The initial work was focused on promoting healthy eating and encouraging physical activity to prevent and reduce obesity and chronic disease.

Lee invited organizations to join and support the SHC’s work, especially after the mini-grant and funding ended in 2014. Supporting partners included the School District staff and BOE, MCHD, Meadowlink’s Safe Routes to School (SRTS) team, Meridian Health, Sodexo, Asbury Park Police, Second Life Bikes and others. This grant will allow the work to expand into other areas that impact community health such as neighborhood safety and access to transportation, higher education, job training, and affordable housing.

To join the coalition, please contact:
Lisa Lee (201) 939-4242
llee@ezride.org

Funding Opportunities

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1 2016 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grants

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) is accepting applications for the TAP grants. The deadline is November 10, 2016. This federally funded program is administered by NJDOT in partnership with the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA), the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) and the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization (SJTPO).

It is recommended that projects have a requested funding amount between \$150,000 and \$1 million.

For more information or to access the application visit: <http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/localaid/sage.shtm>

2 2017 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Culture of Health Prize

The RWJF Culture of Health Prize honors communities that are making great strides in their journey toward better health by creating powerful partnerships and deep commitments to make change—change that will enable all in our diverse society to lead healthier lives now and for generations to come. Application deadline is November 3, 2016.

In this fifth round of the annual Prize competition, up to 10 communities will receive a \$25,000 cash prize.

For more information, or to apply, visit: <http://www.rwjf.org/en/library/funding-opportunities/2016/2017-rwjf-culture-of-health-prize.html>

3 It Pay\$ to Plug In

The NJ Department of Environmental Protection and Board of Public Utilities have teamed up to launch a new “It Pays To Plug In” grant program. The first phase of the program will provide \$725,000 in reimbursement grants to offset some of the costs to purchase and install electric vehicle charging stations.

The grants are offered on a first-come, first-serve basis of up to \$250 for each Level 1 charging station installed, and up to \$5,000 for each Level 2 charging station installed. Eligible applicants include public, private, for-profit, nonprofit, educational and governmental entities. Owners of parking facilities used by commuters or employees of other companies are also eligible.

For more information, visit: <http://www.drivegreen.nj.gov/programs.html>

4 Renewable Electric Storage Program

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities is offering this program, which provides financial incentives for electric energy storage systems that are integrated with Class 1 renewable energy projects installed behind-the-meter at non-residential customer sites. The open enrollment program offers an incentive of \$300 per kWh of energy capacity, and the maximum incentive per project is \$300,000 or 30% of the project's total cost, whichever is less.

For more information, visit: <http://www.njcleanenergy.com/renewable-energy/programs/energy-storage>

● Employers on the Move ...



Carpooling – Main Entrée at Flying Food Group

Seventy seven Flying Food Group (FFG) employees decided to take the jump into carpooling when Meadowlink visited their Newark location. FFG is an award-winning large-scale catering company providing superb meals and services for over 80 leading airlines representing over 30 countries.

Most of the flights depart from Newark in the early morning and all the meals have to be prepared and loaded on the aircraft well ahead of time. As a result a large number of FFG employees work late hours and traditional transit services do not meet their commute needs. Additionally, some employees commute from locations that have little or no transit services.

NJ Rideshare, the statewide carpooling program administered by the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) is open to all New Jersey commuters. It provides FFG employees an opportunity to share a ride not only with their co-workers but also with employees of other businesses at the airport, which increases the probability of finding a suitable carpool partner.

Meadowlink maintains an office at the airport and the on-site staff is a great resource for businesses seeking information about commute options to the airport.

To schedule an event, please contact:

Ellie Ferrer (973) 961-6941
eferrer@ezride.org



Meadowlink Helps Maquet Employees Find Carpool Partners

Maquet is a multi-national German company, which manufactures medical equipment for surgical workplaces, anesthesia systems, workstations for intensive care and cardiovascular devices. The business operates from two locations in New Jersey with their headquarters in Montvale and their Research and Development facility at Mahwah.

The Mahwah facility has about 100 employees who have regular work hours. Most of them live in Rockland County in New York State. Public transit is not available in this area and a large number of the employees drive long distances to work. The lengthy commutes are expensive and time-consuming.

In August, Meadowlink hosted a commute fair at the Mahwah site and about 40

employees signed up to participate in our carpooling program. Carpooling provides an opportunity to share the driving and reduce commute costs. It has the added benefit of reducing emissions and congestion on our roads. All carpool participants will be eligible to participate in our emergency ride home program that provides up to three free rides home in case of an emergency.

Maquet plans to host additional events throughout the year to remind their employees about their commute options and to encourage participation in our carpool program.

To schedule a transportation information session contact:

Stephen Culpepper (201) 939-4242
sculpepper@ezride.org

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



TERESA FRATTINI

Teresa loves animals and she spends a lot of her time helping people with their pets. She also owns and operates a pet food and supplies store called “The Hungry Puppy” in Farmingdale for the last 29 years.

Besides running a business, helping people with their pets and attending trade shows, Teresa makes time to volunteer at Meadowlink.

She learned about Meadowlink’s senior transportation program while browsing through the VolunteerMatch.org website. As a way to give back to the community, for more than a year, now she volunteers one day a week to drive seniors and riders with special needs to wherever they needed to go. She believes that the rides could help change lives and volunteering at EZ Ride is her opportunity to make that difference. “Talking to people about their everyday challenges gives me a reality check and helps me appreciate life,” she said.

We are grateful for her kindness and enthusiasm, and look forward to her continued support.

Love to Drive? Contact:

Brenda Carter (732) 380-1299
bcarter@ezride.org

Comments? Suggestions?

Feel free to forward
your thoughts on
improving the

The Transporter

to Kinga Skora at
(201) 939-4242

or e-mail:

kskora@ezride.org



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Nonprofit Org.
Auto
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S. Hackensack, NJ
Permit No. 1761

Service Updates

Share Your Experience

The North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) is updating its Regional Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP), which identifies transportation needs of seniors, low-income people, veterans and individuals with disabilities, provides strategies for meeting those needs, and prioritizes transportation services for funding and implementation. This plan is required for eligibility for federal funding for these services and will update the plan adopted in 2008.

As a part of the process for developing this plan, a survey has been created and community planning sessions are being held to solicit input from the community. This survey is available online at <http://vtc.rutgers.edu/gofarther>. The Spanish version of the survey is available online at <http://vtc.rutgers.edu/gofarther.esp>

By completing the survey all participants will be entered into a drawing to win a \$100 American Express gift card. Five gift cards will be awarded and winners will be selected at random.



Meadowlink staff is coordinating Community Planning Sessions to disseminate the information about the program and offer assistance with filling out the survey. Hard copies of the survey are also available and can be requested by contacting our staff. We look forward to getting everyone involved and encourage participation.

For more information about an upcoming Community Planning Session, please contact:

Bergen/ Passaic County:

Kinga Skora (201) 939-4242

kskora@ezride.org

Essex/ Union County:

Ellie Ferrer (973) 961-6941

eferrer@ezride.org

Monmouth County:

Brenda Carter (732) 380-1299

bcarter@ezride.org

Freebies galore...

Free Transit Displays

Meadowlink is an advocate for public transportation with a 'transit-first' policy. Our displays provide information about NJ TRANSIT bus and rail services. They are available free of charge for your worksite.

We will customize the displays and set them up at your worksite at your convenience.

Each display holds all relevant commuter brochures, together with information regarding carpool and vanpool services.

For your FREE display, please contact:

Michael Jensen

(201) 939-4242

mjensen@ezride.org