

# The Transporter



CTAA - Urban Community Transportation System of the Year - 2013

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

## Meadowlink Becomes Transportation Provider for DDD

In a decision that will provide reliable, easy-to-access transportation for many of New Jersey's residents with reduced mobility, Meadowlink was recently designated as a "Qualified Provider" by the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD). "We are very pleased to be able to provide access to our Flex-T service to clients of DDD," says Meadowlink Chairman Perry Frenzel. "These New Jerseyans will be able to immediately take advantage of our established high-quality transportation service."

The DDD provides public funding for services that assist adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to live as independently as possible. Each person who uses DDD's services has a plan of care developed with their support coordinator that details how they want to live; their transportation needs are described in the document.

Meadowlink will be working closely with DDD clients and their support coordinators to ensure that they are getting the transportation to which they are entitled. Clients are allowed to use Flex-T for non-medical transportation such as community-based services, integrated employment and employment-like activities such as volunteer or internship positions that may lead to employment.

For more information, please contact:

Wendy Arias at (732) 380-1299

warias@ezride.org



All Care Physical Therapy Administrative Executive Sharon Gandy and patient Robert Daniele after a test drive in an EZ Ride car.

## Physical Therapy Practice in Holmdel Signs Up with Flex-T

Many people undergoing physical therapy have a limited range of movement that often affects their ability to drive. This makes them appropriate clients for Flex-T, our car service for people with reduced mobility. The question is: how to find these potential clients and educate them about the advantages of our service? The answer: reach them at the place they are taking their therapy.

In that spirit, Meadowlink has signed a contract with All Care Physical Therapy of Holmdel to provide transportation service for their patients on an as-needed basis. We are waiving the per-person membership fee and the practice is paying a corporate membership fee. This is helpful since many people take physical therapy for short periods of time and may be reluctant to pay an annual fee.

"Many of our patients cannot drive and have to rely on family or friends for rides or take a taxi, which can be quite expensive," said Dr. Dov Iwaniski of All Care. "We think that Flex-T will provide an excellent alternative form of transportation. We are pleased to offer access to this service to our patients."

All-Care Physical Therapy is a state of the art facility, owned and operated by a doctor of physical therapy. Its location in Monmouth County is less than 5 miles away from Holmdel, Middletown, Hazlet, Colts Neck, Keansburg, Marlboro, Manalapan, Matawan, Old Bridge, Aberdeen, and Keyport.

For more information, please contact:

Wendy Arias at (732) 380-1299

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## Affordable Shuttle Services Ease Commuter Woes in the Meadowlands

Meadowlink's EZ Ride shuttles serve more than 1,000 commuters every day in the Meadowlands area. During peak commuting hours, our shuttles pick up and drop off passengers at the Secaucus Junction train station about every five minutes. Eleven of NJ TRANSIT's thirteen train lines run through this station and many of the passengers on those trains use an EZ Ride shuttle to complete their daily commute. Additionally, EZ Ride shuttles also bring passengers to the busy Rutherford and Lyndhurst train stations.

Increasingly, commuters are looking to avoid the stress of dealing with rush hour traffic every morning and evening. EZ Ride provides a link between hundreds of Meadowlands workplaces and key public transit hubs like Secaucus, Rutherford and Lyndhurst making it easier than ever to use public transportation.

EZ Ride operates about 30 mini-buses and facilitates the commute for thousands of employees from more than 300 companies. Our fleet uses state-of-the-art technology including GPS, in-vehicle cameras and software to track scheduling and dispatching.

As the economic recovery gains momentum, companies are adding employees and seeking new locations. Introducing a shuttle service at a new location is a great way to assist

employees since they have not yet settled into familiar commuting patterns. If your business is in the Meadowlands or nearby, chances are that we can add you to an existing route at less than half the cost of starting an employee shuttle from scratch.

In recent years quite a few of our shuttles have added stops at multi-unit residential properties. More and more we are serving Meadowlands residents who work in Manhattan or other locations easily accessed from the Secaucus, Lyndhurst and Rutherford stations. The reliable EZ Ride shuttle provides a vital link to key transportation hubs.

If you work at a residential development in the Meadowlands and are responsible for providing amenities to the residents, please contact us. We are interested in working with you to provide affordable shuttle services to the transit bus or rail station that will enhance the appeal of your property.

For more information, please contact:

Kinga Skora at (201) 939-4242

[kskora@ezride.org](mailto:kskora@ezride.org)

# Employers on the Move ...



## Meadows Office Complex Commute Fair Generates 26 New Carpoolers

**S**printing out of the gate for 2015, Meadowlink signed up 26 new carpoolers at the first Commute Fair of the year on January 14. Onyx Equities, property management of the complex, invited us present to about 100 employees from a number of the companies that have offices in the buildings.

Sony Entertainment and Shiseido - the skincare, makeup and fragrance company – are among the firms that have recently moved into the complex. Relocated companies are often good prospects for carpooling since the workers haven't yet settled into a commuting routine. Indeed, half of those signing up for carpools were from these two companies; other new signees included employees from Malo

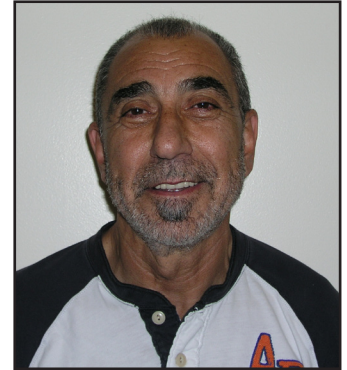
Ambulatory Surgery Center, Sprint and Cancer Genetics Inc.

The Meadows Office Complex is located at the intersection of Routes 3 and 17 in Rutherford, near major highways and public transportation hubs. We already complete the commute for employees at the Meadows Office Complex to and from Secaucus with an EZ Ride shuttle that operates every half-hour five days a week from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and again from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

For additional information or to host a transportation event, please contact:

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

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



**MAX ABERGEL**

“When my shift is over, I feel energized. It makes my day to have helped the people that rode in my car,” says Max Abergel, an EZ Ride volunteer driver. Max spent 30 years working as an IT systems analyst and is still very active. He enjoys mountain biking, tennis and works out every day at the gym.

When Max volunteers he is eager to get to work. Not only does he truly look forward to helping his passengers get to their destinations, but loves to engage in conversation with them.

“I learn something every day that I work as an EZ Ride driver. Many of the people that I help are very wise and have instructive life experiences that they share with me.”

He was inspired to pursue volunteer work with older people after watching his father struggle with illness in his later years. He feels a calling to give back to the community and his warmth and compassion are much appreciated by his passengers. Max is a true asset to EZ Ride and we greatly value his positive spirit and can-do attitude.

Love to Drive? Contact:

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



## CentraState Medical Center: 93 Employees Register for Carpooling

**M**eadowlink held its 157th Commute Fair of the year in November at CentraState Medical Center in Freehold and a whopping 93 commuters signed up for carpooling. Melinda Dalton, who lead the event said, “This is among the best responses we’ve had at one fair all year. There was a lot of interest in our program.”

CentraState is located 12 miles from exit 8A of the New Jersey Turnpike and just a few miles from Routes 9, 18 and 33. Proximity to main thoroughfares makes carpooling easier since riders can be picked up and dropped off at parking lots along the roads.

Given the stressful nature of working at a major medical center, many people indicated that sharing their commute

could help relieve that stress. Of the 93 employees who signed up, most of them drive to work by themselves every day, although 17 currently carpool.

More than 2,000 people work at CentraState and the center serves a population of more than 300,000 across four counties in Central New Jersey. CentraState is the fourth largest employer in Monmouth County and with so many employees, parking and commutes to the facilities can be complicated.

To set up a Commute Event at your facility in Monmouth County, please contact:

Melinda Dalton at (732) 380-1299  
mdalton@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:

[bdainton@ezride.org](mailto:bdainton@ezride.org)



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## Service Updates

### Protect Your Bike!

Cycling can save the world! OK, that may be a bit of an exaggeration, but according to the Pedestrian and Bicycling Information Center, the health benefits of regular physical activity include reduced risk of coronary heart disease, stroke, diabetes and other chronic diseases, reduced health care costs and improved quality of life for people of all ages. The Center reminds us that physical activity doesn't need to be very strenuous for an individual to reap significant health benefits. Even bicycling or walking for about 30 minutes a day will produce measurable benefits among those who are least active.

Not only does getting more people on their bikes have a positive impact on health, but it has environmental benefits too. The U.S. Census estimates that about half of all Americans live within five miles of their workplace. Those who decide to bike those 5 miles every day rather than driving an average car could reduce total household emissions by six percent. And did you know that you can fit up to 12 bikes in the parking space of one car?

At Meadowlink, we want to encourage cycling as a means of transportation. This is why we provide access to bike lockers at the Cranford, Rahway, Roselle Park, Summit, Maplewood, and Westfield stations. Bike lockers provide high security bike storage. It is an opportunity to park your bike over a long period of time with protection from inclement weather, theft and vandalism.

There is a \$50 refundable key deposit and \$7.50 + tax per month rental fee. It is a small price to pay for some peace of mind and dependability from a durable locker.

To find the availability of a bike locker on your commute, please contact:

Meeta Patel at (201) 939-4242

[mpatel@ezride.org](mailto:mpatel@ezride.org)

### Freebies galore...

#### Free Helmets

We plan to have bike rodeos all summer long in the five counties we represent: Bergen, Essex, Monmouth, Passaic and Union.

As grand and exciting as the Bike Rodeos may be, they do not begin without a proper fitted helmet. As part of our Safe Routes to School program, we fit helmets, and teach kids how to fit their own helmet. If they do not have a helmet, we provide the right helmet for them. We then go through the ABC's of the bike.

No child rides without the Air, Brakes, Cranks and Chains being checked on their bike.

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