**SERCCOT**

**February 16, 2016**

**Attendees**

Susan Oliveira, Somerset COA; Christine Stockley, Community VNA & Healthcare Options; Nancy Lawson, Catholic Social Services; Melanie Ramos, Bristol Elder Services; Anne Bisson, Dept. of Human Services/Taunton COA; Laura Beaudoin, DDS,; Mary Basilone, GATRA; Bill Shine, Independence Associates; Janet Richardi, Southeast Coalition to End Homelessness; Filomena Tripp, SECIL; Angie Azevedo, SRPEDD; Rachel Fichtenbaum, MassMobility; Adam Blye, MassRides; Steve Salwak, SSCAC, Inc.; Tanja Ryden, Consultant; Michelle Pelletier, Community Counseling of Bristol County; Maria Connor, Dartmouth COA; Ann McCrillis, Coastline

**Welcome & Introductions**

* Angie Azevedo welcomed everyone to the new meeting location and explained how we will be alternating between the New Bedford and Taunton locations going forward
* Introductions from the group

**Workforce Grants for Southeast**

* Angie Azevedo provided detail about the email that Aniko Laszlo (MassDOT) sent to the group after the last meeting. It was a link to the Workforce Development Training Fund grantees.

These organizations were given money to train their employees. Angie wanted to know what we should do with this information. The group decided that at the very least we should reach out to the organizations and let them know about resources like MassRides and RideMatch that can help their employees locate transportation. Additionally, we could invite representatives from the organizations to join us at future meetings. Angie said she would draft and send out the email.

**Transit Planning 4 All Grant**

* Rachel Fichtenbaum told the group about another grant opportunity. “The Transit Planning for All organization in collaboration with CTA and Easter Seals recently announced the availability of funding for community-based demonstration programs. The purpose of this funding opportunity is to encourage development of an inclusive coordinated transportation system in which people with disabilities and older adults actively participate in both advisory and decision-making capacities.”
* Applications are due March 18, 2016
* Very competitive – only 8 projects will be awarded nationwide.
* There may be a possibility to collaborate with Neponset Valley RCC on this project.
* After SERCCOT’s experience with the Tufts grant, Janet Richardi felt - and the group agreed - that we might not be in the position to apply for this right now. Given the inclusive requirement of the grant, we should find ways to engage area seniors and people with disabilities to be active participants in SERCCOT meetings and planning first. GATRA has consumer advisory groups and DDS has family support groups where we can invite people to participate in SERCCOT.
* There was further discussion about how we would structure consumer engagement. These individuals may not feel comfortable discussing their concerns with the larger group so we may need to have separate meetings for them where they would be more willing to express their opinions freely.
* Send a survey/email to the groups/agencies (GATRA & SRTA Consumer Advisory Groups, MassRehab, DDS, etc.) to see how it would be best to engage their consumers. We need to identify contacts at these different groups/agencies so we can put together a distribution list for email communications.

**Meeting Minutes review from January**

* January 2016 Meeting Minutes where reviewed and accepted by the group.

**Marketing Toolkit Update**

* Mary Basilone and Angie Azevedo met last month to discuss planning for the Toolkit. It was decided that we would not try to create a comprehensive printed guide with information that would be obsolete shortly after it’s printed. Instead, this guide will explain the process of how one goes about accessing services. We will do this by posing a series of questions that will act to filter down the individual’s need. Sample questions may be:
* Are you a senior over 60 years of age?
* Are you seeking transportation to medical appointments?
* Do you have a disability?
* Are you a student?
* Are you a Mass Health recipient?
* Are you a veteran?
* Are you a commuter?
* Do you need airport transportation?
* Each question will direct the user to a corresponding page with a brief description of the service, the eligibility and application process (if applicable) and a contact number to call. This way the information is targeted to the specific need so the reader is not bogged down with detail.
* Nancy Larson and Michelle Pelletier volunteered to work on the subcommittee.
* Nancy Larson talked about how it would be great if the Toolkit could somehow be integrated into the new “Coordinated Entry” system that is now being used in the Southcoast Region for the homeless population. She will look into this and report back to the group.

**Proposal Review for MassDOT Community Transit Grant Program**

Several attendees shared their proposals for the upcoming CTGP application deadline – February 22, 2016

* Susan Oliveira from the Somerset COA is applying for funds for an 8-passenger van to replace a 2003 van that is now being used to transport seniors and persons with disabilities to day care programs, medical and long-distance trips to Dighton and Swansea.
* Christine Stockley the grant writer at the Community VNA is applying for funds for four 12-person vans that are replacements for their oldest vehicles that they are using to transport the frail elderly population to day care programs in Taunton, Mansfield, and Norwood.
* Maria Connor of the Dartmouth COA in collaboration with the Friends of the Elderly is applying for the grant to fund a one 14-passenger van for expanded service for veterans to go to VA Hospitals. The group told Maria that the grant is for services for seniors and persons with disabilities only and she said her veterans are mostly seniors and/or persons with disabilities.
* Mary Basilone from GATRA is applying for funds for upgrades to the Ride Match program, specifically the modification of the user search feature to utilize geo spatial technology. This will improve data accuracy and allow for more rapid interpretation of search results. GATRA is also applying for funds for expanded ADA service.
* Steve Salwak of SSCAC is applying for funds for seven replacement vehicles to preserve existing service for seniors and persons with disabilities in multiple communities south of Boston to the Cape Cod Canal. They are also submitting a second grant application to pilot for a joint dispatch for the towns of Norwell and Randolph.
* The RCC voted to support the above applications as they were presented at the meeting, but it should be noted that the group did not review the actual applications.

**Tabled Items for Next Meeting**

Because the meeting was running over its allotted time, the following Agenda items were tabled for discussion at the March 8 meeting:

* Fall Forum on Education/Employment (Evaluation and Table Notes updates, MassRides/Nurides Materials, Community Colleges Transportation)
* Newsletter – Action items information to forum participants
* Wareham Coordination Project & Next Steps

**Next Meeting**

* Next meeting is March 8, 2016, 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM, SRPEDD offices in Taunton MA.