

#### Human Services Initiative Webinar Series

Webinar I: Vaccination Access and Transportation

June 29, 2023







#### Instructions for Zoom Webinar Participation

- All participants are muted.
- The session is being recorded. All materials including the recording will be put on the <u>NADTC</u> website.
- Closed captioning is available. You can turn captioning/subtitles on or off by clicking on the cc button.



- Please put your questions in the Q & A button.
- Chat is open and can be used for general comments, or technical assistance.



#### **NADTC Overview**

 Melissa Gray, Assistant Director of Transportation USAging, NADTC

#### **Today's Presenters**

- Jennifer Hammer, Assistant Director, Aging and Disability Vaccination Collaborative, USAging
- Jeni Pirtle, Director of Communications and Community Engagement, TogetherAustin/VaxTogetherAustin
- Seth Wells, Executive Director, RISE Center for Independent Living
- Leigh Ann Eagle, Director, Health & Wellness Program, MAC, Inc.



#### National Aging & Disability Transportation Center

#### **Our Mission:**

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











#### National Aging & Disability Transportation Center

#### **What We Provide:**

- Technical Assistance & Training
- **Publications & Resources** 
  - TA Coordination Library
  - **Funding Resource Guide**
- Partnership Coordination
  - **Coalition Toolkit**
- **Community Grants**







**Join Our Mailing List!** 





#### NADTC's Human Services Initiative

This initiative will include a series of webinars targeted to the needs of human services transportation providers, in particular, programs that are operated or administered by Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), Title VI Native American Programs, Centers for Independent Living (CILs) and other disability and aging focused organizations and tribal nations.







**Call toll-free:** 866.983.3222

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# **AGING & DISABILITY** Vaccination Collaborative powered by USAqinq

## **Grant Summary**

- ADVC Advisory Committee is comprised of more than 20 national organizations specializing in aging, disability and diverse populations and is poised to provide technical assistance and support
- Approximately 400 local organizations and eligible states mobilized at the community level to develop new or support existing vaccination response systems that will result in at least two million older adults and people with disabilities being vaccinated for COVID-19 and/or Influenza nationwide



## **Grant Summary, continued**

 Focus: Reach older adults and people with disabilities most at-risk to negative health consequences of not being adequately vaccinated. Includes COVID, Influenza, Shingles, and Pneumococcal (pneumonia)!

• **Grant Amounts:** Generally range from \$50,000 to \$1,500,000 depending on programmatic reach and justified need.



#### **Grant Activities**

#### Vaccinations

Community and/or In-Home

#### Supportive Services

- Assistance to acquire appointments
- Transportation—arrange and/or provide
- Personal support to receive the vaccination
- Referrals to other needed services

#### Outreach and Education

#### Reporting Requirements

 Service Delivery Documentation, Progress Reports, and Financial Reports





## **Application Overview**

#### Eligibility Screening

- Agency Type
- Required Grant Activities

#### Application

- Agency Information
- Intended Vaccination Outreach Audience and Anticipated Demographic Reach
- Partner Agencies
- Budget



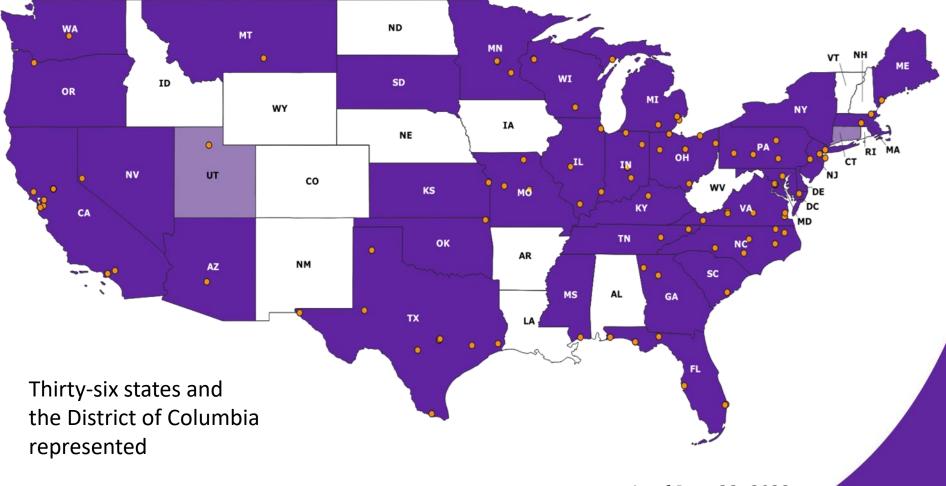


### **USAging ADVC Applicants and Awardees**











## Questions?

For more information, contact:
Jennifer Hammer
Assistant Director, Aging and Disability Vaccination
Collaborative
jhammer@usaging.org

# Together Austin ADVC Transportation Pilot

JENI PIRILE <u>jeni@togetheraustin.org</u> 512-766-2910



#### **About Us**

- Pandemic-born
- >20,000 shots in arms since first COVID-19 vaccine clinic in April 2021
- Equity-based approach

## Program Structure

Purpose: To make vaccination more accessible by helping people meet basic needs holistically

Assess the needs of your target population(s)

Establish agreements with local transportation providers

Develop intake criteria and processes

Document calls

Evaluate success through call log and client feedback

Refine processes as needed

# Assess the needs of target population(s)

- Demographics: Urban, suburban, rural
- Disability accommodations
- Language interpretation

# Establish agreements with local transportation providers

- Intake criteria
- Accommodations
- Scheduling
- Invoicing

# Develop intake criteria and processes

- Provider requests
- Grant requirements
- Staffing
- Response times

#### **Document calls**

- Intake information
- Follow-up calls
- Appointment reminders
- Feedback

# Evaluate success through call log and client feedback

- Address real-time problems
- Solicit feedback
- Discuss quality improvements

### Refine processes as needed

- Adjustments with providers
- Improving accommodations
- Simplify the client's process

## Questions

Contact info: jeni@togetheraustin.org

512-766-2910

Website: TogetherAustin.org

Instagram: @VaxTogetherAustin

**Facebook: TogetherAustin** 









# RISE CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

A NON-RESIDENTIAL CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING IN BEAUMONT, TX SERVING PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES





- Under the rehabilitation act of 1973, as amended, congress established centers for independent living (cils) in response to individuals with disabilities need for independent living skills, advocacy, community services, education, training, peer support, information & referral, and transition services.
- Founded in 1996, rise center, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, serves individuals with disabilities in fulfilling their goals of independence and self-sufficiency. Services are offered, most without cost, to individuals of all ages who live in Jefferson, Orange, and Hardin counties\*.

## MISSION

- RISE Center promotes the full inclusion, equal opportunity, and participation of persons with disabilities in every aspect of community life.
- People with disabilities have the right and ability to make choices affecting their lives, the right to take risks, the right to fail, and the right to succeed.

**INSPIRING INDEPENDENCE!** 



#### TRANSPORTATION BARRIERS

- Lack of fully accessible bus stops in our area
- Areas of service with (0) public transportation services
- Limited Inter-county transportation services
- Limited availability for Para-Transit services provided by city and county
- Cost of private services are often too great due to a majority of our consumers being on a fixed income.
- Lack of information on public transportation routes and services





Despite disruption to normal working conditions, RISE staff continued the provision of services.

# Covid-19 & Continuing Services

- In March 2020, RISE staff transitioned to working from home due to the rising risk of Covid-19 to our staff, consumers, and volunteers.
- Despite this challenge, RISE never ceased providing direct services to consumers during the pandemic.
- In 2020, with receipt of CARES ACT funding, RISE partnered with NUTRITION & SERVICES FOR SENIORS (NSS) to begin the "RIDES with RISE" program.



NSS is currently providing up to 200 rides daily for clients in the RISE service area.

# RIDES with RISE

- One of the common barriers for persons with a disability is finding reliable, low-cost, accessible transportation services to attend their work, educational, or medical needs and goals.
- NSS maintains a small fleet of fully accessible vehicles to transport persons with ambulatory issues.
- Initially, consumers could utilize transportation services to visit grocery stores, financial institutions, and medical appointments during the pandemic. Since the program's beginning, RISE has provided approximately 5,500 rides.

## **How it Works**

- Consumer's eligibility for low-cost rides through NSS is determined.
- Consumers that do not qualify for low-cost rides are referred to RISE for determination of services.
- Consumers are allotted a package of one-way rides based on needs, goals, and available funding.
- Consumer's rides are approved through an electronic form, via Microsoft TEAMS, between NSS and RISE.
- Consumers are then required to do intake & orientation through NSS and schedule their rides 48-hours in advance.
- RISE is invoiced for *rides taken* by the consumer at the end of each month.
- Unless approved by RISE, consumers are required to call back at the end of each month to determine their transportation needs for the upcoming month.



#### VACCINE TRANSPORTATION SERVICE PARTNERS:





Gulf Coast Health Center, Inc.

- RISE HAS EXECUTED ADDITIONAL MOUs with local adult day care centers and federally qualified health centers with transportation programs and/or in home vaccination services.
- CURRENTLY, RISE IS EXPANDING PARTNERSHIPS TO ALLOW CONSUMERS OPTIONS TO OBTAIN VACCINES:
  - Catholic Dioceses
  - Other Houses of Worship
  - The Salvation Army
  - Veteran Stand Down events

#### VACCINE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH











# RISE CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING 409 832 2599 WWW.RISECIL.ORG

https://www.facebook.com/risecenter

HELP THE PERSON IN FRONT OF YOU. REPEAT.





# ENSURING ACCESS TO VACCINATION CLINICS ACROSS THE STATE OF MARYLAND

Leigh Ann Eagle, Chief Operations Officer
Maryland Living Well Center of Excellence, LWCE
a Division of MAC, Inc. Area Agency on Aging

## What Vaccines are Recommended for Adults Aged 60 and Older?



COVID-19 vaccines available in the United States are effective at protecting people from getting seriously ill, being hospitalized, and dying. The CDC recommends you receive your primary COVID-19 vaccine as 2 doses and 1 updated bivalent booster 6 months later. The updated bivalent booster now protects against the original virus that causes COVID-19 and the Omicron variants.



All adults need a seasonal flu (influenza) vaccine every year. Flu vaccine is especially important for people with chronic health conditions and older adults.

#### Shingles

Almost 1 in 3 people in the United States will develop shingles in their lifetime. Your risk of shingles increases as you grow older. Shingles vaccine, protects against shingles and the complications from the disease. Shingles vaccine is recommended for healthy adults 50 years and older.

#### Pneumococcal Vaccine

Pneumococcal disease is caused by bacteria and can range from ear and sinus infections to more serious lung and blood infections.

#### **Hepatitis B**

Hepatitis B vaccine protects from hepatitis B which causes a flu-like illness with loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, rashes, joint pain, and jaundice.











FIND A
VACCINE
CLINIC
NEAR YOU.

**SCAN THE QR CODE** 





# The Critical Role Transportation Plays in Linking Older Adults to Needed Services

Maryland is one of the top four states with the smallest population of whites. Maryland's population of blacks is the 4th highest in the nation and the number of Hispanic, Asian and multi-race older adults continues to increase.

- LWCE is utilizing funding to the Chinese Culture and Community Service Center to cover van pick up and delivery to vaccine clinics.
- Transit card credits to individuals in need of vaccinations.
- Uber and Lyft credits for individuals needing rides to/from vaccination sites.

# Additional Partnerships were Established to Increase Access of Seniors, Especially in Rural and in Underserved Communities

- Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland is training it's food delivery drivers to encourage older adults and people with disabilities to participate in vaccination clinics.
  - ► The drivers provide flyers and sign-up sheets to collect needed information.
  - ► Key sites, such as older adult housing are being contacted. Vaccines will be available to those who get home-delivered meals, as well as to the entire housing site.
  - Outreach to these sites has already occurred and plans include pre-clinic sites to offer blood pressure monitoring and other activities.

# The Partnership with the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy and the Peter Lamy Center on Drug Therapy and Aging

- ► The thoughtful and thorough development of flyers, review of sites, client engagement and data collection and collaboration across LWCE and the Pharmacists is managed by weekly calls with key personnel.
- Pharmacy students assist with required data documentation and collection.

### Questions



