LINKING COMMUNITIES THROUGH TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

Omaha, Nebraska
May 15-16, 2014
Regional Commuting Patterns

Daily Commuting Patterns

Service Area Public Transportation
Commuting in the Region

Average cost to commute represents 32% of household income.

Traffic congestion is highest in Blount and Knox Counties.

Fixed – Route transit is limited to the City of Knoxville.

Only one in 5 streets in the region has sidewalks for pedestrian traffic.

Low-density development in the region does not support public transit.
Blount County at a Glance

Population – 124,177

Growth Increase – 16.9% (2010-2012 census)

Percent of Residents – 16.8% living in poverty

Percent of residents – 15.6% 65 or older

Percent of Residents – 7.9% 65+ living in poverty
Capacity Building Projects
Blount County Senior Action Council

Provide Transportation Options to Seniors 60+ who do not drive
- Essential Trips – Medical/Grocery
- Door-to-Door
- Scheduled/Reliable

Use local resources available
- Volunteers with Community Spirit
- Faith-Based Organizations
- Community Organizations
- Community Connections

Work Plan
- Community Awareness 7/2013
- Recruit Volunteers 9/2013
- Screen and Train Drivers 9/2013
- Launch Service 10/2013
Celebrates 1000th Ride – April 9, 2014

Project Progress
Grant Contribution: $4995

Members: 64
Average age: 78

Drivers: 43
Average age: 66

The SMiles program will also be presented at a workshop for the n4a (National Area Agency on Aging Association) July Conference in Dallas.