



“Count Me On”

Clovernook Center For The
Blind and Visually
Impaired



The Project



- ▶ The goal is to establish inclusive, collaborative transposition planning process and activities to benefit older adults, individuals with disabilities, and caregivers. Provide choice, independence, and dignity through community based safe pedestrian, transit, paratransit, and city-center streetcar travel.
- ▶ Bridge community living's inclusive transportation planning processes between a small suburban city and urban city-center.



Why it Matters?



Individual choice and independent living options increase by:

- ▶ Inclusive transportation planning processes to assist in discovering barriers.
- ▶ Resulting in more effective results to help eliminate barriers.



Who it Serves?

- ▶ “Count Me On” benefits older adults, individuals with disabilities, and caregivers.



Getting out the Word

Partnering with Organizational Stakeholders



- ▶ Partnering with organizational stakeholders, transit planners, service providers, advocates, planners and local decision-makers assist “Count Me On’s” outcomes.
- ▶ These vested leaders have a front seat from beginning to end and lend their unique expertise.



Sustainability



- ▶ Ensured by “Count Me On’s” strategic invitation to partners who show a commitment to inclusive planning. All parties have verifiable, sustained inclusive planning experience, meaningful involvement, and are demographically diverse. “Count Me On” expands the ever growing, sustained inclusive transportation planning process.



Team Members

- ✓ Keith Crothers, Jackie Conner, Marsha Gerton, Deana Marshall, Dee Sunderman, Mike Horn, Christopher Roberts: Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- ✓ Sheri Albers: President, Cincinnati Chapter_ National Federation for the Blind
- ✓ Lisa Aulick: Director ADA & Accessible Services Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority
- ✓ Howie Baum: Adjunct Instructor University of Cincinnati, Accessibility & Safety
- ✓ Susan Bragassa: Service and Support Administrator, Hamilton County Development Disabilities
- ✓ Matthew Gellin: Transit Theatre #BreaktheWalls
- ✓ Jonathan Lawniczak: Chief Advocacy Officer for Aging and Accessibility City of Cincinnati
- ✓ Brandy May: Administrator North College Hill Community Seniors, Inc.
- ✓ Pete Metz: Transportation Policy & Coalition Manager, Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce
- ✓ Florence Parker: Public Involvement Specialist & DBE Liaison Officer, Ohio/Kentucky/Indiana Regional Councils of Governments (OKI)
- ✓ Mark Samaan: Better Bus Coalition Data Manager



Obstacles/Barriers

- ▶ Signage: Effective signage is lacking for all individuals.
- ▶ Accessibility: Safer access to bus and Streetcar, particularly occurring among travel transitions.
- ▶ Communications: Video, audio systems, text, and graphics to assist individuals with disabilities and older adults with their independent and safe transit decisions.



Next steps



Host

- Community Meetings and Events
- Participate in North College Hill, Cincinnati, and/or Steering Committee Partner Events
- Travel Buddy Experiences
- Focus Groups
- One-on-one Surveys
- Audio Recorded Personal Stories and Experiences



Conclusion



- ▶ “Count Me On” focuses on the target population’s transportation choices and transitions when traveling from the small community of the City of North College Hill to Cincinnati's Streetcar via Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana-Regional Council of Government (OKI)/Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority/Metro bus and paratransit services.
- ▶ Outcomes bridge the gap among accessibility, obstacles, barriers, and solutions. Results include more independent living, employment, and recreation experiences.