

To: United Veterans Committee Members  
From: Colorado Veterans Transportation Task Force (presented by Angela Schreffler)  
Date: February 12, 2013

*At Area Camp  
Special UVC  
Meeting*

The Colorado Veterans Transportation Task Force was created in 2010 to move Colorado Veterans where they need to go through effective, coordinated partnerships and linkages with Veterans and non-veterans groups. Key agencies involved include:

- State Coordinating Council, Co-Sponsor
- Denver Regional Mobility and Access Council (DRMAC), Co-Sponsor
- County Veterans Service Officers
- United Veterans Committee
- Eastern Colorado Health Care System
- Board of Veterans Affairs
- Various human service organizations and transportation providers

Our work plan, created in 2012, focuses in four main areas: Information-Dissemination, Facilitation, Resource Development/Funding, Systems Change/Policy Development.

**Examples of action items include:**

- Work with DAV on identifying other providers in their area so that DAV transportation is used for those who most need it
- Identify opportunities for building in incentives to coordinate and share resources (tying coordination requirements into Trust Fund/CDOT contracts)
- Identify opportunities for possible piloting of researched models (or strategies of our own design) for ride-sharing and/or blending veterans transportation funding and resources with non-veterans
- Work with VA health facilities to be more proactive about schedule coordination

**What we have learned over the last two years:**

- Rural transportation is scarce or non-existent.
- Veterans are not always aware of non-veterans' transportation resources available to them.
- Existing veterans transportation services, like those provided by the DAV, do not cover all of the gaps, as hard as they try. They have limited capacity, don't provide door-to-door service, and the vehicles are not accessible.
- There may be many veterans using 'veterans' transportation services or resources that are eligible for other services, which would free up those limited veterans services.

**Following are recommendations for your consideration:**

1. Invite a Task Force representative to speak to your group, mail you materials, or write a newsletter article about transportation resources available to the veterans you serve.
2. If you are involved with a veterans service organization that receives trust fund dollars for transportation, we'd love to work with your group to help you figure out how you can maximize those limited dollars by tapping into other available state funding, thus serving more veterans.
3. Get to know the Local Coordinating Council, Regional Coordinating Council, or Mobility Manager in your area. If you are not sure who that is, contact Angela (contact info can be found at [www.drmac-co.org](http://www.drmac-co.org)).

We strongly believe that by working together, we can better leverage the limited funding that is available for transportation. We look forward to partnering with you in 2013 and beyond.