

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DECEMBER 7, 2010**

Community Yellow Cab Success Leads to OKI Expanding Program

Cincinnati, Ohio – The Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OKI) announced an expansion of highly successful Community Yellow Cab New Freedom Taxicab Voucher Program. Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society have joined the program.

“We are very pleased with this extraordinary program as it is providing a meaningful service and improving the lives of persons with disabilities,” said OKI Board President and Campbell County Judge Executive Steve Pendery. “Community Yellow Cab has exceeded our expectations and has had a positive effect on a great number of people.”

The Community Yellow Cab program uses vouchers, provided at a discounted price through participating social service agencies, that enable persons with disabilities to utilize cab service for social and professional activities. It has been operational since January 2009 and is available throughout Hamilton County in Ohio and Boone, Campbell, and Kenton counties in Kentucky.

In addition to Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, other participating social service agencies include: American Council of the Blind of Ohio, Down Syndrome Association of Greater Cincinnati, Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities Services and Northern Kentucky Area Development District.

The taxicab service, which is available 24 hours a day, provided more than 2,800 trips throughout the service area in its first year. Eligible individuals can purchase voucher booklets through the participating agencies. Social service agencies interested in partnering with Community Yellow Cab in order to make this service available to their clients should contact Eric DiFulvio of Community Yellow Cab at (859) 991-5202.

“Community Yellow Cab provides not only transportation, but freedom and flexibility,” said OKI Executive Director Mark Policinski. “OKI is honored to allocate funds and serve a role in this program that empowers persons with disabilities to overcome transportation barriers.”

OKI is a council of local governments, business organizations and community groups committed to developing collaborative strategies, plans and programs to improve the quality of life and the economic development potential of the Tri-State.

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