

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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OKI Awards \$330,000 for Transportation Services to Benefit the Elderly and Disabled

Cincinnati, Ohio – Ohio-Kentucky Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OKI) Board President and Campbell County Judge Executive announced today that \$330,000 will be distributed to seven organizations in the Greater Cincinnati area to help provide transportation for elderly and disabled individuals.

“These transportation projects are important because they will provide citizens with a service that previously was unavailable or insufficient,” said Pendery. “The new vehicles purchased through this program will provide safe, reliable and necessary transportation for people who desperately need it.”

The funds were allocated from the Ohio Department of Transportation’s 5310 Specialized Transportation Program grant and will be used by local organizations to purchase accessible vehicles to transport elderly and disabled passengers. Five types of vehicles are available through the program. Each vehicle is designed to accommodate different types of wheelchair and ambulatory passengers.

The standard minivan is the most economical and maneuverable vehicle and can accommodate up to six ambulatory passengers. The modified minivan is similar to the standard minivan but it can also accommodate two wheelchair passengers. The converted van can transport up to 12 ambulatory passengers and one wheelchair passenger. The light transit narrow body vehicle is similar to the converted van and can accommodate eight passengers. The light transit wide body vehicle is the largest option and can accommodate up to 16 ambulatory passengers, as well as two wheelchair passengers.

“These vehicles will help remove existing transportation limitations and present the elderly and disabled with new, exciting opportunities and freedom,” said OKI Executive Director Mark Policinski. “It has been a privilege for OKI to administer funds and be part of a program that has such a meaningful effect on the region’s citizens.”

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.

For Additional Information Contact: Sarah Fry (513) 621-6300 ext. 141

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*Steve Pendery
President*

*Mark R. Policinski
Executive Director*

5310 Specialized Transportation Program Grant Recipients

| Project Sponsor | County | Description | Federal Funding Amount |
|---------------------------------------|----------|---|------------------------|
| Oxford Senior Citizens, Inc. | Butler | One Light Transit Vehicle; Communication Equipment | \$41,228 |
| Clermont Senior Services, Inc. | Clermont | Two Light Transit Vehicles; One Modified Minivan | \$91,879 |
| Cincinnati Area Senior Services, Inc. | Hamilton | One Light Transit Vehicle | \$46,152 |
| Maple Knoll Communities | Hamilton | One Light Transit Vehicle | \$39,394 |
| Senior Independence – Anderson | Hamilton | One Light Transit Vehicle | \$49,193 |
| Wesley Community Services | Hamilton | One Converted Van | \$37,513 |
| Warren County Community Services | Warren | One Modified Van | \$25,369 |

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