



Dearborn County CARE Transportation Intervention Report

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INDIANA INSTITUTE ON DISABILITY AND COMMUNITY
**CENTER FOR COLLABORATIVE
SYSTEMS CHANGE**

CARE

community action recovery effort

Dearborn County CARE

Addressing the needs of people in treatment and recovery

The Dearborn County Community Action Recovery Effort (CARE) is a collaborative group of diverse stakeholders coming together to support community wellness and ensure a recovery-ready community.

Through surveys and interviews, transportation was identified as a crucial, immediate need for those in treatment and recovery. To that end, a work group was established to find ways ensure residents have access to low-cost/no-cost transportation to access their medical appointments, vehicle maintenance, and sustainability recovery supports.

Interventions were documented by peer recovery coaches and additional information was provided through evaluation tools developed by CARE and their partners.



External evaluation of the Dearborn CARE cross-sector coalition project has been conducted by Dr. Allison Howland and her research team from the Center for Collaborative Systems Change (CCSC) at Indiana University's Indiana Institute on Disability and Community. CCSC has a long history of community-based participatory research in Dearborn County, as well as a long-standing partnership with One Community, One Family. Additionally, CCSC has provided evaluation and technical assistance for substance use prevention and recovery initiatives in communities across the state.

Performance measures are crafted within a Results Based Accountability (RBA) Model to answer the following questions:

1. **"What did we do?"** To what extent are strategies/services delivered (how much) and to what extent are these implemented as intended (how well)?
2. **"Is anyone better off?"** To what extent are ROSC community, provider, and consumer outcomes improving?

For more information about the evaluation, please contact Dr. Howland at ahowland@iu.edu.

Transportation Intervention

In 2019, 350 community members and 42 social service providers in the area shared their perspectives about transportation needs and issues in Dearborn County. Lack of transportation is a consistent and pervasive barrier to basic life functions such as getting to the grocery store, work, school, or health services. Data from this survey has helped to inform decision-making about possible improvement options to transportation systems among community leaders.

76% of community members own a personal vehicle

Top 5 Barriers to owning a car

- Money for Car Repairs
- Gas Money
- Driver's License
- Insurance
- Car Registration

Public transportation, such as a bus system, emerged as the most common idea for how to improve the transportation system in Dearborn County.

Other ideas included improving roads, as well as increasing awareness and available times of public options (i.e., Catch-A-Ride) that are currently available.

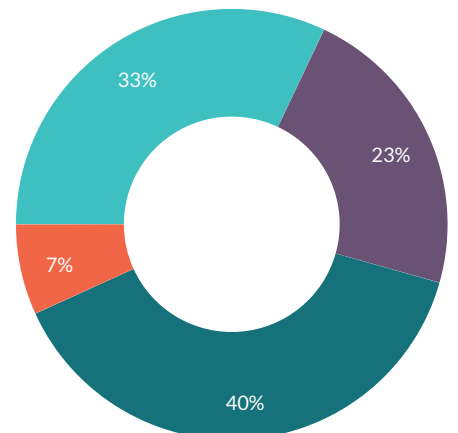
Below are rankings of the transportation options available in the county, based on the percentage of people who responded **yes** or **no** to each rating.

Most Reliable	Most Affordable	Easiest to Use
Personal Vehicle	Walking	Personal Vehicle
Rides from Family/Friends	Catch-A-Ride	Walking
Walking	Personal Bicycle	Rides from Peer/Recovery Coach
Least Reliable	Least Affordable	Hardest to Use
Bike-Share	Ride-Share (i.e., Uber)	Medicab
Scooter/Moped	Taxi	Ride-Share (i.e., Uber)
Rides from Church/Volunteer Organization	Bike-Share	Bike-Share

Daily Commute

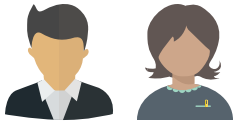
Do you travel more than 30 minutes to get to the places you need to go?

- Yes
- No
- Sometimes
- Missing



CARE Transportation Intervention Pilot

In response to the transportation needs identified in the survey, CARE launched the Transportation Intervention Pilot in May 2019. Persons in recovery make requests for support through their Peer Recovery Coach, who works with CARE so that persons in recovery can attend appointments, go to recovery meetings, find work, and go to their job. Requests and approved expenses are tracked through a form for analysis by the IU Evaluation Team.



Since the beginning of the Pilot, **115+** people have been given assistance. Individual support ranged from **\$30** to **\$500**, with an average of **\$274** per person.



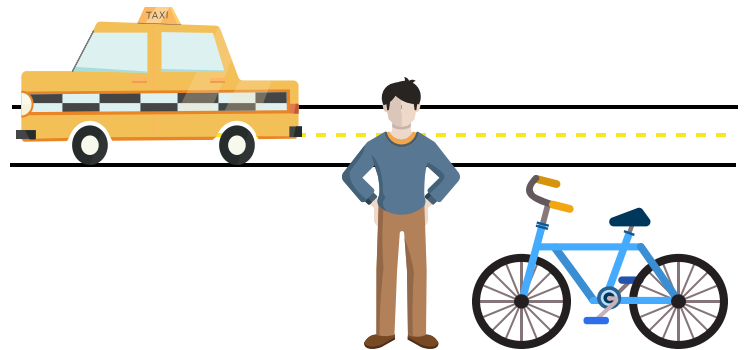
The total estimated value of intervention support provided to date is over **\$32,000**. This includes grant funding, community donations, and Catch-A-Ride vouchers.



The top 3 assistance types provided: BMV Reinstatement/ License/Tag Fees, Car Repairs, and Car Purchases.

Transportation Requests and Assistance

I needed a bike for just little things- to go to the store and attend Alcoholics/Narcotics Anonymous meetings.



I just started working and needed help with gas money until my first paycheck.

I received Catch-A-Ride vouchers in order to schedule rides to treatment and find a job.

I got help with car repairs. I needed reliable transportation to participate in an outpatient Courts Addiction and Drug Services program, and to visit my daughter while working with DCS to regain custody.

Post-Intervention Survey Results

Beginning in the fall of 2020, a survey was sent to transportation intervention recipients. Questions were asked about how well the intervention met their needs and how the intervention impacted their recovery and every day life. One hundred percent of the respondents said they were satisfied or very satisfied with the transportation assistance they received.

How well did the transportation support you received from CARE meet your needs?

- Helped solve transportation problems and have no more right now (29%)
- It helped for a while, but still have more issues with transportation (29%)
- It met all needs at first, but now have new transportation problems (19%)
- It helped for a while, but still have ongoing issues (14%)
- It helped for a while, for a one-time issue (10%)

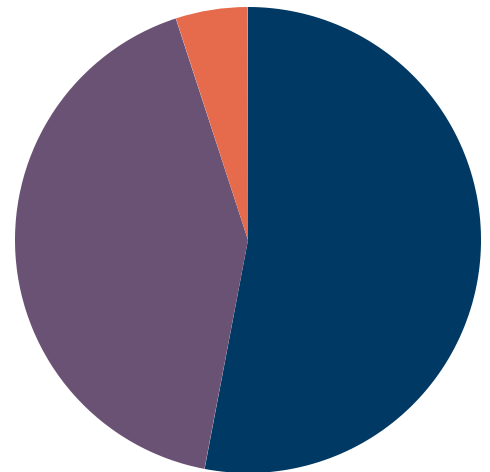
How has this intervention helped your every day life?

- Better access to treatment, recovery meetings, or appointments (83%)
- More in control of my situation (83%)
- Better access to other required appointments (77%)
- Better access to community services (73%)
- Have more flexibility and independence (73%)
- Started new/kept current/got better job (70%)

In what ways has this intervention helped you?

- Visiting/spending time with children/family (53%)
- Have more confidence in myself (53%)
- Able to attend events in community (40%)
- Learned about different kinds of transportation available (27%)
- Have been able to give to/volunteer in the community (20%)

How much did your stress level improve after receiving help from the CARE transportation program?



How has your situation changed since you received transportation assistance from CARE?

"I still have my own car and I am able to pay for gas on my own due to the help allowing me to get caught up on other bills."

"I still have my car, keeping up on the maintenance was helpful and helped me to get to work so that I can continue to keep the maintenance up."

"I can ride my bike to work and places close by but I still struggle with rides to places further away like the hospital, especially on the weekend."

"I have a safe vehicle that's insured and I didn't have to struggle to get the insurance money together."

- Much less stress (5 %)
- Somewhat less stress (47%)
- Same level of stress (3%)