



Established in 2005, DRMAC is a regional coordinating council for the greater Denver metro area focused on addressing the specialized transportation needs of our citizens... bringing specialized transportation providers, riders and benefactors together. A project of the Colorado Nonprofit Development Center, DRMAC is funded in part by the *Getting There Collaborative*, a joint, multi-year transportation initiative of The Colorado Health Foundation and Rose Community Foundation.

Our mission is to reduce barriers to mobility and access in the Denver metro region by fostering interagency and organization collaboration.

How we began...

In February 2004, then President George W. Bush issued an Executive Order aimed at improving human services transportation coordination for individuals with disabilities, older adults and people with lower incomes. The Executive Order established the Interagency Transportation Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility (CCAM).

A broad range of federal funding provides for transportation services – in fact, 62 different federal programs support human services transportation. The CCAM, in turn, launched *United We Ride*, a national initiative intended to simplify and coordinate rules and regulations regarding access to transportation services, and improve the productivity of existing programs through increased cost efficiencies.

With this new program in mind, the Rose Community Foundation, in concert with HealthONE Alliance established a Colorado advisory committee to develop the *Getting There Collaborative*, a multi-year project to improve transportation services for older adults.

Their report, *Analysis of Colorado's Human Service and Public Transportation Networks*, analyzed the specialized transportation issues of the elderly and persons with special needs in Colorado, with emphasis on the Denver region. Upon completion of the report, the Denver Regional Mobility and Access Council was born. DRMAC became a project of the Colorado Nonprofit Development Center, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, in 2006 and hired its first Executive Director in 2008.



DRMAC coordinates and brings together transportation providers and human services agencies— maximizing efficiencies of scale, providing access to specialized transportation for each citizen who requires it and improves the overall specialized transportation system.

Working together, we can get where we're going...

It is projected that by 2030, one in five Americans will be age 65 or older. Having one of the fastest growing elderly populations in the country, now is the time for Colorado to focus on meeting the mobility needs of our seniors, our disabled citizens and others who require specialized transportation services.

When members of a community lose their ability to drive, they also risk losing vital connections to needed services as basic as doctor's appointments, trips to the grocery store and participating in religious services. Quality of life becomes negatively impacted. Isolation can quickly occur resulting in greater physical or mental health issues.

Recent studies indicate that safe, convenient modes of transportation help reinforce independence and self-sufficiency... delaying costly home or nursing home care, while reducing the needs and subsequent costs of government services.

There are several different transportation programs and providers that provide specialized transportation throughout the Denver metro area. There is a need— and an opportunity— to create a network of diverse transportation options by coordinating transportation to help serve the needs this growing population within the region.

When your organization becomes a member of DRMAC, we continue to expand agency awareness adding to our ability to foster collaboration and discover better ways to serve our population. DRMAC strives to maintain lines of communication and the tireless pursuit of a long-term regional strategy for better coordination in action.

Members of DRMAC enjoy the following additional benefits...

- Being involved in your Regional Coordinating Council
- An opportunity to help direct regional decisions and policies
- Educational forums, workshops and monthly programs
- Information and resource sharing with other like-minded groups
- Updates on human service based transportation programs and organizations

We encourage human services organizations, specialized transit agencies, and any agency with transit concerns to become part of the Denver Regional Mobility and Access Council, serving the counties of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Gilpin, and Jefferson.





Moving specialized transit in the right direction... DRMAC on the move

Since its inception, DRMAC has been committed to collaborating with organizations in specialized transportation—moving us all in the right direction.

To date, we have accomplished great things. We...

- Publish and distribute the Getting There Guide, previously managed by Rose Community Foundation. The Getting There Guide (www.gettingthereguide.com), published in both English and Spanish, is a specialized transportation provider listing for the Denver metro area.
- Secured a consulting firm to study the needs and use of specialized transit service to the Anschutz Medical Campus.
- Host ongoing volunteer driver program forums to provide best practice assistance to agencies utilizing volunteer drivers.

- Developed a searchable transportation database of local providers to facilitate connecting people with providers.
- Partnered with Denver Regional Council of Governments to update the Transit Element, a component of the 2035 Metro Vision's Regional Transportation Plan.

We invite you to visit our website at DRMAC-CO.org for updated information and to become part of our dynamic team. Together, we can achieve great things for the people who need us the most. We look forward to joining forces with your organization.

