

The Sierra Nevada Transportation Coalition (SNTC) was formed in 2014 as an expansion of the non-profit organization CitiCare. The mission of the SNTC is to develop and strengthen transportation systems that improve access to quality services and supports in Northern Nevada. The SNTC provides training, advocacy and information; defines community needs as identified by each constituent group; and develops solutions that will improve transportation universally.

The coalition is comprised of diverse people representing disability groups, funding entities, community organizations, and transportation providers. It is providing training and information to each other to share the current state of transportation, defining community needs as defined by each constituent group and developing solutions that will improve transportation universally. Among the groups expected to benefit most are people with disabilities, seniors, people living in poverty, veterans, and those living in the outlying areas of Reno/Sparks.

The SNTC has three committees:

- Resources, to identify the community need; and look at current transportation services, existing vehicles/services for possible collaborations; and to identify possible solutions.
- Smart Technology, to identify current and future technology that would enable people to easily access transportation through their electronic devices, while still including those without such technology;
- Finance/Budget/Grants, to identify costs and potential funding for developing new modes of transportation/technology;

Mark Tadder directs the SNTC. Tadder's background includes 13 years of management experience with Enterprise Rent A Car. He has experience in designing new systems and successfully leading large, diverse groups. Tadder is blind and, since losing his sight, has become self-employed as a management consultant. He advises clients on all aspects of business operations, including employee development, sales and marketing, web development and social networking. Tadder is an RTC ACCESS and RIDE customer as well. His business experience and personal passion, as a person with a disability, will provide structure and immediacy to the project.

Projects/Grants of the SNTC include:

- The Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (NGCDD) provided initial funding for the SNTC. While the NGCDD funds projects that improve the lives of people with developmental disabilities (DD), it was recognized that improving transportation for all people in our area would improve transportation for people with DD.
- The Community Transportation Association of America funded a grant to the SNTC to create the Neighbor Network of Northern Nevada (N4), which is now its own non-profit organization with transportation as an integral service.
- The Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) has awarded the SNTC a grant to provide transportation through its partners to people with disabilities living in the outlying non-ADA service area. Partners for this grant are Access to Healthcare Network (AHN) for medical rides and CitiCare for non-medical rides.
- The NGCDD has awarded the SNTC another grant to pilot a project to provide rides to people with developmental disabilities via Uber and Lyft. The SNTC hopes to expand on this project to offer ride share opportunities to other populations.

For more information about the SNTC or to join a committee, please contact Mark Tadder at 775-225-6881.