

**For Immediate Release:
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Technical Assistance Grant to Improve Transportation Services in Cortland County

Cortland County and Seven Valleys Health Coalition have been selected to participate in an innovative technical assistance program through the Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA). This project is one of only four projects selected in the nation this year for participation in the Rural Passenger Transportation Technical Assistance program.

Seven Valleys Health Coalition, in a contract with Cortland County, administers the Mobility Management System in the county. Funding for the CTAA technical assistance program is made possible through a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development's Rural Business Enterprise Grant program.

Technical assistance was requested to assist the county's mobility management system in developing a refined plan for operation and funding of an enhanced and expanded public transit system for the City of Cortland and surrounding areas of Cortland County.

Specifically, the assistance will

- Review and validate transportation needs assessment
- Identify viable service expansion/enhancement strategies
- Identify strategies to reduce duplication of services and enhance efficiency and effectiveness
- Develop coordination strategies
- Formulate a sustainable funding plan to support recommended services
- Identify opportunities for job creation as a result of implementation.

Planning activities will be conducted over a 12 month time frame by CTAA staff and a consultant hired by CTAA.

For more information contact Jan Dempsey, Mobility Management Coordinator, at 607-756-4198. Access to transportation information online can be found at www.way2gocortland.org