



FLORIDA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL, INC.

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Transportation

Lack of adequate transportation is one of the most frequently identified barriers to community inclusion and independence for individuals with disabilities.

Due to inadequate public transportation services in many Florida communities, individuals with disabilities are often denied transportation necessary for employment, medical care and other important services. In areas where transportation is available, it is often unreliable, unaffordable or unsafe.

Although the State of Florida has attempted to address this serious deficiency through the Transportation Disadvantaged Commission, the Commission itself has documented more than one million unmet need requests. The Commission's own data shows more trips are being made to medical appointments (covered by Medicaid) than to work or training settings.

Currently, emergency and non-emergency transportation funding is funded under the same line item in the budget. This does not give non-emergency transportation providers the information they need to predict their yearly budget.

For persons with developmental disabilities, reliable transportation is essential to obtain and retain gainful and meaningful employment.