NOVEMBER, 2018



VOLUME 1

FARE-Cle Reads



Jake and Erin's first ride with FARE-Cle!

FARE-Cle Media Mentions



12/3/18 Podcast with Autism Personal Coach. <u>click here</u>



2018-19 LiveSpecial Magazine click here

C. Marine

11/16/18 Cleveland Jewish News click here

FARE-Cle Community Fund is a nonprofit organization providing safe transportation to those with cognitive delays, autism, or dementia. The FARE-Cle Community Fund ensures transportation is not a barrier to community engagement for those with

limited means. FARE - Cle recruits, screens and trains drivers, helps develop individual transportation plans and enables its "Riders" to move towards independence.



WHAT DO PEOPLE SAY ABOUT FARE-CLE?

"To feel confident our son is picked up and dropped off on time is amazing! FARE- Cle has lifted a load for Uber Mom!" Deborah B. "You have made a huge difference in our lives by providing transportation for our daughter. I can't even tell you how much time it has saved for us." Lisa Z.

"This service has been awesome. I don't worry about who my son is riding with or that he would be taken advantage of monetarily. He really likes his driver Lori!" Laura S.

> "We're very happy to have found the transport service of FARE-Cle for our daughter. Knowing that she has safe, reliable drivers on a regular basis is a godsend to our whole family. Thanks to Deborah Picker and the crew at Fare-Cle!" Mary G.



Did You Know?

The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council (2016) stated that finding safe, affordable transportation for Ohioans with disabilities was difficult because options don't always exist at needed times nor do they serve the diversity of disabilities in the community.

People with disabilities are more than 5 times likely to be homebound than people without disabilities. The Journal of Applied Research in Intellectual Disabilities (2017), found "many people with intellectual disability remain socially isolated, as they require support to access social opportunities One major barrier for people with intellectual disability to regularly access and socialize with friends has been noted to be a lack of travel skills"

According to advocacy groups cited in Disability Scoop, 31% of people with disabilities report having insufficient transportation compared to 13% of the general population. Data from the 2016 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium also shows people with disabilities' median earnings were \$21,572 - \$10,300 less than the median earnings of people without disabilities. "Because of inadequate funding countless people with disabilities can't reliably vote, work, attend medical appointments or enjoy full independence," said Wade Henderson, president and CEO of The Leadership Conference Education Fund.

Continuity of social engagement is necessary for relationship building. In one study, Van Asselt et al. stated "enablers of social inclusion were the creation and development of friendships through supported community participation. This involves finding ways to support activities and participation with other people so that friendships can form and flourish."

Meet Dwayne.....



Dwayne's vocational education teacher called FARE-Cle before the school's Christmas break at his urging. Dwayne, who had both physical and cognitive limitations, insisted that he was ready to enroll in the service and **needed** to do so as quickly as possible. The teacher explained Dwayne was living in a foster home and his foster mother wasn't able to drive Dwayne where he wanted to go. They lived in a comfortable eastern suburb near friends in close proximity to shopping, restaurants and recreational activities, but Dwayne was unable to access any of it.

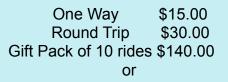
I came to the school to conduct the intake interview during Dwayne's lunch and was immediately taken by the charming 18 year old. "Dwayne, this isn't my usual way of enrolling participants in FARE-Cle but you sounded so urgent. Tell me where you want to go", I said. "Debbie, no 18 year old should be as isolated as I am", he replied. "I just want to go out on a date with my girlfriend. The restaurant is 2 miles from my house. I never go anywhere because my foster mom can't get me there. All I do after school is sit around. It's lonely". His reply struck a chord. He wasn't the first

person I interviewed who was left at home in front of the TV or computer because he had no means of going anywhere. I reflected on the weekend activities of most 18 year olds and the richness of their lives because of these experiences. Dwayne was missing out on so much.

This wasn't the end of the story, however. I wish I could say that Dwayne got rides and was thrilled to be able to take his girlfriend out and do all the things he envisioned. I waived the enrollment fee so Dwayne could go out on his date and become involved in community activities but the truth was.... Dwayne couldn't afford the rides. So he ended up stuck at home after all. And that is why FARE-Cle Community Fund was born. *Debbie*

WHAT YOU CAN DO: (TICKET TO RIDE)

FARE-Cle believes access to community activities or work should be available to all people regardless of financial means. Your donations to the FARE-Cle Community Fund ensures transportation is not a barrier to community engagement. Your generous gift will help subsidize the cost of rides for those who qualify



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