

Transportation and Rate Evaluation

August 5, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

THEMES/CONCERNS

- Low provider rates.
- Providers not staying on due to low rates.
- Lack of providers in some areas of the state.
- Lack of coordination with other transportation resources.
- Inconsistent and arbitrary transportation rates.
- Inconsistent driver qualifications especially regarding background screening.
- Lack of money for transportation due to iBudget implementation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Increase transportation and other provider rates to adequately cover administrative costs and retain providers.
- APD should coordinate transportation services and share transportation data with the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged and other transportation entities
- Standardize transportation rates based on zones, required vehicle equipment, etc.
- Utilizes transportation vouchers.
- Bundle transportation costs with ADT.
- Utilize volunteers and car-pooling – parents are willing to work with each other.
- Allow private agencies to partner with local supports to assist with services and eliminate required training.

FACTORS TO CONSIDER

- Increasing provider rates without increasing cost plans could be counterproductive for clients.
- Standardizing background screening of drivers should be initiated through the Legislature. Current laws and regulations allow for differing levels of background screening.
- The waiver is a payer of last resort. APD should continue to encourage the use of community resources.