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COASTAL BEND PARTNERSHIP ROLLS OUT THE MOBILITY OPTIONS PROJECT FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

SINTON, TEXAS --- A new groundbreaking project increasing transportation options for people with disabilities seeking employment opportunities will roll out with a Press Event on Friday, March 25th at the Workforce Solutions' Career Center located at 113 E. Sinton Street in Sinton, Texas. Beginning at 10:30 a.m., the ***Mobility Options Project for People with Disabilities*** will introduce the stakeholders for the Project and showcase accessible vehicles that provide transportation in San Patricio and Nueces counties.

A Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) grant from the Texas Department of Transportation awarded to the Coastal Bend Center for Independent Living (CBCIL) supports a demonstration to determine the feasibility of increasing employment and training for people with disabilities using consumer-controlled transportation vouchers and employing mobility management.

"One of the barriers faced by people with disabilities living in rural areas is the lack of availability of accessible and affordable transportation," said Judy Telge, CBCIL's Mobility Options Project Director. "Addressing that barrier with a cost-sharing approach to connectivity is the premise of the feasibility study and demonstration."

CBCIL's primary partner is Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend, which is providing local match for the first year of the two-year Project. "We are proud to be part of this innovative project that will help people with disabilities to secure employment and training opportunities," said Ken Treviño, Workforce Solutions' President/CEO.

The Access T.E.A.M. (Technical Expertise on Access and Mobility), a committee established by Easter Seals Project Action to promote accessible transportation, serves as the Project's stakeholder advisory committee. Advisory members include Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, public and private transportation providers, consumers, planners, engineers, education, health and human services representatives and employers.

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