Our Mission

The Wheels to Work mission is to develop a partnership bridging programs and providers currently serving people with community-minded businesses interested in providing assistance to those truly in need. Overcoming the barrier of unreliable transportation to and from work to promote family-sustaining employment and independence is our vision. This unique program engages businesses and schools in developing the opportunity to train their associates and their students while providing a highly demanded community need. Coupled with the partnership of the financial communities existing Money Smart program, the participant receives individualized training in financial management, budgeting, and vehicle maintenance while receiving either needed repairs, a donated vehicle, or financial assistance to purchase a newer more reliable vehicle.

An ongoing relationship with a mobility manager provided during the program period reinforces the outcome that helps create a difference in the future needs of the recipient. Our organization is chartered within the Wisconsin Automotive and Truck Education Association, our 5013C charitable entity.

This collaborative program incorporates the business community, the provider network, our educational partners, philanthropic organizations and individuals like you to accomplish this goal. No one group can do this alone. Won’t you consider how you or your organization can assist us today?

Why Donate Your Used Vehicle?

Your used vehicle can eliminate the barrier of unreliable transportation to and from work for individuals who want family-sustaining employment & independence.

Becky Kopp
Forward Service Corp.
Wheels to Work Mobility Manager
364 Grand Ave • Wausau, WI 54403

TEL 715.261.8719
OR 715.581.9283

To build one cohesive board to improve awareness of career paths and opportunities in the automotive industry, and promote technical and continuing education training, educational development, and certification for workers in the automotive and truck industry.
HOW DOES IT WORK?

- Participants are identified, screened and engaged through a comprehensive review process.
- Clients’ vehicle needs or issues are reviewed and identified.
- Once qualifications are completed and needs assessed, participants follow a financial counseling, individualized budgeting, and vehicle maintenance curriculum to complete their eligibility.
- Clients are then matched with the transportation assistance they require including donated or purchased vehicles.
- Ongoing support and counseling is available to the participants.
- Matching low income families with reliable transportation for employment or education is achieved.

Program Overview

- Once a vehicle is donated to the program the donor receives a tax advantage.
- The donated vehicle is inspected for needs and reviewed by participating facilities.
- Vehicle is repaired by using a collaborative relationship for discounted parts and labor.
- Students at local schools gain experience working on vehicles, and benefit from mentor relationships with local technicians in the workforce. Repairs can also be done at a participating shop for training the incumbent workforce.
- The vehicle is re-donated to a deserving individual or family for employment with a job access loan.

Donated Vehicle

- Incumbent workforce and students are trained in real life application.
- Clients are educated in maintenance and upkeep of vehicle, and receive financial counseling throughout the program.
- Donors have assisted in a positive impact on a person/family while receiving a tax advantage.
- Recipients of vehicle assistance have taken steps in overcoming their transportation barrier.

Successful Outcomes

WHO QUALIFIES? WHAT IS THE CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION?

- 200% poverty or less
- Must have a Valid Driver’s License
- Must carry insurance
- Must be working or looking for work

WETAP, the Wisconsin Employment Transportation Assistance Program, helps low-income workers and job seekers obtain reliable and affordable transportation, so that they and their families can become economically self-sufficient. Administered by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, WETAP provides funds from the federal and state levels to community partnerships dedicated to assisting participants in overcoming transportation barriers.