

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 10, 2011

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### **Bloomington awarded technical assistance training opportunity on accessible transportation by Easter Seals Project Action.**

**Bloomington, IN** – The Easter Seals Project Action selected the Bloomington urbanized area as one of ten communities across the country which will receive technical assistance in 2011 through their Accessible Transportation Coalitions Initiative (ATCI).

The ATCI program is a one year systems change process designed to support local communities in their goals of creating models of accessible community transportation. This process began through the collaborative effort of Bloomington Transit, the Bloomington/Monroe County Metropolitan Planning Organization and the Southern Indiana Center for Independent Living. The project will commence with a 2 day training event scheduled for Sept. 13-14, 2011, and will be facilitated by Easter Seals Project Action.

“I am excited that Easter Seals has selected Bloomington to participate in the Accessible Transportation Coalitions Initiative,” said Barbara Salisbury. “Making things accessible for persons with disabilities makes things accessible for everyone. This program will help the community assess its strengths and weaknesses, establish a foundation for improved lines of communication, and develop an inclusive strategy to achieve accessible, community transportation options for everyone.”

A coalition of disparate community interests is needed in order for the workshop in September to be considered a success. Citizens and organizations interested in accessibility and transportation are encouraged to participate in this event and may contact Barbara Salisbury, logistics coordinator, at [Barbara@sicilindiana.org](mailto:Barbara@sicilindiana.org).

Additional information can be obtained from the ATCI webpage:

[http://projectaction.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=ESPA\\_mobility\\_planning](http://projectaction.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=ESPA_mobility_planning)