

**DRAFT**

## 2020/2021 Volunteer Driver Forum Series

Forums will run monthly as a series, 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month – except December 2020.  
Forum sessions will be in the a.m. (9:30 – 11:30) unless otherwise noted.

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**#1 Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – SERIES OVERVIEW**

*The first segment of the 7 part series will be the opening and overview of upcoming forums.*

**9:30 – 11:30am**

Introduction: Governor Walz (invited)

Presentation by John Doan, CEO of Mobility 4 All (MO), MCOTA Board Member

*This forum will be an overview of upcoming speakers/trainings that includes photos, bios, explanation of what's to come and why.*

*During the series overview presentation, there will be opportunity for questions and comments aimed towards the individual upcoming forum's topics. These questions and comments will be shared with the facilitators before their forum presentation in order to assist in giving direction to their content.*

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**#2 Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – POLICY ISSUES**

**9:30 – 10am**

*In order to set the stage for the current policys' implications, we will begin with what we call*

Real World Stories

Moderated by Lori Vrolson, Executive Director – Central MN Council on Aging

*Volunteer Driver Agencies, Drivers, and Riders will share their personal stories.*

Above noted segment length is 30 minutes.

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**10am – 10:30**

Legislative Panel Discussion

Moderated by Sherry Munyon, Government Relations/President – Capitol Access

*Panel Members - Key Legislators invited. Discussion to include Federal and State issues.*

Above noted panel length is 30 minutes.

**10:40am – 11:00**

**Perspectives from MN Board on Aging on Volunteer Driver Services:**

Presented by John Doan, MN Board on Aging Member, MCOTA Board Member

*Above noted segment length is 20 minutes.*

**11:00am – 11:30**

**MN Volunteer Driver Coalition-Mission and Overview:**

Presented by Dawn Simonson, Co-Chair, Volunteer Driver Coalition

15 minute presentation plus 15 minutes for Q&A from audience

*It should be noted that this segment length may take us past the 11:30 time allotted*

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**#3 Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – VOLUNTEER DRIVER RECRUITMENT AND PROMOTION  
9:30 – 11:30am**

Introduction: Margaret Anderson Kelliher, MnDOT Commissioner of Transportation (invited)

**Volunteer Driver Recruitment and Promotion**

Presented by Martin Lepak, Recruiter, Arrowhead Transit Volunteer Driver Program

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**#4 Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – HOW TO START A VOLUNTEER DRIVER PROGRAM  
9:30 – 11:30am**

Introduction: Jay Haapala, AARP Representative

**Older Americans and the Challenges of Transportation**

**How to start a Volunteer Driver Program**

Presented by Jennie Rowland of Big Woods Transit, Arrowhead Area

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**#5 Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – SENSITIVITY  
Full Day Forum**

Introduction: Tom Gottfried, MCOTA Executive Director

**9:30 – 11:30am**

**DISABILITY & PERSON CENTERED TRAINING** - Presented by Ken Rogers (MnDOT) (invited)

**1:pm – 3:00**

**CULTURAL DIVERSITY & EQUITY TRAINING** – Presented by *DEED*

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#6 Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 – **SENSITIVITY**  
**Full Day Forum**

Introduction: Tom Gottfried, MCOTA Executive Director

**9:30 – 11:30am**

**TRAUMA INFORMED CARE TRAINING** - Presented by Dr. Steven Loos (invited)

**1:pm – 3:00**

**DEAF & HARD OF HEARING COMMUNITY EDUCATION** – Presented by *DEED*

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#7 Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – **PROTOCOLS**

Introduction: Tiffany Collins, Transit Director - Central Community Transit System  
and Willmar Volunteer Driver Program

**SAFETY, SECURITY, CRISIS, MEDICAL, PASSENGER, RESILIENCY & BOUNDARY ISSUES** - Presented  
by *Easterseals (invited)*

A.M. & P.M. - TBD

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**Times:** All are Virtual Meetings via ZOOM.  
*Morning forums will be 9:30am – 11:30*  
*Afternoon forums will be 1:pm – 3pm*  
*One break will be organized midway into each agenda for each 2 hour forum.*

- Each forum will be recorded ~  
*(and some portions may be pre-recorded – if absolutely necessary).*
  - Forums will be available via ZOOM throughout the state in rural areas. Held at facilities located in each region's county through the Department of Human Services.
  - Forums will feature closed captioning in order to preserve the nature of inclusion
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