

**Henrika Buchanan-Smith, Associate Administrator Office of Program
Management,
Federal Transit Administration**

**Remarks at the "Rides to Wellness" Summit
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Thank you Michael for that introduction, although I'm not so sure how calm my staff - that they would agree with you about all that calmness. But, I am very passionate about the public transportation industry and its usefulness in the everyday lives of Americans.

So, as you can see, we have a very distinguished panel of federal officials that will speak to us this morning. Before I turn the podium over to the panels, one of the things, that I've been approached several times, and people are really excited about being here. But, I must say that I had a couple of individuals ask me, what's going to be different now, because for years we've been talking about healthcare and transportation, the need to coordinate, the need to give people access. And what I will say is that I'm very hopeful that this time we're going to see a difference. Partly because there's a shared - because of the passage of the Affordable Care Act, healthcare is now open to millions more people, millions more of our most challenged citizens in the United States.

And having access to healthcare doesn't do you really much good if you can't get there. I'm building on the success - [APPLAUSE]. What I'm hoping is that we'll see just like with our veteran's transportation and community living initiative and Paul Perry is here from the VA. Part of what our struggle had been for years with the VA, it had been difficult for us to collaborate as well. But as more and more veterans came back and their families had issues of transportation access, we were quickly able to see that we had a shared challenge, and that we could bring a shared solution to that. And I'm happy to report that we funded through our VTCLI program over 80 communities to integrate veterans into their transport network. And now you also see that the VA has taken mobility management very seriously and integrated it throughout their program.

So, if we can be successful about addressing a shared challenge in that industry, I know that the people in this room can be successful and bring in some solutions to the challenge of health access. So now let's start our journey of discovery and Rides to Wellness, our host for today, Therese McMillan.