Summit Agenda

Thursday, March 21, 2019

8:00-9:00: Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00-9:30: Welcoming Remarks and Keynote
- Mario Martinez, Project Assistant for Independent Living Services, Valley Association of Independent Living (VAIL), and Consumer Advocate in Transportation.
- Eduardo Cantu, Board President, VAIL
- Mayor Jim Darling, City of McAllen
- Sandra Breitengross Bitter, Executive Director, Texas State Independent Living Council (SILC)
- Gladys Cortez, Council Member, Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities (TCDD)

9:30-10:30: Accessible Transportation during a National Disaster
- Robert Ferguson, Regional Disability Integration Advisor, Federal Emergency Management Agency

10:30-10:45: Break

10:45-11:45: Innovation in Accessible Transportation and Demand Response Service
- Todd Hanson, Assistant Research Scientist, Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI)

12:00-1:00: Luncheon presentation (Plated Lunch Provided): The Blue Print to Transportation Accessibility
- Juanita Webber, ADA Program Compliance Administrator, Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)
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1:00-1:15: Break

1:15-2:00: Using Data to Drive Advocacy in the Rio Grande Valley
    • Alfred Molina, Mobility Manager, VAIL

2:00-2:15 Break

2:15-3:15: Increasing Travel for All: Interactive Discussion on Accessibility in New Transportation Systems.
    • Rebecca Cowle, Director of External Affairs, Texas Central Partners

3:15-3:30: Break

3:30-4:45: Transportation Advocacy: Different Effective Methods that Work for You
    • Neva Fairchild, Chair, Rehabilitation Council of Texas and Member of American Foundation for the Blind
    • Brooke Hernandez, Independent Living Program Manager, VAIL.
    • Maria Bridges, Peer Services Coach, VAIL
    • Brian White, General Counsel, Texas State Independent Living Council (SILC)

4:45-5:00: Closing Remarks and Post-Summit Survey
    • Mario Martinez, VAIL