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Leading Aging and Transportation Advocates Applaud U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging for Holding an Important Hearing on Older Adults and Transportation

Washington, DC—Easter Seals and the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) jointly praise the Senate Special Committee on Aging for holding today’s important hearing on the need for greater local solutions to increase mobility for older adults. We are particularly pleased that the work of the National Center on Senior Transportation (NCST) will be highlighted; NCST’s co-director Virginia Dize will present testimony at the hearing.

“We know that the vast majority of today’s older adults want to stay in their homes and communities as they age and that a well-coordinated transportation system benefits everyone. Transportation has long been recognized by the Aging Network as an essential component of aging in place. It is a privilege to work in partnership with communities to develop unique, person-driven solutions that enhance older adult mobility nationwide,” said Sandy Markwood, n4a’s Chief Executive Officer.

“We all benefit when older adults are able to stay engaged, involved and active in their communities—and often, being able to get a ride is all that is needed. What an opportunity we have to leverage transportation both public and private in this regard, and we are so honored to be a part of helping make this happen working with partners at the national, state and local level.” said Mary Leary, Vice President of Easter Seals' Transportation Group.

The National Center on Senior Transportation’s mission is to increase transportation options for older adults and enhance their ability to live more independently within their communities throughout the United States. NCST achieves this mission by gathering and sharing best practices; providing technical assistance and training; facilitating strategic partnerships and community engagement to support the development and coordination of senior transportation options; developing and disseminating information; and administering demonstration grants.

With funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, NCST was launched in 2006 and has been administered by Easter Seals, Inc. in partnership with the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) ever since. From the Center’s inception, experts in senior transportation and aging services have worked closely with the Center staff to provide expert advice and guidance on ways to achieve NCST’s goals. To learn more about NCST, visit our website: www.seniortransportation.net

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