

Press Release

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HEADLINE: 10 DUTCHESS COUNTY FAMILIES REALIZE “WHAT A DIFFERENCE A CAR MAKES”

POUGHKEEPSIE, NY - March 18, 2013

Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro, Commissioner of Department of Community and Family Services Robert Allers, and Dutchess BOCES District Superintendent John C. Pennoyer are pleased to announce that ten pre-determined families will be receiving donated vehicles from the Community Solutions for Transportation (CST) program at a community presentation on April 5 at the BOCES Adult Learning Institute, One Civic Center Plaza, from 10:30 am. until 12:00 p.m.

These families were chosen based on specific program guidelines, including their work-related need for transportation. In addition, they have all displayed the perseverance and the commitment necessary to continually take steps towards financial independence. Having their own vehicle will help them to obtain and retain employment or gain access to higher education to increase their wage potential. They will finally experience “What a Difference a Car Makes.”

All ten pre-selected families given vehicles at the community presentation will be receiving donated vehicles from the Community Solutions for Transportation program.

Five out of ten vehicles were previously Dutchess County fleet cars. Rather than auction the vehicles at public auction, Dutchess County has for the first time generously donated them for local families to use for work.

Since 2001, Community Solutions for Transportation and Wheels for Work programs across New York State have assisted thousands of low-income families with acquiring reliable used cars, repairing, registering, and insuring their own vehicles. These programs have been very successful and have enabled many people to leave the welfare rolls and secure jobs that would otherwise have been unobtainable, and have assisted people with maintaining or improving their current employment in order to remain independent of public assistance, or gain access to higher education to increase their earning potential.

Transportation services under Community Solutions for Transportation in Dutchess County are funded by the Department of Community and Family Services and an allocation from the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, Division of Employment and Transitional Supports. Since inception (including cars awarded at this event), 752 families have received donated vehicles. As a direct result of this and other services provided by the Dutchess County Transportation Program, 358 individuals have been able to obtain new employment and 907 individuals have been able to retain their current employment.

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For Immediate Release