**Overview**

Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) is a federally-funded grant program that provides financial support to local agencies and nonprofit organizations to offer specialized transportation services for reverse commuters and low-income individuals to get to and from job-related activities. A reverse commute service is designed to transport residents of urbanized areas to suburban employment opportunities.

Under MAP-21, the new law authorizing transportation funds, federal transportation programs have been reorganized and consolidated. Services once eligible under the JARC program are now eligible under the Urbanized Area formula program. SANDAG continues to provide administrative support to grantees awarded JARC funds from previous competitive grant cycles.

**The Need**

According to the 2012 American Community Survey, 24.7% of San Diego County residents are low-income, defined as living below 150 percent of the federal poverty line. Transportation is crucial for them to connect to employment opportunities. JARC grantees coordinate resources with other agencies to maximize efficiency to address the transportation needs of low-income individuals and reverse commuters.

**The Competitive Grant Application Process**

In previous years, about $1.6 million in JARC funds have been distributed annually through a competitive grant process. The grant program is funded by federal dollars apportioned to SANDAG to award to local, eligible applicants. A committee composed of non-applicant agency representatives and expert community members reviewed, scored, and ranked the applications. A list of projects recommended for funding was then presented to the SANDAG Transportation Committee and Board of Directors for final approval.

**JARC 2013 Highlights**

» Nearly $1.5 million in JARC funds supported 11 projects in San Diego County.

» Grant recipients provided approximately 6 million rides.

» JARC-funded projects included a car loan program, travel training, mobility management services, and fixed route bus.

Find a ride by calling Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation (FACT) at (888) 924-3228 or visit factsd.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Accomplishments in 2012</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International Rescue Committee – Operating</td>
<td>Distributed 20 loans to low-income job seekers with either low credit history or no credit history. The program boasts a 100% repayment rate on all loans.</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Rescue Committee – Mobility Management</td>
<td>Assisted over 1,100 refugees and low-income community members in accessing and using public transportation for their job commutes. The IRC also helped clients in submitting 600 job applications and securing 329 jobs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) – Route 30, 905, 929, 932, 955, 960, 967/968</td>
<td>Maintained service on Route 30, 905, 929, 932, 955, 960, and 967/968 to transport low-income and reverse commuters to and from job-related activities. These routes collectively connect residential areas and employment areas of Encanto, Skyline/Paradise Hills, Barrio Logan, National City, Chula Vista, Imperial Beach, Southeastern and Downtown San Diego, San Ysidro, Otay Mesa, Otay Mesa-Nestor, City Heights, College Area, Kearny Mesa, University City and Escondido.</td>
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<tr>
<td>North County Transit District (NCTD) – Route 332 and 353</td>
<td>Increased service on Route 332 and 353 to enhance access to jobs. Route 332 services the Vista Business Park and Route 353 services the Palomar Medical Center.</td>
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Eligible Applicants:
» Local government agencies
» Tribal governments
» Social services agencies
» Private and public operators of public transportation
» Nonprofit organizations

Eligible Projects Include:
» Late night and weekend fixed route service
» Guaranteed ride home service
» Ridesharing — including vanpools and carpools
» Bicycling programs
» Information and dispatch systems
» Promotion, marketing, and pass programs
» Centralized ride scheduling

Program Requirements
Applicants were permitted to request funding amounts between $30,000 and $200,000 per project. Passengers who are not low-income individuals may be transported through JARC projects, but at least 80 percent of trips are provided to low-income individuals or reverse commuters. Projects serve residents of San Diego urbanized areas. All projects have cost-sharing requirements. Funds support up to 80 percent (80 grant/20 match) for all capital and mobility management projects and no more than 50 percent (50 grant/50 match) for operating assistance. Projects are subject to all requirements of the Federal Transit Administration, including compliance with Title VI, federal procurement, and records retention requirements. Projects are funded on a reimbursement basis; grantees are required to submit backup documentation along with progress reports. In addition, grantee performance is monitored through data collection and site visits.

For More Information
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To see a bigger version of this map, visit sandag.org/JARCMap.