

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - June 1, 2016

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## **Easterseals Project Action Consulting Launches Innovative Travel Trainer Certification Program**

Washington, D.C. – Easterseals Project Action Consulting and the Center for Urban Transportation Research at the University of South Florida have launched a professional travel trainer certification program that provides new and veteran travel trainers with the Certified Travel Training Instructor (ctti) credential. The ctti program is the only travel trainer certification program in the United States and is an opportunity for professionals to demonstrate that they have the skill it takes to confidently and successfully assist individuals who want to learn how to independently ride both public and private transportation in urban, suburban, and rural settings. Travel trainers are employed by transit systems, schools, health and human services providers, and government agencies to teach





people with disabilities, older adults, and any interested traveler how to access and use transportation.

Certification is reached by completing a series of foundation, topical, and elective courses and successfully completing a final test and documented practicum. While the entire certification program consists of 60 hours of courses, travel trainers may substitute work experience for credits. Steps to certification and program details are available at <a href="https://www.projectaction.com">www.projectaction.com</a>. Travel trainers may register for required courses on an individual basis or discounted certification bundles are available for large groups hoping to complete the certification in a short amount of time.

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"As the field of travel training has grown, the demand for a certification program to support professionals working in the field as well as providers who choose to offer travel training as a service has also grown," states Donna Smith, Senior Director of ESPA Consulting. "Easterseals is very proud to partner with CUTR to make this program possible."

In recognition of the launch, Easterseals Project Action Consulting will host events—ranging from webinars to live Facebook and Twitter chats—every Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. Eastern during June 2016. A schedule and more details will be posted on the website <a href="https://www.projectaction.com">www.projectaction.com</a> and emailed to ESPA Consulting e-alert subscribers.

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## **PRESS IMAGES**

To request high-resolution press images, contact us at <a href="mailto:espaconsulting@easterseals.com">espaconsulting@easterseals.com</a>





**Easterseals Project Action Consulting (ESPAC)** is a division of Easterseals, Inc. and provides states, regional agencies, and transportation and human service providers with customized solutions to meet their specific needs. ESPAC provides professional training and consultation on ADA-accessible transportation issues, as well as broader transportation topics including but not limited to: customer service; policy development; public engagement; transit operations; travel training; and transportation-related financial management. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.projectaction.com">www.projectaction.com</a>.

For nearly 100 years **Easterseals** has been the indispensable resource for people and families challenged by disabilities. We offer hands-on, vital programs through our network of affiliates to help people of all ages reach their full potential through development and life skills learning, workforce training and placement services, and fun, healthy recreation programs for children, adults, and caregivers. To learn more about Easterseals and services in communities nationwide, visit <a href="https://www.easterseals.com">www.easterseals.com</a>.

The Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR) at the University of South Florida, established in 1988, is an internationally recognized resource for policymakers, transportation professionals, and the public. CUTR provides high quality, objective expertise in the form of insightful research, in-depth policy analysis, comprehensive training and education, and effective technical assistance that translates directly into benefits for CUTR's project sponsors. CUTR's faculty of 37 full-time researchers, and 57 students, combines academic knowledge and extensive "real world" experience in developing innovative, implementable solutions for all modes of transportation. CUTR also is the home for the National Center for Transit Research and the National Bus Rapid Transit Institute. Visit www.cutr.usf.edu to learn more.

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