

**LEAGUE  
OF  
HUMAN  
DIGNITY**



Promoting Independent Living  
For Those With Disabilities  
Since 1971

**All Phones Voice/TDD**  
[www.leagueofhumandignity.com](http://www.leagueofhumandignity.com)

### **Lincoln**

**Center for Independent Living**  
1701 P Street  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
(402) 441-7871  
FAX (402) 441-7650

### **Norfolk**

**Center for Independent Living**  
400 Elm Avenue  
Norfolk, NE 68701  
(402) 371-4475  
FAX (402) 371-4625

### **Omaha**

**Center for Independent Living**  
5513 Center Street  
Omaha, NE 68106  
(402) 595-1256  
FAX (402) 595-1410

### **Panhandle**

**Medicaid Waiver Office**  
17 East 21 Street - Suite 2  
Scottsbluff, NE 69361  
(308) 632-0470  
FAX (308) 632-0472

### **Southwest Iowa**

**Center for Independent Living**  
1520 Avenue M  
Council Bluffs, IA 51501  
(712) 323-6863  
FAX (402) 323-6811

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**TO:** All Media Outlets  
**FROM:** Michelle Martin, Public Information Specialist  
**DATE:** August 31, 2007  
**TOPIC:** Extended Hours Service Launch

### **EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT:**

*The mission of the League of Human Dignity is "to actively promote the full integration of individuals with disabilities into society." We hope you will help us fulfill this goal by printing or airing the following announcement—or producing a story on this topic. If you need additional information, please contact the Director of the League office nearest you or Michelle Martin (402-441-7871) in the Public Information Office in Lincoln, Neb. Thank you!*

**Lincoln, NEB.** -- A transportation initiative that provides night and weekend transportation for people with disabilities who are dependent on accessible transportation will be launching soon and at least one Lincolnite can't wait.

"Having the option of a ride at night is going to allow me to get to more activities, it will give me more options," said Bill Crawford, who uses a wheelchair. "People with disabilities as a whole will be better off because this will open doors and allow us to socialize, work and not be so isolated."

In the past few years, several agencies in Lincoln began working to coordinate transit options for people with disabilities. The outcome of this effort is the development of the Extended Hours Transportation Service (EHS).

The EHS begins as a one-year pilot program that is partially funded by the Lincoln Community Foundation, Cooper Foundation and Woods Charitable Trust. "We hope to use this year to get a better idea of what the level of need truly is for these services and to see how satisfactory this program will be before we seek additional funding," stated Mike Schafer, League of Human Dignity CEO.

EHS will operate as a program of the League of Human Dignity with Transport Plus providing the rides. This new service will start on September 17th, which is a relief to many as the Star Tran Handi Vans discontinued their night service on September 1st.

EHS will provide transport from 5 to 11 pm on weekdays, 8 am to 11 pm on Saturdays and 8 am to 5 pm on Sundays and all legal holidays. This is a vast improvement over what was being offered before and will allow people with disabilities greater flexibility with getting around town to important events and with the hours they can be out and about. Before this effort, there was limited Handi Van service on Saturdays and nothing offered on Sundays or holidays.

Lincolnites who currently are eligible for the Handi Van will be able to use this service for a \$5.00 fare, each way. These rides are on a first come, first serve basis and are not intended for medical appointment transportation. Someone already using the Handi Van will just be required to show the driver their Handi Van I.D. card to ride. Individuals who are not eligible to ride the Handi Van but have a permanent disability that makes them dependent on accessible transportation can call the League of Human Dignity's Transportation Coordinator at (402) 441-7871 for detailed eligibility requirements and reservation information.

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