# **CTRTAP 2016 Spring Conference**

April 25, 2016 ConnDOT, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington

## **Presenter Biographies**

## Session 1 9:30-10:30 am

## Introduction to National RTAP's new Marketing Toolkit

*Jerry Emanuel*, Resource Center Manager joined National RTAP in July 2015. Prior to his current position, Jerry earned his degree in Library and Information Science from Rutgers before working as a Digital Asset Librarian for Bristol-Myers Squibb and later as an Information Analyst for EMD Millipore Corporation.

In his previous roles, Jerry has worked with stakeholders to oversee content management systems, provide metadata and other digital asset management, and bring a strong process orientation to teams. Jerry holds a master's degree in Library and Information Science from Rutgers University in addition to his bachelor's from SUNY Geneseo.

#### Session 11 10:45-11:45 am

## **Distracted Driving**

**Dennis Gagne** has been employed by DATTCO in New Britain Connecticut for the past 10 years. His current position is Director of Safety and Training in the Motorcoach Division.

He has been in transportation all of his life. Prior to DATTCO he spent 27 years as the owner of Simon Gagnon Moving in Wolcott Connecticut.

## Session 111 12:15-1:30 pm

### The Value of Travel Training

Christine Maguire has worked for The Kennedy Center for 5 years, and currently holds the title of Regional Mobility Manager. Christine has been instrumental in the creation of a Mobility Management program for South Central Connecticut and works with community partners to identify transportation service gaps for seniors and people with disabilities, finding solutions to get people where they want to go. She regularly presents transportation information at senior centers, social service agencies and high school transition programs. In addition, Christine is a knowledge expert in the field of travel instruction and presents "Train-the-Trainer" workshops for travel training practitioners. More information on South Central Connecticut's Mobility Management Program can be found at <a href="https://www.knowhowtogoscct.org">www.knowhowtogoscct.org</a>.

*Valerie Rienks* has been employed by The Kennedy Center for three years as a Travel Trainer. She provides one-on-one travel training and group transit orientation presentations to people with disabilities and older adults in the southeastern CT region. Valerie holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Connecticut and has worked in various aspects of human service for over 15 years.

Julie Dupree is a Training and Technical Assistance Specialist for Easter Seals Transportation Group in Washington, D.C. She promotes accessible community transportation strategies through a variety of initiatives including the National Center for Mobility Management, where she facilitates coordination and provides customized training to communities and individuals throughout the United States. She also facilitates Easter Seals Project Action Consulting's three-day Introduction to Travel Training workshop in communities across the country and equips Travel Trainers, Mobility Managers, Transit personnel and disability advocates to begin or enhance customized training programs that increase travel independence and ease the burden on local paratransit services. Prior to joining Easter Seals, Julie was the Travel Training Program Manager for Central Maryland Regional Transit, where she built community partnerships that promoted safe and independent travel, coordination and bus stop accessibility. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in History and Political Science from the University of Maryland. Julie is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Association of Travel Instruction.