Abstract

I am looking at covering the handy van. The problem of the van is that you’ll have to pay $2.00 each way and that it has to be exact change, or have a coupon that you bought earlier for your ride. To solve this I would like to have a van that is run by the city and is not a for profit van. The problem with paying cash is that you do not always have exact change. ATM’s only hand out twenties, and the drivers do not get change. The coupons you have to get at the main bus transfer center in town, and this is a problem if you do not have the time to be able to go in and pick them up.

With the handy van ID, I do not see why those that ride the van cannot purchase a year pass at the transit center like you can for the bus. This would allow those that ride the van easier access for their ride because they have a hard enough time going from place to place without the hassle of buying coupons or having exact change. From the way I see it, this is why many that could ride the handy van, ride the bus instead. The only problem with riding the bus is that for some areas the bus does not go near. It is too far for most to go from the bus stop to a where they need to go.

The handy van is convenient for dropping you off where you need to go. Time is the only problem. For just two appointments you would need to have the house at 9:30 AM to make it to your 12:00 appointment, then leave there at 14:30 for your 1600 appointment, later finally be picked up at 17:30 to make it home by 18:30 or 1900. This is just for two appointments one at noon and one at four. Basically, you’re a whole day has been spent waiting on the van. For those that use the van to go to work every day, having coupons is a problem if you do not rely that your short.

Other problems with the Handy-Van is that most people do not know what the Handy-van will do during an emergencies like hurricanes. People also do not know who will activate the Handy-van during emergencies or where they are supposed to take their passengers.

Research & Discussion Question

Introduction

I am looking at the Handy-van, in both in times of emergency and day-to-day activities, also on how many people know of the benefits of the Handy-Van and what they need to do to apply.

Research Question

If people know how to apply for the Handy-van and whether or not they are qualified, also looking at what the Handy-Van will do during emergencies like an incoming hurricane.

Hypothesis

The people who need the Handy-van do not know or unable to apply because they do not know how, or the people around them do not know they can apply for their relatives.

Research Design & Data Collection

Online surveys
Personal interviews
Online research
Personal knowledge

Results

Many people did not realize that the Handy-van was available for those that had disabilities, were mentally challenged, or elderly. They also did not know how the passengers were to pay for their rides. Most people that had elderly that could not make it to a nearby bus stop, would choose instead to stay home and ride out the storm or other emergencies because they are unable to evacuate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESPONSES</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>MAYBE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Know people that would needed rides, like the Handy-van</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What the Handy-van is supposed to do during a disaster</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you know how people pay for their handy-van rides?</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you believe the Handy-Van will assist the handicapped and elderly to shelters in the event of a oncoming hurricane?</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you know what to do for people that need to use the Handy-Van or other types of the Van in an emergency?</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you know how to help them apply for these services?</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Discussion

I asked many people of their view point about the Handy-van during a disaster and what they think that Handy-van would do. Many people make statements like: “take on home”, “take them to a shelter”, “I don’t know” and many other statements along these lines.

I also asked how many modes of transportation those with disabilities, elderly, or mentally challenged can use. Most people that I asked only know of one or two modes of transportation for these people. The answers that they stated was “The Bus” and the Handy-Van because the Handy-van was the survey that I did.

Conclusions

There needs to be more information about the Handy-Van and other sources for people that have disabilities, are mentally challenged, or elderly, so that they know what they need to be able to apply in a timely manner. Many people do not know of the choices that are out there, and what they need to apply. There is also the problem that many of the people who would be able to ride the handy van, do not apply it is the fact that they have a hard time figuring out how many coupons they would need for the month, because most elderly have to plan their budget because they are retired and the only money they get is from their retirement benefits. Having to go to the main bus terminal to buy their coupons for the month makes it hard if something comes up unexpected, they would run out of coupons and be unable to buy more because of the budget.

Family members also do not know where the people who ride the Handy-Van would go should an emergency come up while the family member is in the van.

References