PRESS RELEASE January 26, 2024 Press Contact: Terri Bowman, WNCSource <u>TBowman@wncsource.org</u> Ph. (828)693-1711 Ext. 128 (828)231-9549 (cell)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



WNCSOURCE TRANSPORTATION STAFF EARN CTA, NCDOT, AND USDOT-FTA CERTIFICATIONS

Radio Copy:

- We'd like to congratulate Transportation Support Specialist, Bonnie Wilson on completing the professional training required for certification as Drug and Alcohol Program Manager for WNCSource Transportation and Apple Country Public Transit in Henderson County.
- Wilson also underwent **Reasonable Suspicion Determination Training.** As DAPM, she to ensure that US DOT-FTA regulations are followed when it comes to supervisor training, driver drug testing, record keeping, and procuring 3rd party testing services.
- Congratulations are also in order for Marvin Holbert, Transit Operations Manager for WNCSource. Holbert recently underwent the NC DOT's Transportation Leadership Development program held at NC State University.
- Holbert has completed the PASS (Passenger Assistance Safety and Sensitivity) Trainer Certification program, and Techniques for Training PASS which allows him to train other PASS trainers of transportation systems like WNCSource who utilize the safety with dignity approach to assisting passengers.
- WNCSource Transportation provides general public transit and specialized transportation services here in Henderson County. Bonnie Wilson and Marvin Holbert are just two of the professional, highly trained staff who are dedicated to making Apple Country Public Transit and WNCSource Transportation the safest ride in town!

Newspaper Copy:

WNCSource Transportation and Apple Country Public Transit offers the safest ride around thanks to its fleet of highly trained drivers and staff. Recently two staff members went "the extra mile" to complete NC DOT and US DOT-FTA training to become certified in advanced transportation operations that will enhance the safety and quality of this Hendersonville-based transit provider.

Bonnie Wilson, Transportation Support Specialist for WNCSource Transportation earned her certification as a Drug and Alcohol Program Manager (DAPM). In addition to her day-to-day duties, as DAPM, Wilson will ensure that Federal and State regulations are followed surrounding any suspected drug and alcohol use, testing procedures, record-keeping, and oversight of contractors/vendors.

Transit Operations Manager Marvin Holbert was certified by the Community Transportation Association of America for completion of the NC Transportation Leadership Development Program. In addition, Holbert received certification in Techniques for Training PASS (Passenger Assistance Safety and Sensitivity) and the PASS Trainer Certification Program that allows him to train other PASS Trainers. PASS provides guidance around assisting mobility challenged passengers in a respectful and supportive approach. Bonnie Wilson and Marvin Holbert are just two of the professional, highly trained staff who are dedicated to making Apple Country Public Transit and WNCSource Transportation the safest ride in town for Henderson County residents!



Bonnie Wilson.jpg

Pictures Attached to email.



Marvin Holbert.jpg

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WNCSource is a 501(C)(3) nonprofit based in Hendersonville, NC that assists low income and underserved people in Western North Carolina. Our programs include Children's Services, Transportation, Housing and Older Adult Services. Working together with our communities and partners, WNCSource improves people's lives by creating pathways to self-reliance and healthier living. For more information, please contact: Terri Bowman, <u>TBowman@WNCSource.org</u> or call (828) 693-1711.