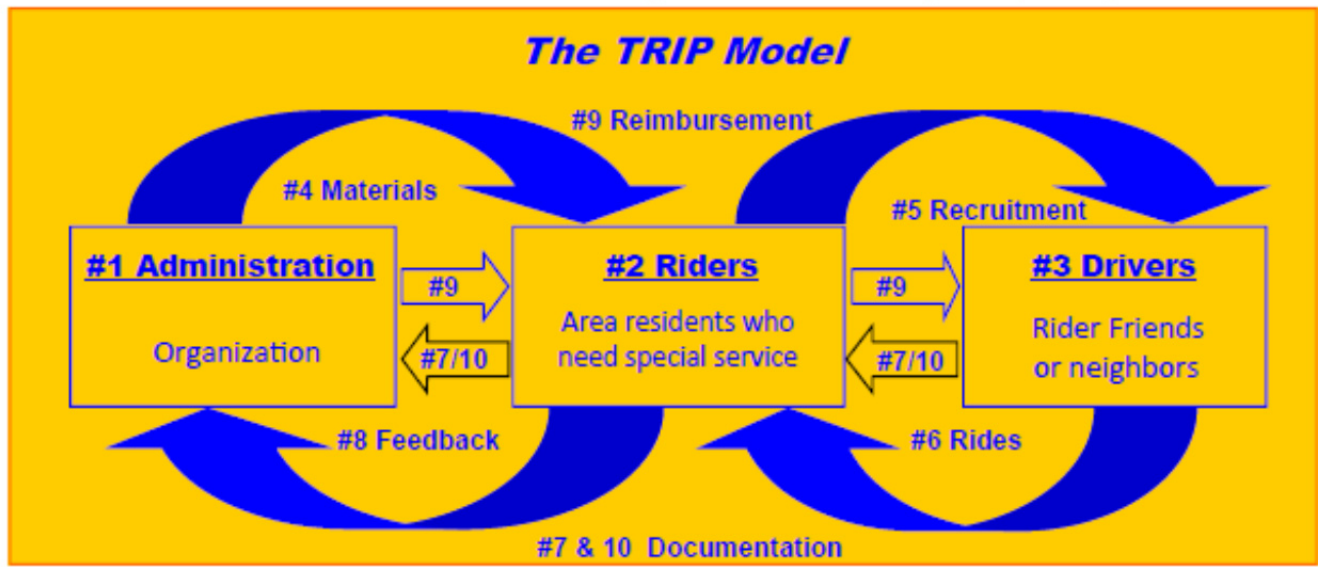


How It Works

Below is an illustration that includes the primary features of the TRIP model. Its basic ingredients include: a sponsor, riders, and drivers.



The TRIP Model works like this:

- (#1, #2, and #3) An organization identifies riders who in turn recruit their own drivers.
- (#4) The organization: gives program information to the riders who share it with their drivers.
- (#5) The riders recruit their volunteer drivers.
- (#6) The drivers provide rides to the riders on days and times arranged between them.
- (#7) Riders keep transportation records and send request of reimbursement to the organization.
- (#8) The riders provide feedback to the organization.
- (#9) Reimbursement is given to the riders who then give it to their volunteer drivers.
- (#10) Information necessary for program administration is provided to the organization.

TRIP is different than most transportation services because it does not recruit drivers, schedule rides, own vehicles, or charge fees. Additionally, the model includes several exceptional characteristics. (1) Its three basic elements (organization, riders, and drivers) interact in a manner that results in administrative efficiency and cost effectiveness. (2) The involvement of both the riders and the volunteer drivers in organizational and administrative activities results in self-management and self-esteem. (3) The mutual-agreement scheduling method creates the possibility of 24/7 availability for travel to mutually agreed on destinations. (4) The involvement of drivers who are friends of riders ensures that drivers are aware of and perhaps experienced in providing the type of transportation assistance needed by riders. (5) The exchange approach to mileage reimbursement by providing riders with mileage reimbursement checks which the rider then gives to volunteer drivers enables the rider to ask for a ride with the promise of giving something in return. The rationale is that riders will be more likely to ask for a ride if they are not asking for charity.

And importantly, the model creates an "arm's length relationship" between the organization and volunteer drivers. According to risk management professionals and insurers this limits liability to the organization and program funders because: (1) the drivers are not recruited or managed by the program; (2) the program does not own vehicles; and (3) staff do not schedule rides.

Effective and Efficient

Exceptional Features

- Designed to limit liability
- Organized to limit administration
- Planned for rider/driver contributions
- Arranged for 24/7 travel
- Available for travel to any destination
- Capability of providing assistance
- Exchange approach to reimbursement builds rider-driver relationships