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**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**Laketran offers fare free week to celebrate Ohio Loves Transit Week**

Lake County, OH -- Public transportation is essential to every segment of the community including businesses, health and human service agencies, municipalities, individuals and their families.

This has proved even truer throughout the pandemic. Laketran has continued to find safe ways to provide transportation so essential workers can get to work, homebound seniors can get food and be vaccinated, and dialysis and cancer patients have access to critical healthcare they need.

This Valentine’s Day, Laketran is joining [Ohio Public Transit Association](https://www.ohioneedstransit.org/) (OPTA) and transit agencies across the state to celebrate Ohio Loves Transit Week, a statewide outreach initiative to educate residents and stakeholders on the impact public transit has in our communities.

In Ohio, 65 public transit system provide 80 million trips each year to riders who rely on transit to get to work, shopping, medical appointments, education and recreation. Laketran wants the residents of Lake County to try transit.

“We really consider mobility a basic right and want to make sure everyone can get where they need to go,” shared Laketran CEO Ben Capelle. “This past year we’ve been partnering with employers to improve job access, as well as area high schools so students can get to internships or workplace opportunities outside the classroom.”

Laketran is operating fare free Monday, February 14 – Saturday, February 19 to show appreciation to their riders, as well as encourage others to try public transit.

Laketran offers three modes of services to get around Lake County, into Cuyahoga County, and to Downtown Cleveland. Local Routes 1 – 9 operate along the major corridors of Lake County from Wickliffe to Madison from 6am – 8pm. Park-n-Ride routes offer Cleveland commuters a reliable, stress-free ride from eight different Lake County locations into downtown Cleveland during morning and evening rush hours.

Laketran’s nationally recognized, door-to-door Dial-a-Ride takes residents anywhere they need to go in Lake County and select medical destinations in Cuyahoga County. While primarily used by seniors and people with disabilities, Laketran’s Dial-a-Ride service is available to anyone in need of transportation. To get a ride, simply schedule a reservation 1-12 days in advance of your trip by calling 440-354-6100.

Laketran also offers individualized [Travel Training](https://laketran.com/riding-laketran/travel-training/) for residents new to transit. Laketran will send a representative to your home or classroom to teach about routes and services.

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