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**United Way of Long Island, Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman and  
NICE CEO Tout Emergency Transportation Assistance Program for Low- to  
Moderate-Income Families and Individuals**

*‘Everyone Rides NICE’ Providing Free MetroCards to Clients of 21 Participating  
Social Service Agencies in Nassau County*

**Garden City, NY (June 29, 2022)** – With rising gas prices and continued economic stress from the COVID-19 pandemic, low- and moderate-income households in Nassau County will continue to have access to free public transportation through an annual program run by NICE Bus and the United Way of Long Island.

“Everyone Rides NICE” this year will provide more than 70,000 free rides through the distribution of MetroCards purchased by the parent company of NICE (Transdev) and distributed to 21 Social Service agencies in Nassau County through the United Way of Long Island. The agencies determine client eligibility with an annual cap on usage.

“United Way of Long Island’s mission is to help provide opportunities for a better life for all Long Islanders – with a special focus on health, education and financial stability,” stated Theresa Regnante, President and CEO of United Way of Long Island.

“Every day, riders are depending on a NICE bus to get to and from work, keep an important medical appointment, attend school or vocational training, or shop for their family’s necessities,” she noted at a press conference at NICE headquarters. “It is critically important to provide these bus passes for essential transportation to least advantaged individuals and families to ensure that everyone has equal access to our vital public transportation during these challenging times.”

NICE CEO Jack Khzouz added “Everyone Rides NICE was established to remove obstacles to mobility and provide vital access to public transportation for Nassau County’s low- and

moderate-income families and individuals. NICE is proud to participate with UWLI and help provide essential transit for these recipients and enrich their daily lives. “

Everyone Rides NICE was established by Transdev in 2015, and since its inception over \$850,000 worth of free MetroCards have been provided to participating agencies. The program serves approximately 2,500 clients annually.

Each MetroCard is good for two trips; and this year more than 35,000 cards – each valid for two bus trips within Nassau County - will be distributed among the following participating agencies:

- All Things Homecare
- BEST Back Stretch
- Circulo de la Hispanidad
- Choice For All
- EAC Network
- Family and Children's Association
- LICC-Long Island Council of Churches
- Long Island Coalition For the Homeless
- Hempstead Hispanic Civic Association
- Hempstead Works
- Hispanic Counseling Center
- Hispanic Brotherhood of Rockville Centre
- Island Harvest
- New York Institute of Technology
- Northwell Health
- NuHealth-FQHC, Inc.
- Nassau Community College
- NEST Food pantry at Nassau Community College
- Options for Community Living
- SUNY Old Westbury
- The Safe Center LI (TSCLI)
- The INN-Center for Transformative Change
- United Veterans Beacon House
- UWLI-YouthBuild

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