



TravelMATE and EmployMATE use cutting edge technology to walk both the trainer and individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities step-by-step through their trip, work task, and supporting soft skills with customizable images, text, videos and other supports.

Virtual support as an app on your smartphone or tablet

Innovative use of technology to support increased independence for individuals with cognitive challenges and other disabilities

Create customized supports for all needs in school, travel, home, work, and community environments

Use real time photos and videos from the users' own environments

TravelMATE EmployMATE TRANSITION SUITE is a collaborative project of The Arc of Northern Virginia and ONEder, whose software enables disability professionals to deliver personalized lessons and activities, manage users' goals, and track progress through one simple, easy-to-use platform.

Since the release of TravelMATE in 2014, The Arc of Northern Virginia has developed additional programs to assist people with cognitive challenges, including EmployMATE, which serves as a virtual "job coach in your pocket." The Arc of Northern Virginia's TRANSITION SUITE provides you with the tools you need to create personalized lessons and activities to support individuals with disabilities, as well as ONEder's capabilities for real-time data for tracking individual progress.

Award Winning



The History – Grants

TravelMate is funded by USDOT – Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

2013 – 2015 Grant – The grant funded the training of forty travel trainers with TravelMATE, and represented 12 partner organizations, including four school districts.

2017 – 2018 Grant – The grant funds the training of the entire staff of TravelMATE partner organizations and provides access to the TravelMATE curriculum and ONEder’s software.

The Stats – Travel Competence Achieved

Twenty-two of the Travel Trainers reported on the nature and level of the travel training competence achieved by 104 of their Travel Trainees, of whom:

96% of individuals decreased need of assistance in using public transportation and could travel more independently than before the training.

43% of individuals were able to travel completely independently using public transportation after the training.

56% of the trainers reported that TravelMATE was the most important and useful resource they received at the training.

The Testimonies – Employment Providers

The moment we saw TravelMATE using ONEder we knew that the possibilities were endless. This platform is going to rock our disabilities community in such a positive way. We saw a "Coach in Your Pocket" instantly. The best part of the training is that it's informative, customized to our needs, and hands-on. We felt engaged from day one. – **Donna Goldbranson, SPARC**

The Mason LIFE Program enjoyed the interaction between all the presenters, the time each presenter took to make sure each individual felt confident in creating all the different activities, and the hands-on homework/field trip that gave us the opportunity to demonstrate our ability to use ONEder. – **Robin E Moyher, Ph. D., BCBA, MASON LIFE**

The training served as a great onboarding for the program by asking staff to engage directly with TravelMATE and ONEder and solve problems as a team. I also realized through the training that ONEder fosters collaboration between staff, participants, their families and other supports. – **Ross Kerr, MOST**

