



GOTRIANGLE TDM TEAM CERTIFIED AS TELEWORK READY THROUGH BEST WORKPLACES FOR COMMUTERS

DURHAM (JAN. 11, 2021) — As the ability to work from home has become a critical component of fighting the COVID-19 pandemic for businesses and employees, members of GoTriangle’s Employer Services team have strengthened their credentials to help create telework programs.

The agency’s team of Transportation Demand Management consultants has successfully completed the Best Workplaces for Commuters Telework Certificate course, which is a five-part training program on honing virtual workflow, digital communication and other skills for working in a remote environment. TDM’s primary goal is to help employers across the Triangle identify options other than driving alone in a vehicle to get their employees to work.

“For more than a dozen years, our responsibilities have included establishing telework programs as the region has changed and grown, and our organization stands ready to assist groups and individuals who have identified the need to develop or grow remote work during the pandemic,” says Shelly Parker, GoTriangle’s TDM manager. “Whether a commute is by bus, bike, carpool or just a few steps down the hall, a low-stress commute results in a better workday for everyone.”

All of TDM’s consulting services are funded with grants and free to employers, both public and private.

To help others adapt to a changing workplace, Best Workplaces for Commuters in partnership with e-work.com offers the telework certificate to companies wanting to successfully adapt to online work environments.

“We are excited that GoTriangle offered this training to their TDM team, and their involvement in the course illustrates their dedication to employees and their well-being during the pandemic,” says Julie Bond, BWC program director. “The skills provided within the course enable the TDM team to successfully work in a remote environment and to better provide remote work assistance to other employers in the region.”

According to the U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey for the period of November 11 through November 23, 2020, more than 2.5 million out of 8 million North Carolinians substituted some or all of their typical in-person work for telework because of the coronavirus pandemic.

To help those making the move to teleworking, GoTriangle began a series of free, online educational webinars last summer. Experts in the fields of home office ergonomics, cybersecurity and worksite safety offered their insights, and the webinars are available at www.GoTriangle.org/telework. The page also includes supporting resources for each of those topics as well as recommendations for managing and supporting parents who are teleworking with children in remote classrooms at home, a home office safety and ergonomics checklist and sample policies and best practices for employees and companies.

About GoTriangle Employer Services

GoTriangle’s Employer Services Transportation Demand Management Department helps employers and universities recruit and retain employees and students by providing commuting options rather than driving alone. TDM extends the reach of GoTriangle by developing telework programs, forming vanpools and carpools and creating bicycle and pedestrian campaigns.

These services and programs have significant impacts on commuting patterns, traffic congestion, personal health and finances and air quality in the Triangle. The grant-funded services, programs and materials are provided through a partnership of NC Department of Transportation, municipalities and public transportation agencies. Find out more here.

For more information, please contact Shelly Parker, Sustainable Services manager, at mparker@gotriangle.org.

About Best Workplaces for Commuters

Best Workplaces for Commuters is the national authority on recognizing and assisting workplaces that provide comprehensive commuter benefits to employees. More than a recognition program, BWC provides the necessary assistance to create and sustain employer-provided commuter benefit programs and offers recognition and tailored support for Employers, Universities, and Sites. The program is managed by the Center for Urban Transportation Research at the University of South Florida with support from the Florida Department of Transportation.

For more information about Best Workplaces for Commuters and its Telework Certificate course, please email **Julie Bond, program director, at bond@cutr.usf.edu**