

## **Paratransit Services' *Lake Transit* Operation Honored with "Outstanding Rural Program" Award**

*April 25, 2017, Olympic Valley, California.* Paratransit Services, a nonprofit public transit contractor based in Bremerton, Washington, operates public transit systems in Washington, Oregon, and Northern California. Our goal is to manage these systems in ways that reflect well on the agencies who have placed their confidence in our transit expertise. It is very gratifying to us when the systems we operate are recognized by the transit industry for service excellence. This was the case when *Lake Transit* was honored at the CalACT Spring Conference and Expo with a 2017 "Outstanding Rural Program" award at a ceremony held April 25 in Olympic Valley, California.

Paratransit Services has operated the Lake County public transit system, from a facility in Lower Lake, California, since 2007 under contract with Lake Transit Authority. *Lake Transit* provides Fixed Route service in the towns of Clearlake and Lower Lake; Dial-A-Ride service to several communities on the perimeter of Clear Lake; regional "Flex" service within the county; and Inter-Regional service to neighboring Napa and Mendocino Counties.

In presenting the award, CalACT officers cited *Lake Transit's* service to the community despite three years of natural disasters, including the wildfires that ravaged the county in 2015 and the intense flooding that struck the area this past winter. These events displaced hundreds of residents and made travel impossible through the hardest hit areas of the County. Paratransit Services *Lake Transit* staff responded to these adverse conditions by helping with evacuation efforts, assisting with setting-up shelters, and adjusting transit routes until conditions returned to normal.



This was the second "Outstanding Rural Program" award given to *Lake Transit* by CalACT during Paratransit Services' tenure; the previous award was presented in 2009 at the CalACT conference in San Diego.

CalACT is a California statewide, non-profit professional organization that has been in existence since 1984. The "Outstanding Rural Program" award honors a rural transportation program that has demonstrated exceptional achievement in the areas of safety, operations, customer service, financial management, community relations, policy and administration.