

National Association of
Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE)
Youth Voices... Grown-Up Choices Initiative

Sponsored by the:



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FOUNDATION

**NORTHEAST REGION
2006**



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Youth Voices... Grown-Up Choices Initiative

HIGHLIGHTS

❖ **Northeast Region** partners with SAVE

➤ Schools/community agencies sponsored for school safety activities in Pennsylvania:

School	# Youth reached	Ages
Butler Senior High School	400+	16 -18
Maple Point Middle School	1,100+	11 -15
Norristown Area High School	400+	14 -18
Wayne Elementary School	400+	5 -11
Wellsboro Area High School	1400+	5 -19
Wilson Area High School		
Easton Area High School		
Northampton Community College	5,000+	12 -18
Career Institute of Technology - In conjunction with the Beginning Over Foundation		
TOTAL	8,700+	

Chapters received:

- **Mini Grants.** Schools and community agencies received \$250 mini grants to use to establish or support their SAVE chapters. Mini grants were used for chapter supplies, educational items, trainings, activities and events.
- **Chapter Support and Technical Assistance,** including certification and student membership cards, regular updates on cutting-edge research related to tolerance, inclusion, diversity, bullying, harassment, intimidation in schools, and other topics, and access to a members-only section of the National SAVE website with the latest information and technical assistance.
- **Educational Materials and Activity Guides,** including *The SAVE Essentials Manual*, a 200+ page resource book with lesson plans, handouts, brochures, and videos that provide violence prevention, crime prevention, and conflict management information to help students become peer mentors and trainers. Included newly added student developed elementary and secondary lesson plans on tolerance and diversity. Activity guides for National Youth Violence Prevention Week and National SAVE Day were provided.
- **Resource Information and Special Opportunities** were made available to chapters. These included information on mini-grant funding opportunities for SAVE chapter activities, award and recognition opportunities that publicize and reward excellent work by SAVE members, advisors, and chapters, as well as additional resource material on safe school activities and events including tolerance, inclusion and diversity.

➤ **Back to School Activities Conducted in August and September.** Activities and materials for youth violence prevention back to school activities were distributed to all SAVE Chapters in the Northeast Region. The Allstate Foundation was promoted through press releases and printed materials as sponsoring publications and activities.

- **America's Safe Schools Week Conducted October 16-20, 2006.** Activities and materials for youth violence prevention activities were distributed to all SAVE chapters in the Northeast Region during America's Safe Schools Week. The Allstate Foundation was promoted through press releases and printed materials as sponsoring publications and activities.
- **Allstate Support Awareness** - Allstate Foundation sponsorship of SAVE chapters was highlighted in press releases, newsletters, via publication of resource materials and on the National SAVE website.
- **Media Highlight** - Parents Express ran an article in their December 2006 publication. This is a free monthly news magazine for parents that is read by over 60,000 readers in the Philadelphia region. <http://www.adquest3d.com/da/?brd=1306&pag=779&ssid=10347> (page 24)
- **Equipment/Software/Office Supplies.** National SAVE purchased a computer and updated software as well as office supplies for project support.

Allstate Foundation Northeast Region Youth Voices... Grown-Up Choices Recipient Summaries 2006 Award Recipients

Butler Senior High School Butler, PA

The Butler Senior High School SAVE Chapter promoted America's Safe Schools Week while highlighting National SAVE Day. Throughout the week the students made announcements on the morning school television program to raise awareness of their violence prevention efforts. On National SAVE Day the chapter set up an exhibit in the cafeteria to raise awareness of violence in schools. The chapter conducted a service project fundraiser for West-Nikels Mine Foundation by holding a door prize drawing for any student who made a donation. Students created and sent cards to Amish families affected by the school shooting in Lancaster, PA. The chapter challenged homerooms to create chains of purple and orange links that were displayed around the cafeteria. The chapter linked all of the chains with black links to represent the random acts of violence that can break the unity of the school. In November the chapter sponsored National Mix-It-Up Day where students met new friends and broke away from their cliques. They held activities where students could play group games and meet people they hadn't met before. The chapter also sponsored a service project for Samaritan's Purse. Homerooms were encouraged to fill shoeboxes for children in third world countries who normally wouldn't receive a present for the holidays. The chapter is actively planning activities for National Youth Violence Prevention Week that occurs in March and will host a spring SAVE Day.

"Students in our school, through SAVE's sponsored activities, have come together as a community. Their awareness of violence in the school and community has been raised. Students by coming together and learning to cross over social boundaries have also helped members in the Pennsylvanian community along with the global community." – Emily Mueller, Butler Senior High School SAVE Member

Maple Point Middle School Langhorne, PA

The SAVE Chapter at Maple Point Middle school has been very active since September with their peace keeping activities. The year started with a scavenger hunt for the sixth grade class to orient them to their new environment. The hunt always includes a stop in the mediation room with an explanation of the peer mediation services. The violence prevention team organized a mixed up lunch day which included a team building activity of making castles out of index cards at each table, with prizes for the different categories of castles. The peer mediators and the violence prevention team have organized a school wide talent show as the send off activity for the holidays. This is an annual program that highlights the talents and the diversity in this school. There are over 17 acts including a teacher act. This is always a peaceful way to celebrate the holidays at school. The peer mediators and some of the violence prevention team spend Martin Luther King day doing a day of volunteerism in the community. In March they are planning to sponsor a Peace Awareness week. There will be an assembly on diversity or violence prevention. The chapter also does public service announcements and poster contests.

Allstate Agent Involvement: John and Mary Kraft, Langhorne, PA were invited to the Talent Show, they were unable to attend. However, they would like to attend some activity during the Peace Awareness week. The chapter will also extend an invitation for them to assist with the Martin Luther King service project.

Norristown Area High School Norristown, PA

The Norristown Area High School SAVE Chapter has conducted numerous chapter meetings in the fall educating their chapter members on the history, goals and ideals of SAVE. They have planned numerous activities that will occur in the spring including hosting Dr. Michael Dyson as a speaker who will discuss youth violence and his book, *The True Martin Luther King, Jr.* The chapter will also host an Antiviolence/Anti Drug Basketball Tournament which will be a day long event for the community. Youth will be educated and encouraged to stay violence and drug free. The chapter is also hosting an evening of violence and drug free entertainment through a Talent Showcase. Students will have the opportunity to showcase their talents and youth will be encouraged to use their talents to inspire others to remain drug and violence free. In May in conjunction with Prom, the chapter will host a DUI Simulator program that is an interactive program used to deter students from driving under the influence or getting in the car with someone who is intoxicated. Local law enforcement will be on hand to talk to students about the dangers of drinking and driving and talk about the consequences of those decisions.

Media Highlight: Press release highlighting Allstate Foundation support is on the Norristown Area School District Website at www.nasd.k12.pa.us/news.asp?action=display&id=72

Wayne Elementary School Wayne, PA

The Wayne Elementary School SAVE Chapter has had a busy fall. Their meetings have focused on various violence prevention themes including crime prevention, conflict management, bullying, and internet safety. In honor of Veteran's Day, the students created cards to show their support for the soldiers serving in Afghanistan and Iraq. They combined the cards with 12 boxes of student donated Halloween Candy to make care packages for the troops and shipped the boxes overseas. The SAVE Chapter held a 5th grade mini-training and brainstorming session on National SAVE Day. The students created and conducted ways to spread the message of positive actions and non-violence to the younger grades, i.e. lunch time commercials/skits, posters, etc. The chapter conducted a campus cleanup project where they removed trash and debris, pulled weeds, and planted bulbs. Work will continue in the spring on the campus beautification project. Students created posters on the SAVE belief statements reminding others of the good choices they can make and hung them around the school. Winter/Spring activities that are planned include training students in the 4th and 5th grades to be peer conflict managers. These students will be trained in conflict management and mediation skills so that they may help other students appropriately manage conflict. Students are also reviewing library books dealing with the topics of friendship skills, problem solving, bullying, etc. They will create a recommended reading list that will be provided to school staff. The students are researching and writing articles to provide safety tips for students and parents. Topics to be covered are: bike safety, bus safety, stranger safety and internet safety.

Wellsboro Area High School Wellsboro, PA

After the shooting at their middle school, the Wellsboro Area High School SAVE Chapter felt it was their responsibility to talk openly with the students in their district about bullying and violence and share ways that students and faculty could be involved in violence prevention efforts. The chapter implemented a recognition program where teachers could recommend students to be acknowledged for random acts of kindness. Students received a note of thanks from the SAVE chapter and a small bag of goodies. The chapter conducted numerous awareness activities including a violence free pledge drive and a bullying prevention initiative. The chapter also visited the local elementary schools and conducted presentations on how to cope with bullies and what they can do to be safe at school and in their community.

Wilson Area High School, Easton Area High School, Northampton Community College, and Career of Technology Institute in conjunction with the Beginning Over Foundation Easton, PA

The Beginning Over Foundation SAVE Chapter worked with numerous high schools in the Easton area to spread the SAVE message through activities and events. The chapter presented to 800 **Wilson Area High School** students and educators on school safety, bullying, and teen dating violence. The chapter presented to the **Easton Area High School** where they educated over 3,000 students on the SAVE program and crime prevention, conflict management and service opportunities through SAVE. The chapter hosted a violence prevention exhibit and event during America's Safe Schools week at **Northampton Community College**. The chapter spoke with over 700 students at the **Career of Technology Institute** on violence prevention strategies and how students can be proactively involved in safe school efforts.