



MEDIA ALERT

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The Allstate Foundation Partners with Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) to Promote Teen Safe Driving *Douglass High School, Douglass, Kansas to Conduct Activities on May 7, 2010*

Who: Teen members of the SAVE Chapter at Douglass High School in Douglass, KS.

What: Sponsored by the Allstate Foundation of the West Central US, the Douglass High School SAVE chapter will conduct interactive activities to assist teens in driving safer. Speakers will include a Kansas Highway Patrol Officer demonstrating a seatbelt simulator and an Allstate representative, Krystal Allee, discussing the consequences of distractions while driving.

How: Media is invited to speak with students about safe driving tips for all teens and the challenges and consequences of unsafe teen driving habits as they participate in a seatbelt simulator. The Kansas Highway Patrol and Community Reps will be available to discuss their efforts on teen safe driving.

When: Friday, May 7, 2010 from 11:00 am until 1:00 pm.

Where: Cafeteria area of Douglass High School, 910 E. First Street, Douglass, KS 67039

SAVE is a peer to peer organization that strives to increase youth involvement in their own safety efforts. SAVE believes in the power of positive peer influences. According to a recent Allstate Foundation report, ***when it comes to teen safe driving, peers are a major influence on teens – both positive and negative. Nearly half said they are sometimes distracted by passengers (47 percent), and nearly as many said they drive more safely without friends in the car (44 percent). More than half (53 percent) said friends would be the most effective influence in getting them to drive more safely.***

SAFETY TIPS FROM TEENS FOR TEENS

Teen Safety While Driving

- **Avoid distractions.** Talking or texting on your cell phone while driving gives you the reaction time of a 70-year old. Texting a friend, eating a cheeseburger and listening to loud music increases your chance of crashing.
- **Be defensive.** Leave room between you and the cars around you.
- **Wear your seat belt.** Research has shown that wearing lap/shoulder belts can reduce the risk of dying in a crash by 45%.
- **Remember that driving anytime can be dangerous.** Even driving home from school can be deadly! Teens are most at risk between 3 pm and midnight.
- **Slow down!** You're not invincible.
- **Speak up if your friend is driving like a maniac or wants you to!** Don't let your silence be the last thing either of you hears.
- **Realize that a crash really can happen to you.** Make good choices when you are behind the wheel. They may just save your life. Or your friend's life.

About SAVE

SAVE started at West Charlotte High School (NC) in 1989 following the tragic death of a student who was trying to break up a fight at an off-campus party. Students met first to console each other, then as an organization to promote violence prevention and to work together to prevent future incidents from occurring. SAVE provides education about the effects and consequences of violence and engages students in safe activities that benefit them and their community. SAVE currently has over 1,800 chapters in 47 states, with over 200,000 members. The National Association of SAVE is a student-run, student-initiated violence prevention organization that operates out of Raleigh, NC. Additional information on SAVE can be reviewed at www.nationalsave.org or calling toll free 866.343.SAVE.

About The Allstate Foundation

Established in 1952, The Allstate Foundation is an independent, charitable organization made possible by subsidiaries of The Allstate Corporation. The Allstate Foundation partners with non-profit organizations on community initiatives that promote "safe and vital communities," "tolerance, inclusion, and diversity" and "economic empowerment." Teen driving and empowering victims of domestic violence have been major initiatives for the Foundation since 2005. For more information visit www.ProtectTeenDrivers.com.

¹The Allstate Foundation: "Chronic: A Report on Teen Safe Driving 2005"