

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

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**SOUTHWEST REGION
2008
Final Grant Report Update**



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Youth Voices... Grown-Up Choices Initiative

Southwest Region Partners with SAVE

This is an update to our 2008 Grant Report submitted in February of 2009 for \$8,000 received in November, 2008. Thanks to this Southwest Allstate Foundation grant, SAVE was able to extend the original 2007 grant and provide additional support for violence prevention activities in Las Vegas, NV schools.

General overview of the program and how it addresses the Allstate Foundation's focus area(s)

- The National Association of Students Against Violence Everywhere is addressing two Allstate Foundation focus areas, Safe and Vital Communities and Tolerance, Inclusion, and Diversity, by teaming up with the Southwest Allstate Foundation to establish the integrated program called the **Allstate Foundation SAVE: Youth Voices...Grown-Up Choices! Program**. This initiative engages and empowers young people with the knowledge and skills necessary to prevent violence in their communities and their schools. Special emphasis was given to Back to School Safety, America's Safe Schools Week, National SAVE Day, and National Youth Violence Prevention Week.
- This grant from the Allstate Foundation supported *the efforts of students and staff at 5 additional schools in the Clark County Schools of Las Vegas, Nevada*.

Program Impact

- An additional five schools are being sponsored for school safety activities in Nevada

School	# Youth reached	Ages
Monaco Middle School	1450	11-14
Ralph Cadwallader Middle School	1350	11-15
Theron Swainston Middle School	450	13-14
Carroll Johnston Middle School	1400	11-15
Jerome Mack Middle School	1600	11-15
TOTAL	8,550+	

- SAVE Chapter Demographics in participating schools:
 - Male 51%
 - Female 49%
 - African American 19%
 - Asian American 5%
 - Hispanic American 32%
 - Native American 2%
 - White 41%
 - Other 1%

Highlights and successes of the program

- Chapters have received:
 - ✓ **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 300+ 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. Guides for Back to School, America's Safe Schools Week, and National SAVE Day activities 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. Allstate Foundation sponsorship of SAVE chapters was highlighted in newsletters, via publication of resource materials and on the National SAVE website: www.nationalsave.org/main/newsletter.php and for Allstate information: www.nationalsave.org/main/Allstate.php
- ✓ **Mini grants** – Chapters received their \$250.00 mini grant funds for violence prevention activities in their school and community.

- ✓ **Training Workshop** – SAVE Advisors from Clark County Schools (Las Vegas, NV) attended a two day training on March 21 and 22, 2008. **Allstate representative Traci Peterson attended the event and provided comments at the press event.**



Traci Peterson speaks at Las Vegas Training

- Mailings to all SAVE Chapters in the Southwest, including a Back-to-School Activity Brochure, ideas for America's Safe Schools Week, National SAVE Day activities, and National Youth Violence Prevention week were distributed to the chapters.
- Each participating school was required to involve local Allstate representatives. National SAVE assisted in connecting SAVE chapters with local Allstate agents.
- Media:
 - Press releases issued to all major media outlets in Oklahoma, Utah, and Nevada highlighting Allstate's sponsorship.
 - http://www.nationalsave.org/main/Word/SAVE_SW_Allstate_Foundation_PR%20-final.doc
 - http://www.nationalsave.org/main/Word/LV%20SAVE_SW_Allstate_Foundation_PR%20-%20final.doc
 - <http://www.nationalsave.org/main/Word/2008%20LV%20SAVE%20TOT%20Media%20Advisory.doc>
 - Individualized press releases in school markets were distributed.
 - <http://www.nationalsave.org/main/Word/Chandler%20High%20Media%20Release.doc>
 - <http://www.nationalsave.org/main/Word/American%20Fork%20Junior%20High%20Media%20Release.doc>
 - http://www.nationalsave.org/main/Word/LV%20SAVE_SW_Allstate_Foundation_PR%20-%20final.doc
- Media coverage:
 - http://www.lasvegasnow.com/Global/story.asp?S=8109529&nav=menu102_2
 - http://www.lasvegasnow.com/Global/story.asp?S=8089834&nav=menu102_2

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- <http://www.ktnv.com/Global/story.asp?S=8087603>
 - <http://www.ktnv.com/global/story.asp?s=8048427>
 - <http://www.ktnv.com/global/story.asp?s=8048954>
 - <http://www.lasvegasnow.com/Global/story.asp?S=8794270&nav=168XVHiG>
 - <http://www.kvbc.com/Global/story.asp?S=8793932&nav=15MV>
- National SAVE Newsletter, the eSource coverage:
 - <http://www.nationalsave.org/main/newsletter.php>
 - Website recognition:
 - <http://www.nationalsave.org/main/sponsors.php>
 - <http://www.nationalsave.org/main/Allstate.php>
 - <http://www.nationalsave.org/main/Allstate%20Southwest.php>

Award Recipients & Highlights of Activities - Storytelling

Monaco Middle School, NV

Monaco Middle school provided information on resistance to drugs and violence. A focus on social awareness among students facing challenges in an "at risk" school included lesson plans and assemblies with the intention of educating students about alternatives to violence. Parents and media were invited to witness the progress in an effort to show the community that it is possible to create change. Monaco Middle has recently participated in a silent protest and received attention from all major news stations. They received several letters and phone calls from parents and community members who were excited to see a school participating in positive activities. They plan to continue this type of success with the money and support that is being offered.



Monaco completed all of the activities planned in their "storytelling" paragraph. Monaco participated in SAVE week with support ribbons, video clips on SAVE, student journal entries involving violence and how it has affected their lives, and poster design contests.



They had a Rock-A-Thon and an assembly. The teachers created lesson plans revolving around intimidators (bullies) and how to deal with them. With the funding from Allstate, they were able to have an assembly with hot dogs being served by police officers, students and **former gang members**. The **former gang members** spoke on decreasing violence, staying off of drugs and staying in school. **The First Lady Dawn Gibbons, the Attorney General Ms. Mastro** and Monaco's administration all shared hot dogs with the students and provided a very positive atmosphere.

Ralph Cadwallader Middle School, NV

Cadwallader's Peace Week celebration was held during the week of April 20, 2009. Peace Week celebrated and promoted positive choices, conflict management, and friendship. The activities included daily peace quotes on CNN, creating peace bracelets (a green bead for the environment, a brown bead for Hispanic culture, red for Native American, white for Caucasian, black for African-American, yellow for Asian and another green bead on a hemp cord) to be worn for the week, signing peace pledges and other activities. They felt that creating a positive campus community creates a safer learning environment. A safer learning environment leads to higher academic success.

Allstate Agent Involvement: Allstate agents in the local office were invited to attend a SAVE meeting, record a commercial and attend the Peace Pie Penny War event. Unfortunately, due to scheduling conflicts, no one was able to attend. They look forward to extending an invitation for next year.

Swainston Middle School, NV

Swainston Middle School established a SAVE Chapter to focus on bullying, anger management, cyber-bullying and self-esteem based behavioral issues. To that end they focused on the basics: safety rules and regulations, peer mediation, what constitutes a behavior infraction and consequences, violence warning signs and methods for dealing with violence. They used simple proven tools such as Creative Management Techniques, Active Listening Skills and Peer/Teacher Counseling. They held awareness activities for students and parents as well as holding monthly focus meetings on issues of concerns to the school and community.

Allstate Agent Involvement: Due to time constraints they were unable to coordinate activities with the schedule of the Allstate Agents in the community.

Carroll Johnston Middle School, NV

This is Carroll Johnston Middle School's first year as a SAVE Chapter. Their planned activities include introducing the SAVE program to the student body, recruitment of SAVE members, election of a Youth Advisory Board and introducing SAVE's three essential elements: Crime Prevention, Conflict Management and Service Projects. They started their chapter meetings rather late this year and in doing so they discovered that as a "first year" chapter they had many, many avenues they could traverse. In the end, the counselors selected and began these projects: meet with the sixth grade students to create a two-day presentation on anti-bullying from a sixth graders perspective; assign an anti-bullying poster contest between the readings vs. the art classes (posters to be hung throughout the school's hallways); meet with chapter members to create a school skit to recruit new members (this to be done each fall) and meet with chapter members and school counselors to master the 6-step problem solving method so that they may implement it in their local elementary feeder schools. They realized this is a long-term anti-violence management program and they look forward to next year.

Jerome Mack Middle School, NV

Jerome Mack Middle School will be implementing peer mediation and conflict resolution as part of their SAVE program. They also hope to offer positive incentives for appropriate behavior. The chapter will utilize the crime prevention and conflict management lessons from the SAVE Essentials manual.

In many cases, National SAVE is contacted when circumstances are ripe for misfortune. Sadly this is the case at Jerome D. Mack Middle School. Ms. Wise-Sims was scheduled to introduce the SAVE program to the school on May 4. On the evening of May 3rd, a former Mack student, aged 14, was gunned down at his birthday party (he would have been 15 on May 4th.) by gang members. Many of the victim's friends and some family were at the SAVE presentation which doubled as a crisis session. Students, parents and

friends expressed interest in the SAVE Chapter as a result. Ms. Wise-Sims has plans to expand the SAVE program next year.

Allstate Agent Involvement: An Allstate Foundation representative was sought for participation at Mack's 3rd Annual Jamboree, which was to be held on May 14. However, due to a previously scheduled event, a representative was unable to attend.

Note: Additional Teen Safe Driving Event at Mojave High School in Las Vegas

A confluence of speakers occurred in May at Mojave Middle School which personified our teen safe driving mission. Mojave held a "Speakers Day" seminar for Drivers Education Classes on May 6th. The speakers included, but were not limited to, **Allstate Agent Jayar Hawley**, City Councilman Ricki Barlow, County Commissioner Larry Weekly, Joy Carroll of the *Victims Memorial Walk*, and representatives of two Las Vegas Police Departments. Mr. Hawley spoke on driving safety, seat belt use and was able to speak from a personal perspective as his wife and children had previously been carjacked at gunpoint. Other guests included officers from the North Las Vegas and the Metropolitan Police Departments. Joy Carroll of the *Victims Memorial Walk* spoke at length on safe driving and the emotional consequences of unsafe driving. The presentations reflected all aspects of unsafe driving and the consequences thereof: the terror of an abduction, the situation resolving roles of the police, the reactions of the community, the financial consequences and the misery of the individuals left behind. Each speaker's presentation helped cement the concept of safe driving in the minds of the teen drivers of Mojave Middle School - perhaps saving lives in the process.



Thank you again to the Allstate Foundation for their continued support of the activities of Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) chapters in the Southwest Region of the United States. With your assistance we are making great strides in reaching our vision: ***Schools and communities will be safer and more secure, free of fear, and conducive to learning as a result of students being actively involved in meaningful violence prevention and teen safe driving efforts.***

***Respectively submitted by
Dr. Pamela L. Riley
Executive Director
June 15, 2009***