

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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### **Teen Safe Driving Activities planned at High Schools in Tulare and North Highlands, California**

**Sacramento, Tulare, North Highlands, CA (May 4, 2011)** — Thanks to the Allstate Foundation in California, Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE), Inc. presented grants to the following high schools:

- **Tulare High School - Teens for Humanity - Tulare, CA**  
Tulare High School's Teens for Humanity club is planning a Safe Driving Awareness week in May, 2011. The student body will be educated on the dangers of texting and driving with statistics, awareness posters and by participating in an X the TXT event. The club is advised by Danielle Griffiths.
- **Futures High School - North Highlands, CA**  
In an effort to increase the awareness of consequences of distracted driving, Futures High School will hold an X the TXT event in May. Students will create A-frame posters displaying statistics to wear during the event. Local law enforcement will be invited to attend. The Futures SAVE Chapter is advised by Jason Ebeling.

With support from Allstate agents and employee volunteers, SAVE chapters will be able to provide leadership in their schools and communities to ensure that all students will be encouraged and empowered with healthy life skills while engaging in educational activities and opportunities to promote teen safe driving and youth safety.

SAVE is a peer-to-peer organization that focuses on the power of positive peer influences. According to a recent Allstate Foundation survey, *Shifting Teen Attitudes: The State of Teen Driving 2009*, peers are a major influence on teens – both positive and negative. Some of the concerning statistics that SAVE chapters will address include:

- Eighty-two percent of teens reported using cell phones while driving.
- Nearly half (48 percent) of girls admit they are likely to speed more than 10 mph over the limit, versus 36 percent of boys.
- Seventy-seven percent of teens admit they have felt unsafe with another teen's driving.

“This generous grant from The Allstate Foundation will assist students in finding real solutions to the issues of teen safe driving that they face each day,” stated SAVE’s executive director, Carleen Wray.

“By empowering teens to become smart driving activists in their schools and communities, we hope to reverse the staggering statistics,” said **Melanie Merrion, Allstate Senior Corporate Relations Manager**. “Through The Allstate Foundation, we seek to develop innovative, teen-focused approaches to raise awareness of the issue and, ultimately, to help save lives and reduce injuries.”

**About the National Association of Students Against Violence Everywhere:**

SAVE started at West Charlotte High School in Charlotte, N.C. 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 helps provide safe activities for students, parents and communities. For more information on SAVE or starting a SAVE chapter, visit [www.nationalsave.org](http://www.nationalsave.org), or contact SAVE at (866) 343-SAVE to receive free start-up materials and guidance.

**About The Allstate Foundation:**

Established in 1952, The Allstate Foundation is an independent, charitable organization made possible by subsidiaries of The Allstate Corporation (NYSE ALL). Allstate and The Allstate Foundation sponsor community initiatives to promote safe and vital communities; tolerance, inclusion, and diversity; and economic empowerment. The Allstate Foundation believes in the financial potential of every individual and in helping America's families achieve their American dream. For more information, visit [www.allstate.com/foundation](http://www.allstate.com/foundation).

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