

e-SAVE SOURCE

Youth Voices...Grown-Up Choices!

National Association
of Students Against
Violence Everywhere

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Reaching Out Through Service

Attorney General's National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence

The problem of childhood exposure to violence has reached epic proportions in the United States. In 2009, the National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence found that more than 60% of children surveyed were exposed to violence in the past year, either directly or indirectly. Last month, the Department of Justice announced the establishment of the Attorney General's National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence. Composed of leading experts from diverse fields and perspectives, the Task Force will spend the next year examining the extent and nature of the problem of childhood exposure to violence in the U.S. and identifying policies and promising practices to address it. The establishment of this Task Force is a key part of the Department of Justice's Defending Childhood Initiative, a project arising from the Attorney General's commitment to addressing the epidemic levels of exposure to violence faced by our nation's children.

The Task Force will hold four hearings. The hearings will serve as the project's central vehicle for engaging Task Force members in conversation about the local and national impact of children exposed to violence.

The first hearing took place in Baltimore at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law. Witnesses included Sonja Sohn, founder and CEO of ReWired for Change and star of HBO's "The Wire"; Patrick McCarthy, President and CEO of the Annie E. Casey Foundation; Nigel Cox, Chair of the SAVE National Advisory Board; and practitioners, policy makers, advocates, academics, and representatives of impacted families and communities.



Subsequent hearings will take place over the next several months in Albuquerque, New Mexico; Miami, Florida; and Detroit, Michigan. Details on subsequent hearings, as well as information about community listening sessions and other opportunities for input are on the Defending Childhood Task Force website, www.usdoj.gov/defendingchildhood/task-force.html.



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UPCOMING EVENTS



DATE	EVENT	MORE INFO
JANUARY 23-27	NO NAME-CALLING WEEK	http://www.nonamecallingweek.org
FEBRUARY 15-17	NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BULLYING ORLANDO, FL • THE SCHOOL SAFETY ADVOCACY COUNCIL, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS (FASRO) AND SAVE (STUDENTS AGAINST VIOLENCE EVERYWHERE) ANNOUNCE THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BULLYING AT THE DOUBLETREE HOTEL & RESORT. SPECIAL RATES AT THIS DISNEY PARTNER RESORT APPLY AND INCLUDE FREE TRANSPORTATION TO ALL DISNEY AND UNIVERSAL PARKS. THE EVENT WILL FEATURE SOME OF THE NATION'S LEADING EXPERTS IN THE FIELD OF BULLYING, FROM THE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE SIDE.	http://www.schoolsafety911.com/
MARCH 4-7	23RD ANNUAL YOUTH-AT-RISK CONFERENCE	http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/yarregister.html
MARCH 19-23	NATIONAL YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION WEEK	http://www.nationalsave.org/main/YVPC.php
APRIL 1-31	NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH	http://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/preventionmonth/
APRIL 2-4	NATIONAL AFTER SCHOOL ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE	http://www.naaweb.org/default.asp?contentID=659
APRIL 22-28	NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK	http://www.ncvc.org/ncvc/main.aspx?dbID=DB_2012NCVRWResourceGuide192
MAY 1-31	NATIONAL YOUTH TRAFFIC SAFETY MONTH	http://www.nationalsave.org/main/teendrivingfocus.php
JUNE 14-16	LIFESAVERS: 30TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE DEDICATED TO HIGHWAY SAFETY!	http://library.constantcontact.com/download/get/file/1101808979916-808/Lifesavers+Conference+Save+the+Dates.pdf

Monthly Focus: Reaching Out Through Service

In a time full of sharing and giving, such as during the holidays, violence can be more devastating for its victims. By reaching out through service to our school and community, we can create a better environment for those who may not otherwise have a happy holiday season. SAVE emphasizes the importance of developing responsible citizens as a promising effort in preventing violence in our schools and communities. Youth should not only know their rights, but responsibilities in areas of the law, government, the Constitution, and in daily civic activities. It is difficult to emphasize to youth that they "should" be and feel a part of their community without providing opportunities to learn first-hand. Learning by doing is a key component of SAVE through service projects. Empowering students to get involved in hands-on efforts to prevent violence is a very rewarding learning experience of SAVE. SAVE is a way for youth to get involved!

For suggested activities and downloads, visit: <http://www.nationalsave.org/main/decembertheme.php>

For additional information on upcoming monthly topics, visit: <http://www.nationalsave.org/main/calendar>.

SAVE Question of the Month:

Please share the SAVE Question of the Month with your SAVE members. The Youth Voices section of the web is a place for students to ask questions and get responses from SAVE members across the country.

December QoM: *"How will your SAVE chapter help the less fortunate this holiday season? What service projects will your SAVE chapter be conducting over the holidays?"*

Please send your responses to: forum@nationalsave.org

Check out: <http://www.nationalsave.org/forum/index.php> to see your response posted!

Techno Tidbit

iOnRoad for Android:

It's an app that uses your phone's native camera and sensors to tell you if you're driving a safe distance from the cars in front of you, and alerts you visually and audibly if you're approaching a car or object in front of you that pose a danger for collisions.



Check out this link: <http://gizmodo.com/iphone-apps#iphone>

Sabrina Steger... From A Parent's Perspective

It's often said that the holidays bring out the 'giving spirit'. For many people that means dropping a toy or a couple of cans of green beans into a collection box, or maybe some change in the Salvation Army can in front of K-Mart. That's a very nice thing to do and I'm sure very much appreciated by those who receive the donations. But to me, a 'giving spirit' means much more.



A 'giving spirit' is a person who gives of themselves - their time, energy, dedication, elbow-grease and love, along with that can of green beans. It's those who give up an afternoon at the movies or the mall to pack food baskets or to go out into freezing rain to deliver those boxes. It's people who stand out in front of K-Mart ringing bells for hour after hour. It's raking leaves or shovelling snow for the elderly woman down the street, or helping some little kids make paper chains to decorate a Christmas tree. It's those who will stand up for the right thing to do, even when they have to stand alone.

People who join SAVE are the ones who have true giving spirits. You are the ones who do the service projects, who advise students in after-school clubs and organizations, who care about others all year long. You want to make your schools, communities, our country, and even beyond our shores, a better place. You dislike injustice and aren't satisfied with looking away or pretending it didn't happen. Many of you will go on to join different volunteer groups throughout your life. You can't help it...it's just your 'giving spirit'. It's a spirit that fewer and fewer people seem to have, but it's one that seems to grow the more it's used.

May each of you have a wonderful holiday season. Thank each and every one of you for being a very special person with a true 'giving spirit'. May each of your wishes come true!

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!





Katrina Reynolds, 2011 SAVE Advisor of the Year: From the Heart!

December is thought of as a time of giving and spending time with family, but many times the holidays can be a very violent time for victims of family violence. When we reach out through our community services and help these victims, we are helping give those victims a VOICE! So during this Holiday season, I am challenging each chapter to pick a family in your community that is in need or an individual that is in need and help them. The simplest of things could mean a lot to a person that has been a victim. Our tradition is to adopt a family at Christmas from our local women and children home. This year we have a family consisting of a single mother and three children.

In the past I have taken my students to tour the shelter so they could see what it is like for those victims. The tour was part of a program called "A Day in Her Shoes" where local schools could visit and speak with families in need. If you were once again ten years old and have one Christmas wish, what would it be? This is the answer from a little girl living at the shelter whose is the victim of family violence: "I want a baby doll that wets its pants, new shoes and for my mommy not to cry and my daddy to not hit us any more"...

SAVE is so EMPOWERING that if we start with one Christmas wish, one chapter at a time, we can help STOP this VIOLENCE!

From our chapter to yours we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas!

From the Heart - Katrina Reynolds



YABer Yak: National Youth Advisory Board Member Nigel Cox ~ Farmville Central High School, (NC)



I just love this time of the year! The only things you hear are bells ringing and Christmas songs playing in the stores. This year, let's remember the kids and the families that are less fortunate. By SAVE chapters reaching out to our communities, we have the opportunity to show how youth are making positive differences in our schools and communities. However, we can't do it alone. That's why we need unity. Let's make a true and meaningful difference in the community. Students should partner with other community agencies, businesses, the faith community, and other youth organizations to help the less fortunate. The holidays are a perfect time for communities to come together for the common good. During the holidays, many SAVE chapters volunteer at local soup kitchens, conduct canned food drives, provide holiday meals for the needy, collect toys and clothes, visit retirement homes, provide babysitting services for domestic violence shelters, conduct teddy bear and book drives for orphanages and local hospitals, as well as visit and entertain children to brighten their days.

Help your community and have a very Merry Christmas!



Project Yellow Light is a scholarship competition designed to bring about change.

As an applicant you have one clear mission: create a :60 video to encourage other teens to not text while driving.

You have creative license.

We want to see your personal expression come through in your video. You can video yourself, a group of people, make a cartoon; whatever moves you. Just keep it to a minute or less and make sure it's in good taste.

In addition to a scholarship, the winning video will be turned into an Ad Council PSA and will be distributed nationally to 1,600 TV stations.

<http://projectyellowlight.com/>



Prevention Resources:

Future Obesity May Be Predicted at 3.5 Years of Age

Researchers can predict which children are most likely to become obese by examining their mothers' behavior around their birth, according to a recent University of Montreal study published in the Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine. <http://medicalxpress.com/news/2011-11-future-obesity-years-age.html>

Teen Alcohol Risk Screening Guide Now Available

The National Institute for Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism has released, "Alcohol Screening and Brief Intervention for Youth: A Practitioner's Guide." This tool helps healthcare professionals identify youth at risk for alcohol-related problems, counsel or advise them, and connect them to external sources of treatment. <http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/Publications/EducationTrainingMaterials/YouthGuide>

Survey Links Alcohol Use in Schools to Peer Pressure

A survey by the National Substance Abuse Advisory Council (NSAAC) has found that students in the Central Division feature in the most number of alcohol abuse cases. <http://www.fijitimes.com/story.aspx?id=185735>

5 Steps to Guide Your Child Through Cyberbullying Mayhem

It's become painfully obvious that it's more important than ever for parents to get active in managing their child's digital world, just like they do for all the other aspects of their life.

<http://nobullchallenge.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/5-Steps-to-Guide-Your-Child-Through-Cyberbullying-Mayhem.pdf>

FOSI's New Report Evaluates the Global State of Online Safety in 2011

Containing more than 60 pages of expert commentary and analysis, this exciting new report includes comprehensive regional profiles, maps and best practice case studies. Complete with a global overview of risks and insights into topics like digital citizenship, it brings together in one document a comprehensive appraisal of the state of online safety in 2011. <http://www.fosi.org/resources/fosi-publications.html>

USDA CONSUMER ALERT: Keeping Food Safe During an Emergency

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is issuing recommendations to help minimize the potential for foodborne illnesses. Steps to follow after a weather emergency:

- Never taste a food to determine its safety!
- Keep the refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible to maintain the cold temperature.
- The refrigerator will keep food safely cold for about 4 hours if it is unopened. A full freezer will hold the temperature for approximately 48 hours (24 hours if it is half full) and the door remains closed.

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/NR_110211_01/index.asp

Funding/Contest Opportunities:

Allstate Foundation Mini Grants Available for Teen Safe Driving Activities!

Many schools and community agencies are planning activities to encourage Teen Safe Driving during key times including back to school, America's Safe Schools Week, holidays, National Youth Violence Prevention Week, National Youth Traffic Safety Month, Prom and Graduation. The National Association of Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) has mini grants available for schools and community agencies who are conducting activities this fall in the following states: AK, CO, DC, DE, HI, ID, IN, IA, KS, MD, MI, MO, MS, MT, NE, ND, OH, OR, SD, VA, WA, WV, and WY. Mini grants are \$1,000 and include educational items, materials, Teen Safe Driving Toolkits and a free SAVE Chapter affiliation. For a very brief (less than 2 pages) grant application, contact: info@nationalsave.org



Longitudinal Studies on the Impact of Adolescent Drinking on the Adolescent Brain

Deadline: January 18, 2012

The purpose of this FOA is to conduct a multisite longitudinal study is to address the following what are the effects of both long and shorter-term child and adolescent alcohol exposure on the developing human brain. <http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&oppld=126213>

American Legion Child Welfare Foundation--Child Development Grants

Deadline: July 15, 2012

The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation is accepting proposals for projects that meet one of the foundation's two basic purposes — to contribute to the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual welfare of children through the dissemination of knowledge about innovative organizations and/or their programs designed to benefit youth; and to contribute to the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual welfare of children through the dissemination of knowledge already possessed by well-established organizations, so that such information can be more adequately used by society. <http://www.healthinschools.org/News-Room/Grant-Alerts/Child-Development-Grants.aspx>

US Soccer Foundation—Soccer for Success Social Innovation Fund Sub-Grant

Deadline: December 22, 2011

The Social Innovation Fund (SIF) Sub-Grants will support the replication of Soccer for Success, the U.S Soccer Foundation's free after school youth development soccer program designed to combat childhood obesity and promote healthy lifestyles for children in low-income urban communities. <http://www.healthinschools.org/News-Room/Grant-Alerts/Soccer-for-Success-Social-Innovation-Fund-Sub-Grant.aspx>

SAVE Speaker Highlight:

ARGROW “KIT” EVANS

Argrow ‘Kit’ Evans has been connected to National SAVE for 12 years. As a high school freshman she became involved and in 2000 she served as one of the first SAVE National Youth Advisory Board members. While in college Kit worked as a Program Assistant to SAVE traveling across America assisting in SAVE implementation workshops. She is a 2004 graduate of UNC Chapel Hill and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communications Studies and African and Afro-American Studies, a Master of Arts in Teaching: Special Education and a Master of Arts in Social Justice and Community Development. Kit is a 2004 Teach for America Washington, DC alumni as well as a 2008 Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, Saint Kitts and Nevis. Her studies have taken her to Europe, Japan, Tanzania, Kenya, St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis. Over the years Kit has become extremely passionate about gender issues, women’s health, education, HIV and AIDS, and the performing arts. However, a violent sexual assault on Kit’s life has caused her to renew her passion for advocating violence prevention as her life’s purpose.



Currently, Kit is a third year Master of Divinity candidate at the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California. Her concentration is Women’s Studies in Religion and Peace and Conflict Studies. Over the last 14 years she has used her education, teachings on nonviolence, travels, personal experiences, and relationship with God as a teacher and motivational speaker. Kit hopes to continue to assist women and young people working to heal from violence, abuse, and self esteem issues.

You can read more about Kit’s experiences on her blog: <http://kitevans.blogspot.com/>

For more information on how to bring a SAVE Speaker to your school, contact info@nationalsave.org



ACT OUT LOUD 2012 IS HERE!

The Act Out Loud contest is all new for 2012. We’ve changed it up and you’re going to love it! There will be 3 rounds that you have the opportunity to compete in, earn the most points after competing in all 3 rounds and you win the GRAND PRIZE of \$10,000!

Now in its fifth year, AOL is a national teen-led and school-based activism competition to encourage youth to lead campaigns raising awareness around the importance of stronger teen driving laws at a state and national level.

To be eligible for prizes, teams must complete three simple projects by May 2012:

ROUND 1: Safe-Tee Shirt Design contest to discourage use of cell phones while driving.

ROUND 2: Creative Community Sign contest to raise awareness of passenger restrictions.

ROUND 3: Facebook Yearbook photo montage project to promote safe driving laws.

Visit ActOutLoud.org for all the details!

Good luck!!

We’re doin’...! ~ What U doin’?

Cuthbertson High School: has raised over 600 dollars to donate to local domestic abuse charities as well as suicide prevention clinics. Leah Ross is the SAVE Chapter advisor.

Garner Magnet High School: holiday events include treat bags for children at the battered women’s shelter and a Thanksgiving Turkey Drive to benefit the less-fortunate. Vickie Szarek is the SAVE Chapter Advisor.

Eastern Guilford High School: Freshman members in SAVE took part in a service learning project to raise money for cancer awareness. Students worked to raise funds to support a young man who is battling cancer as well as making a donation to the “Hats Off for Cancer” foundation. Shervawn Sockwell is the SAVE Chapter advisor.

Sun Valley High School: celebrated National SAVE Day in October with over 600 students signing an anti-violence pledge. During Red Ribbon Week students made posters, signed pledges and planted red tulip bulbs signifying their pledge to be drug-free. The SAVE Chapter advisor at is Jim Williams.

(“We’re doin’! ~ What U doin’?” contributions can be emailed to: dpell@nationalsave.org)

