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Happy New Year from the National SAVE Staff!

Areas of interest in this update include:

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Upcoming Events: Mark Your Calendar for These Events!

- January 8-12 – Free Online Symposium on Confronting Violence in Our Schools
<http://www.riskinstitute.org/PERI/SYMPOSIUM/>
- January 15 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service
<http://www.mlkday.gov>
- No Name Calling Week – January 22-26, 2007
<http://www.nonamecallingweek.org/cgi-bin/iowa/home.html>
- February 25-28 – OJJDP National Youth Court Training, Las Vegas
<http://www.youthcourt.net>
- February 13-19 - Random Acts of Kindness Week
<http://www.actsofkindness.org/>
- February 17-21 – 19th Annual At Risk Youth National Forum
<http://www.dropoutprevention.org/conferen/conferen.htm>
- **National Youth Violence Prevention Week – March 26-30, 2007**
<http://www.nationalsave.org/main/YVPC.php>
- **National SAVE Summit – March 31, 2007**
<http://www.nationalsave.org/main/summit.php>
- Other events
<http://www.nationalsave.org/main/events.php>

National Youth Violence Prevention Week – March 26-30, 2007

The National Association of Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) is proud to be a founding partner, along with the [Guidance Channel](#), of the [National Youth Violence Prevention Campaign](#). The goal of this campaign is to raise awareness and to educate students, teachers, school administrators, counselors, school resource officers, school staff, parents, and the public on effective ways to prevent or reduce youth Violence. This weeklong national education initiative will involve activities that demonstrate the positive role young people can have in making their school and community safer. Visit <http://www.nationalsave.org/main/YVPC.php> to learn how your SAVE Chapter can be involved!

Register now for the 11th Annual National SAVE Summit! – March 31, 2007

Each year the National Association of Students Against Violence Everywhere hosts an annual Summit for students, advisors, and community members to celebrate the success of SAVE chapters for the year. Chapter members lead workshop sessions, display accomplishments in Exhibit Alley, and have the opportunity to network with students from across the country. This year's theme, "Teaming Up for a Better Tomorrow," was chosen by the National SAVE Youth Advisory Board to reflect the promise of SAVE and its stand against violence of all kinds by students everywhere for years to come! This year's Summit will feature Miss Virginia 2006, Adriana Sgarlata, as the keynote speaker. Visit <http://www.nationalsave.org/main/summit.php> to learn about Summit details, contests, and activities that your chapter can participate in for this important event. Watch your mail for the official Summit Flyer!

- **2007 National SAVE Service Project: Team Up for Kids!** This year's national service project entitled, **Team Up for Kids**, involves chapters creating care packages for students. The National Youth Advisory Board suggests purchasing backpacks and filling them with essential items including school supplies, toiletries, etc. Chapters are encouraged to provide them to the social worker in their own school or neighboring schools to distribute to students in need. Chapters who attend the summit are asked to bring some of the care packages to the summit.
- **Display Your SAVE "TEAM" at the Summit!** Help us to Team Up for a Better Tomorrow by making your presence known at the Summit. Chapters are encouraged to create a visual of their SAVE Team to display at the National SAVE Summit! Be creative! Suggestions include: a poster with your SAVE Team picture; a banner with members represented as sports symbols; or a large team jersey with all of their members names. However your chapter chooses to participate in this activity, be sure to send in your items before **March 1, 2007** and include your chapters name, city and state!
- **Picture This - Call for Photos!** National SAVE is once again creating a big screen slide show to acknowledge the achievements of SAVE chapters. In order to make the show as inclusive as possible, we need photos by **February 15, 2007** showing active work by your chapter (i.e. service projects, meetings, skits, etc.). Please email your pictures to cwray@nationalsave.org or mail them to the National SAVE office. Photos will be kept for the National SAVE photo albums and exhibits.
- **A Better Tomorrow Chant Contest.** SAVE Summit participants have always enjoyed the SAVE-A-Chunga and other chants/cheers at the Summit. Now it is your Chapter's chance to create a chant! Please send National SAVE a copy of your chant/cheer including your chapter name, city and state before **March 1**. Winning chants/cheers will be performed at the Summit. If your chapter attends the Summit, you can have the chance to be on stage and lead 1,000 voices in unison in your chant/cheer.
- **Teambuilding Contest.** The National SAVE Youth Advisory Board is challenging each SAVE Chapter across the country to create a teambuilding activity and submit it to National SAVE. These activities will be compiled and shared with SAVE Chapters at the Summit and on the National SAVE website. Encouraging positive conflict management and working together is an important part of SAVE's philosophy. Share how your chapter is working together as a team in a fun way! A special session at this year's Summit will allow participants to experience the winning teambuilding activities. Send in your Teambuilding Activity before **March 1, 2007** and include your chapter's name, city and state!

SAVE Recognized as Notable Organization by National Organizations for Youth Safety

The National Organization for Youth Safety (NOYS) has recognized SAVE as a Notable Organization on their website and in their January newsletter. The mission of NOYS is to promote youth empowerment and leadership, and build partnerships that save lives, prevent injuries, and enhance safe and healthy lifestyles among all youth. <http://www.noys.org/SAVE%20Notable%20NOYS.pdf>

SAVE Question of the Month – January

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

The January Question of the Month is: "What suggestions do you have for students who encounter bullies?" Send your responses to: forum@nationalsave.org Check out: <http://www.nationalsave.org/forum/index.php> to see your response posted!

US BJS Reports Decrease in Serious Violent Crimes at School

On December 3, 2006, the [US Office of Justice Programs Bureau of Justice Statistics](#) issued the following [press release](#): Washington—The rate of serious violent crime—rape, sexual assault, robbery and aggravated assault — at the nation's schools fell from six victimizations per 1,000 students in 2003 to four per 1,000 in 2004, according to a new [report](#) by the Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and the Department of Education's [National Center for Education Statistics](#). <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/iscs06.htm>

Monthly Focus – Focus on Diversity

Recognizing diversity is important at every age level and in every part of the country. In every school there will be different groups and issues to consider. Look at your own chapter, school and community, is the membership in your chapter a reflection of your student body? Are there recruitment activities that you could use to bring in new members from under represented groups? Many chapters face challenges recruiting male members. Talk to males in your student body to see what might encourage more of them to join and be active in SAVE. Emphasize that being against violence doesn't make you a wimp or less macho. Continue to make being in SAVE a "cool" thing to do. For other suggested activities, visit <http://www.nationalsave.org/main/januarytheme.php>. For information on upcoming monthly topics visit <http://www.nationalsave.org/main/calendar.php>

New SAVE Publications – Created by the National SAVE Youth Advisory Board

The National SAVE Youth Advisory Board (YABers) have had a busy fall! With planning the National SAVE Summit, conducting workshops, and attending national conferences to represent SAVE they have had to be diligent in managing their time while being active in their own SAVE Chapters, participating in sports and being typical high school students. The group of six have even been able to create two brochures that will be useful for your chapters: ***Understanding Peer Pressure*** and ***The "Top Five" Tips Every Student Should Know about Bullying, Conflict Management, Multicultural Awareness, and Internet Safety***. Visit the Samples page of the SAVE website to download these brochures: <http://www.nationalsave.org/main/samples.php>

Funding Opportunities:

Disney Minnie Grants

Youth Service America (<http://www.ysa.org/>) and Disney (<http://www.disney.com/>) are offering Disney Minnie Grants to youth across the globe. These grants of \$500 each support youth (ages 5-14) in planning and implementing service projects in their community. Teachers, older youth (15-25), youth-leaders, and youth-serving organizations are also eligible to apply, provided that they engage younger youth (5-14) in planning and implementing the service event. A significant component of the project must take place on National & Global Youth Service Day (<http://www.ysa.org/nysd>), April 20-22, 2007. Projects can address themes such as the environment, disaster relief, public health and awareness, community education, hunger, literacy, or any issue that youth identify as a community need. **Application Deadline is January 24, 2007.**

Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grant Program

To empower parents and further encourage their involvement in their children's schools, Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation has established the Lowe's Toolbox for Education grant program to fund school improvement projects initiated by parents. Lowe's will donate a total of \$5 million to schools and school parent teacher groups at more than 1,000 different schools in 2006 and 2007. Any nonprofit K-12 school (including charter, parochial, private, etc.) or parent group (associated with a nonprofit K-12 school) that has a group tax ID number and official 501(c)(3) status from the IRS is eligible to apply. Parent groups that do not have 501(c)(3) status should apply through their school. Projects that encourage parent involvement and build stronger community spirit will be favored. Up to \$5,000 per school is available. Application information: <http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/>. **The grant deadline is February 15, 2007.**

Tu Voz My Venture Grant

Youth Venture, in partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and MTV "Tr3s Voces", will select teams of two or more youth, ages 13 - 20, every week through June 29, who submit great ideas for encouraging their peers to graduate from high school and college. Tu Voz My Venture winners will receive grants of up to \$1,000 to create their ventures - an organization, business, or club to help young Latinos stay in school and prepare for college and careers. To learn more, visit <http://www.mtv3voces.com>. **Grant deadline is June 29, 2007**

The Allstate Foundation Partners with SAVE To Support Chapter Efforts Throughout US!

The Allstate Foundation has partnered with the National Association of Students Against Violence Everywhere to support chapters and national efforts in Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and Indiana. Thanks to a \$20,000 grant for each of these regions, eight chapters in each state are receiving support and services including their Chapter Affiliation fee for a year, a SAVE Essentials Manual, enhanced technical assistance, Supplemental Lesson Plans and Activities and \$250 mini grants. Thank you Allstate for your support of SAVE!

Recognition Opportunities:

NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR SAVE ANNUAL AWARDS

Nominate a SAVE **member, advisor or chapter** who has made a difference in your school or community. Annual award recipients are announced at the SAVE Summit. Recipients do not have to be present to win. Award recipients will receive a certificate and letter of recognition.

Award Categories:

- **SAVE Student of the Year at the elementary, middle and high school level**
- **SAVE Advisor of the Year at the elementary, middle and high school level**
- **SAVE Chapter of the Year at the elementary, middle and high school level**

Nomination Deadline: Nominations are due in the National SAVE Office by **March 1, 2007**. Visit www.nationalsave.org to download nomination forms.

No Name Calling Week 2007 Creative Expression Contest

No Name-Calling Week (January 22 - 26, 2007) is a week of educational activities aimed at stopping name-calling and verbal bullying in schools. The Creative Expression Contest is an opportunity for students to submit essays, poetry, music, original artwork, or other pieces that convey their experiences and feelings about name-calling, and their ideas for putting a stop to verbal bullying in their schools and communities. To learn more, visit

<http://www.nonamecallingweek.org/cgi-bin/iowa/all/news/record/57.html>

National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest

The U.S. Department of Justice's, [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](http://www.ojjdp.gov) is sponsoring this year's National Missing Children's Day [Poster Contest](http://www.ojjdp.gov/postercontest) for the 11th Anniversary of AMBER Alert Program. This year's theme is "Bring Our Missing Children Home." Held annually, this contest challenges 5th grade students to develop artwork that represents America's goal to bring missing children home safely. The winning poster is displayed at the National Missing Children's Day ceremony, which will be held May 23, 2007.

<http://dept.fvtc.edu/ojjdp/postercontest.html>