



e-Source Newsletter

SUMMER 2010

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Chapter Highlight's:

Thornton High School, IL

The Thornton High School SAVE Chapter received a mini grant from The Allstate Foundation to reduce youth violence and increase teen driver awareness. The chapter successfully completed multiple activities including work on the Victim and Service Walls; conducted a teddy bear, mittens, gloves and hat drive for needy children; worked with Mr. Phil Jackson and the Black Start Project; participated in the Youth Summit at Olive Harvey College; walked in the Autism Walk - 2010; and created a driver safety demonstration prior to Prom to increase teen driver awareness amongst their juniors and seniors. The chapter invited Mrs. Obama to be a guest speaker as Mr. Obama was in 2007. Special thanks from National SAVE and the Thornton High School Chapter to Ms. Karen Fulton, Thornton's SAVE Chapter Advisor, who retired recently – we will miss you!



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Marion County Health Department SAVE Chapter, IN

The Marion County Health Department SAVE Chapter in Indianapolis, IN had a productive 2009-10 school year. A Safe Driving Event was held on May 17, 2010 at the Renaissance School in the Warren Township School District. TV media was present and speakers included Allstate agent J.C. Glenn, and representatives from the Clarian Health and Indianapolis Fire Departments. The emphasis of the event was on seatbelt use, and distracted and impaired driving. The Chapter's "You-Card Project" asked students to choose a peer as a positive role model and to write at least one trait as to why they picked that person on a small index card. Fifth grade classes from 5 local schools participated and over 50 students were chosen to receive awards based on the quality of their writing. An additional 45 students received character awards as positive role models based on nominations by their peers. Other projects during the year included an anti-violence poster contest, the planning of a mural to be painted on the wall of a community building, and the recording of peace and anti-violence efforts at Studio 195G.



National Presentation: SAVE Youth Advisory Board Presents at National School Safety Conference, FL

In July the National SAVE Youth Advisory Board (YAB) traveled to Orlando, FL to present to 400+ School Resource Officers at the National School Safety Conference. The YAB shared information on SAVE's history, ideals and three essential elements: crime prevention, conflict management and service projects. As part of the trip the YAB also participated in the National Youth Leadership Institute where they were trained as trainers and helped to establish goals and activities for the 2010-2011 school year.



Upcoming Events:

DATE	EVENT	MORE INFO
September 14-16	National Center for Victims of Crime 2010 National Conference	http://www.ncvc.org/ncvc/main.aspx?dbID=DB_2005NationalConference571
October 18-22	America's Safe Schools Week	http://www.nationalsave.org/main/safe%20schools%20week.php
October 20	National SAVE Day	http://www.nationalsave.org/main/SAVEDay.php
October 22	SAVE Rock-A-Thon	http://www.nationalsave.org/main/rockathon.php

Monthly Focus: Back To School

It is "that" time of year again. Students are heading back to school and it's hard to determine who is more excited, the students or the parents! Students have their pens, paper, and outfits ready for the first day of school, but have you thought about safety and what you need to do to prepare for a safe school year? A small amount of planning now can help everyone have a more pleasant and safer experience during the entire school year and beyond. SAVE Chapters nationwide are encouraged to lead their school sites in safety activities. This month's focus includes activities in the areas of Safety Awareness, Crime Prevention, and Conflict Management. Let the beginning of the school year be a time to concentrate on new SAVE activities that can result in fewer cases of violence in and around the school and community and the improved safety of those around you. Contact National SAVE for the Back to School Safety Toolkit. For suggested activities and downloads, visit <http://www.nationalsave.org/main/augusttheme.php>. For additional information on upcoming monthly topics, visit <http://www.nationalsave.org/main/calendar>.

SAVE Question of the Month: August

Please share the SAVE Question of the Month with your SAVE members. The Youth Voices section of the forum is a place for students to ask questions and get responses from SAVE members across the country. **The August Question of the Month: "What is your best back to school safety tip? How is your SAVE Chapter assisting in Back to School Safety efforts?"** Send your responses to: forum@nationalsave.org Check out: <http://www.nationalsave.org/forum/index.php> to see your response posted!

Beth's Blog: 2010 SAVE Advisor of the Year - Beth Scheirer, Laney High School (NC)

"A mind that is stretched by a new idea can never go back to its original dimensions" - Oliver Wendell Holmes

Quotes speak to us in a multitude of ways. When I became a SAVE advisor 5 years ago, this quote began to stand out to me and after being selected as National SAVE Advisor of the Year, I thought it was fitting to start my first article with these words. I am continually inspired by young people working to address the crucial issue of violence in schools and communities. Students Against Violence Everywhere has stretched my mind by presenting the idea that even the most negative experiences, such as the unfortunate murder of Alex Orange, can over time create extremely positive forces for change in this world. This realization helps me to not be discouraged by possible set-backs or disappointments along the way and leads me to continually share my passion for this cause with students, teachers, and community members.

As we head into a new school year, please take these words to inspire you - as an advisor, teacher, parent, community member, and especially as a STUDENT - to try out new ideas and to create new experiences personally and with your SAVE chapters. Some of the Laney High School chapter goals for the year are to recruit more members, develop members as strong leaders, collaborate with other schools and our community, and to start strong and stay strong. Student members are the core of everything we do, so it is crucial that the focus is on them. In addition, we must work with other schools, community members, and organizations to create and sustain community-wide efforts addressing violence prevention. And last but not least, it is always easy to plan SAVE activities at the beginning of the year as everyone is excited to be back at school, but also make sure to plan now for April



and May to continue the good work throughout the year. I wish you the best of luck as you return back to school and can't wait to hear all the great activities SAVE chapters are doing across the nation! Feel free to contact me with questions, comments, and topics for future articles throughout the year at: beth.scheirer@nhcs.net, 910-350-2089 ext. 439.



YABer Yak: National Youth Advisory Board Chair - Casey Story, Garner Senior Magnet High School (NC)

As the new school year is approaching, SAVE chapters are starting to get back in action. A great way to start off the year is with a party or picnic to bring together returning members and draw in new recruits. Recruitment plays a huge role in sustaining a chapter, so find new ways to draw people in. It's also a good time to plan out the year. Brainstorm activities and service projects your chapter may want to do. Mark your calendar for events like Safe Schools Week, National SAVE Day and the Rock-a-thon. Also, the beginning of the school year is the time to set expectations with your chapter and choose officers. A good way to stay strong throughout the whole year is to start strong.

T-shirt Special: \$5 "SAVE 89"

For a limited time, we're offering this 100% cotton T-shirt for just \$5! This white shirt has the SAVE logo on front and "Teaming Up for a Better Tomorrow" team logo and 89 (for year SAVE was created) on back. Available in only 3 sizes – Large, XL, and XX. Large & XX are VERY limited, so don't wait! Product Number: 139 <http://www.nationalsave.org/main/89shirt.php>



Prevention Resources:

Understanding Youth Violence – A Fact Sheet

Youth violence is widespread in the United States. It is the second leading cause of death for young people between the ages of 10 and 24.

- 5,764 young people age 10 to 24 were murdered, an average of 16 per day, in 2007
- Over 656,000 physical assault injuries in young people age 10 to 24 were treated in U.S emergency rooms in 2008.
- In a 2009 nationwide survey, about 32% of high school students reported being in a physical fight in the 12 months before the survey.
- Nearly 6% of high school students in 2009 reported taking a gun, knife, or club to school in the 30 days before the survey.

<http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/pdf/yv-factsheet-a.pdf>

Striving to Reduce Youth Violence Everywhere (STRYVE)

STRYVE is a national initiative, led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which takes a public health approach to preventing youth violence before it starts. To support this effort, the **STRYVE** Web site provides communities with the knowledge and resources to be successful in preventing youth violence.

Resources include:

- Access to the latest information and tools
- Effective strategies based upon the best available evidence
- Training and technical assistance
- Online community workspaces
- Connections to other communities

www.safeyouth.org

Youth Risk Behavior Survey Released

The 2009 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) results were recently released. The YRBS is conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in conjunction with state, territorial, tribal, and district areas every two years to measure the health-risk behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries and violence among high school students. Data Points:

- 19.9 % of high school students reported that they had been bullied on school property during the 12 months before the survey. Females (21.2 %) were more likely to have been bullied than males (18.7 %).
- During the 30 days prior to the survey, 5 % of high school students said they did not attend school on at least one day because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school.
- Positively, the number of students who did not attend school on at least one day (during the 30 days prior to the survey) declined between 2007 and 2009 from 5.5 % to 5.0 %.



National Association
of Students Against
Violence Everywhere

322 Chapanoke
Rd Suite 110
Raleigh, NC
27603

Phone:
919-661-7800

Fax:
919-661-7777

Email:
info@
nationalsave.org

We're on the Web!
www.nationalsave.org



- About 20 % of American high school students have taken a drug prescribed for someone else, according to the research.

<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>

The Crime of Family Abduction: A Child's and Parent's Perspective

Reveals why the abduction of children by noncustodial family members is a serious crime that must be treated as such.

<http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=251965>

Link between Cyberbullying and Suicide Worries Researchers

Middle school students who endure cyberbullying are almost twice as likely to attempt suicide than other teens, according to a Cyberbullying Research Center report. The report suggests that like traditional physical bullying, online harassment can contribute to increased thoughts of suicide -- reported by 20 percent of respondents -- and increased suicide attempts. The bottom line? All forms of peer aggression need to be taken very seriously.

http://www.cyberbullying.us/cyberbullying_and_suicide_research_fact_sheet.pdf

Under Your Influence

National Organizations for Youth Safety (NOYS) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) are excited to announce a new Web site entirely focused on helping parents teach their teens to drive safely -- Under YOUR Influence (www.underyourinfluence.org)! Parents have teens that are just learning to drive. Now what do they do, right? Where's the driver's ed. manual for parents? There's no doubt about it, raising kids is one of the most -- if not THE most -- challenging things in life. Parents want the best for their children. They care, they love, they want the reassurance that they're doing the right thing, especially when it comes to teaching their teen how to drive safely. With automobile crashes as the leading cause of teen deaths, a parent's role as teacher, encourager, and enforcer - their influence - is more important now than ever.

Losing Sleep Over Late-Night Texting

It is well known that teenagers don't get enough sleep. Alarming, according to a 2005 National Sleep Foundation poll, "only one-fifth of adolescents sleep an optimal nine hours on school nights." While tiredness is something we can all relate to, one of the causes of teen sleep deprivation is somewhat unique: late night texting. As this government article reports, "Nearly a quarter of teens in a relationship have communicated with a boyfriend or girlfriend hourly between midnight and 5 a.m. via cell phone or texting," while others happily engage in casual late-night conversations with friends. Perhaps because of the increasing demands on teenagers today, with school, extracurricular activities and homework, they find that they can only cram social fun into the wee hours. More likely, texting has become just another example of social media creeping into our lives, or in this case, our beds. Some advice offered to parents to tackle this trend: Require your teens to turn off phones at bedtime. Keep phones and devices out of bedrooms altogether. Go through the bill to make sure that rules are being followed. And if all else fails, block text-messaging altogether. <http://www.govtech.com/gt/118753>

Children Youth & Conflict: An Introductory Toolkit for Engaging Children & Youth in Conflict Transformation

This kit published by the Search for Common Ground organization, is a toolkit that discusses the role of youth in conflicts and their journey to transition to more peaceful settings from childhood to adulthood. This toolkit is designed to show how to efficiently design programs for children and youth in conflict settings.

<http://www.sfcg.org/programmes/children/pdf/toolkit.pdf>

Brief Presents National Data on Child Well-Being

The Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics has released "America's Children in Brief: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2010." The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is one of the [22 Federal agencies](#) that constitute the Forum. Since 1997, the Forum has published this annual report which provides detailed information on the welfare of children and families, alternating between a comprehensive report and a condensed version highlighting selected indicators, as is the case this year. This year's edition reports on child welfare indicators spanning seven domains: family and social environment, economic circumstances, health care, physical environment and safety, behavior, education, and health. The brief concludes with a summary table displaying recent changes in all 40 indicators. www.childstats.gov/americaschildren/index.asp

Teen Dating Violence Increases During Recession

Dating violence affects nearly 1.5 million high school students nationwide annually, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. And it's not just high school students who are being affected. In a recent study by the Multi-Site Violence Prevention Project, half of all 6th graders reported they are dating, and about 40 percent of them reported being victims of dating violence.

<http://www.4troubledteens.com/troubledteens/teen-dating-violence-increases-during-recession-talk-to-your-teen.htm>

Choose Respect: Prevent Teen Dating Violence

Choose Respect is a national effort to help teens form healthy relationships and prevent dating violence.

Visit the Choose Respect web site for information on:

- Understanding teen dating violence
- Healthy dating relationships
- Home, school, and community activities
- Resources including videos, podcasts, and downloadable documents

www.cdc.gov/ChooseRespect

The Role of Bystanders in Teen Bullying

Teen bullying is beginning to garner widespread attention, and a new way of addressing the problem is emerging. Experts now recommend focusing our efforts on an entirely different population: the bystanders. The bystanders are the teens who witness bullying incidents every day at school, online, or in their neighborhood but don't get involved, either because they fear the wrath of a teen bully being directed at them or don't know what else to do.

<http://www.4troubledteens.com/troubledteens/the-role-of-bystanders-in-teen-bullying.htm>

Funding/Contest Opportunities:

Allstate Foundation Grants

Thanks to a partnership with The Allstate Foundation, SAVE is conducting special activities and events focusing on Teen Safe Driving in the 2010-2011 school year for selected high schools in most areas of the country. If you are aware of schools interested in receiving grant funds, please contact the SAVE office.



WaysToHelp.org Grants (Deadline: Ongoing)

WaysToHelp.org invites teens in the United States to apply for grants to fund their community service ideas across any one of 16 issue areas. You can apply for a grant by visiting www.waystohelp.org and for any issue area, selecting "See Ways To Help" followed by "Apply for a Grant." Applications are short - just 5,000 words or less - and should summarize: how the project will involve others, who it will help, what effect it's expected to have, when it will start, and how the funds will be used. Grant requests are reviewed and responded to on a monthly basis.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Local Funding Partnerships- Peaceful Pathways: Reducing Exposure to Violence (Deadline: 1/5/11)

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Local Funding Partnerships program is a matching grants program that connects the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation with local grant makers to fund new, community-based projects to improve health and health care for vulnerable populations. The Peaceful Pathways: Reducing Exposure to Violence grant seeks to fund projects aimed at reducing violence in traditionally underserved communities that are defined by race, ethnicity, tribe, gender, sexual identity or rural/frontier location.

<http://www.localfundingpartnerships.org/html/apply/special/ss-programdetails.html>