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# SOUTH CAROLINA

## Resource Center Newsletter



Volume 4, Issue 8, August 2014

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## Resource Center News: IWalk Registration is OPEN

[Register NOW\\*](#) to participate in International Walk to School Day (IWalk) on **October 8<sup>th</sup>**! There are many ways for your school to participate. Plan your events to encourage students to:

- **Walk to School** from their home
- **Walk to School from a meeting location** (such as a park, grocery store, or church parking lot)
- **Walk at School** (school-wide walk around the campus in the morning, designated class time for grade-level walks throughout the day, or a group walk after lunch)
- **Walk FROM School** (to their homes, a designated pick-up location, or to an after



**Rodney Oldham, CHES, CPT**

**From our State Coordinator:**

Kick-off the new school year with an event to acknowledge [Childhood Obesity Awareness Month](#) this September! Plan a school walking event to encourage physical activity or line up guest speakers to talk with your students about the importance of being physically active and living a healthy lifestyle. Your PTA may even want to sponsor a

school care provider)

Please contact your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) for assistance with planning an event to fit your school's needs!

\*Incentives will be provided to Partner Schools with registered events on a "first-come, first-served" basis. To receive incentives before your event, please register before September 29<sup>th</sup>. The Resource Center will have a limited supply, and based on the number of past events, we may run out. Register early!

### Partner Highlight: Congratulations to our Gold Partners!

We are thrilled to announce that the South Carolina Safe Routes to School Program has 15 Gold Level Partners! These schools have really showed a commitment to teaching their students Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety.

Augusta Circle Elementary, Greenville	Blythe Academy, Greenville	Beaufort Elementary, Beaufort
Burton Pack Elementary, Columbia	Daniel Island School, Daniel Island	East North Street Academy, Greenville
Ebenezer Avenue Elementary, Rock Hill	Jesse Boyd Elementary, Spartanburg	Lewis Greenview Elementary, Columbia
Lone Oak Elementary, Spartanburg	Monaview Elementary, Greenville	Moultrie Middle, Mt. Pleasant
North Vista Elementary, Florence	Pine Street Elementary, Spartanburg	Red Cedar Elementary, Bluffton

Gold-level partners have completed Silver-level tasks and also [surveyed parents](#) about their attitudes towards SRTS, have an on-going weekly SRTS event like "Walking Wednesdays," conducted a

health and safety fair for your families to receive health education.

Throughout the month, recognize the following events as an effort to prevent childhood obesity at your school.

- [Worldwide Day of Play](#) is September 20<sup>th</sup> and Nickelodeon, a television network for children, celebrates by going off the air for three hours in order to encourage kids to go outside and play. Celebrate by organizing a 5k run, walk-a-thon or a bicycle rodeo at your school. Contact your [SOC](#) for more ideas on how to celebrate!
- **World Car Free Day is September 22<sup>nd</sup>.** Celebrate with a Walk to School or Bike to School event. You can also [schedule your SOC](#) to give a Walking School Bus information session presentation to your parents.

Upcoming Events:  
Student Tally  
Month

walk audit or created a [Travel Plan](#), and provided bicycle or pedestrian safety education in the classroom or at an event such as a [Bicycle Rodeo](#). Ask your [SOC](#) how you can become a Gold Level Partner!

## Spotlight on a Friend: Palmetto Cycling Coalition

[Palmetto Cycling Coalition \(PCC\)](#) began in 1998 with a priority to make South Carolina bike friendly by improving safety and access for bicyclists. [PCC](#) has geared up with [Bikelaw](#) to form the [Safe Streets Save Lives \(SSSL\) campaign](#). The campaign is driven to improve safety for bicyclists on roads, which may improve safety for all road users. [SSSL](#) first produced four [videos](#) to educate South Carolina on bicycle laws and safe riding skills. Following the production of the videos, two Bicycle Safety Curricula have been developed to compliment the videos. Want to learn more about bicyclists and motorists rights and duties, click [here](#) for frequently asked questions from the SSSL Campaign.

PCC's Executive Director, Amy Johnson, and the Resource Center recently came together to pilot the SSSL Bicycle Safety Classroom Curriculum training. The curriculum contains eight interactive lessons for all various age/grade groups. All lessons are designed for a classroom setting, which means no bicycles are needed for the lessons to be taught. Contact your [SOC](#) now to learn more about this curriculum and how it can be used at your school!

**If you would like to nominate a community organization for our "Outstanding Friend" designation, please complete our [online nomination form](#). We're accepting nominations on a rolling basis and will announce the next round of "Outstanding Community Friends" in December 2014!**

**Grant Opportunity: 2015 RWJF**

This **September** will be **Student Travel Tally Month** with the Resource Center. The Student Travel Tally is a quick, in-class survey that provides valuable information on student travel patterns. Completing travel tallies will also help your school move up to a [Silver Level](#) partner with the Resource Center! Collecting tallies on an annual basis is a great way to track the impact of your SRTS program.

Download the Student Travel Tally form [here](#) and provide one form to each homeroom teacher during the same week in September. Each teacher will ask their students on two days during that week how they traveled to and from school. Once the forms are completed, contact your local [School Outreach Coordinator \(SOC\)](#), and we'll help get your forms to the National Center for Safe Routes to School for processing. Your school will then receive a complete report of your student's travel patterns!

Another great way to evaluate your Safe Routes to School program is to complete the [Parent Survey](#). Put this survey in your school's back to school registration packets, or hand it out at the first PTA

## Culture of Health Prize

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) is awarding communities that are helping residents live healthier lives. Up to ten winning communities will each receive a **\$25,000 cash prize**. RWJF is looking for communities that are addressing multiple factors affecting their residents' health and are addressing the influencers with sustainable systems changes and long-term, policy-oriented solutions. **Applications are due by September 17<sup>th</sup>**. [Click here](#) for more information and for application instructions.

### Learning Opportunity: Take Action for a Cleaner Tomorrow

Schedule a free "Action for a Cleaner Tomorrow" ("Action") workshop at your school. The workshop must have at least 20 teachers in attendance. "Action" is a K-12, activity-based, interdisciplinary curriculum supplement for environmental education. It was developed and tested by South Carolina teachers and is correlated to the state's science education standards. One particular activity in the curriculum is the **Green Driver Project**, a program that provides an overview of the environmental impact of driving and promotes walking and biking. [Click here to learn more!](#)

### Upcoming Opportunity: Walk to School Day Photo Contest

[International Walk to School Day](#) is less than two months away, and we want your pictures! The Resource Center will host a Photo Contest on our [Facebook](#) page this fall, and we'll be looking for pictures that showcase how successful and exciting your Walk to School Day event was! Pictures must be sent to your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) by **Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup>**. Get your cameras ready! Look for contest rules and prize information in next

meeting! The parent survey can also be completed online. Contact your local **SOC** for more information.

### New Resources: Safety Patrol Guide and Bicycle Rodeo Manual Developed!

Are you looking to start a Safety Patrol Program or hold a Bicycle Rodeo during the 2014 - 2015 school year? If so, check out these new resources: The Safety Patrol Guide and Bicycle Rodeo Manual. While your SOC may be integral in organizing new events, these resources can get you started. Each new resource walks you through, from beginning to end, the keys to success in planning how to create an effective Safety Patrol and/or Bicycle Rodeo. Please contact your **SOC** to learn more about these new resources.

### Not a Silver Level Partner Yet?

Due to the success of so many schools participating in Walk to School Day events in South Carolina each year, the Resource Center will only be able to provide unique incentives such as the very

month's newsletter and online during September and October.

Like us on 

Keep up with the Resource Center this school year by liking us on [Facebook](#)!

"[Like](#)" us to stay updated on interesting news articles, upcoming events and different funding and learning opportunities!

popular glow in the dark silicone bracelets to [Silver and Gold Level Partners](#). As of Fall 2013, Bronze Level schools will no longer receive these types of incentives, but they will receive other incentives for participating in Walk and Bike to School Day events.

Click [here](#) to see the requirements to become at least a Silver Level Partner! There is still plenty of time to achieve Silver status before the end of the school year. Please contact your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) for assistance.



*The SC Safe Routes to School Resource Center is a program of the South Carolina DOT*

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SC Safe Routes to School Resource Center | SC DOT | 955 Park St. | Columbia | SC | 29201