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SOUTH CAROLINA

Resource Center Newsletter



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Resource Center News: Crossing Guard Appreciation Week is November 17th - 21st

The South Carolina Safe Routes to School Resource Center is proud to sponsor South Carolina Crossing Guard Appreciation Week November 17- 21, 2014. Schools and communities are encouraged to use this week-long celebration to recognize crossing guards and the role that they play in helping keep our students safe as they walk and bicycle to school. Check out our website [here](#) to find ways to appreciate your crossing guard.

Let your crossing guard know how much he/she is appreciated by submitting a nomination for



Rodney Oldham, CHES, CPT

From our State Coordinator: Give Us Your Feedback: IWalk Event Survey and Photo Contest

Thank you all for another successful International Walk to School Day. South Carolina had more than 320 registered events - a 17% increase from the number of registered events in 2013!

I'm thrilled to see the continued interest and

"Outstanding Crossing Guard." Online nomination form and more information can be found [here](#).

Partner Highlight: Share Your IWalk Event Story!

Upstate: Duncan Chapel Elementary (Greenville) used International Walk to School Day (IWalk) to announce that the school was selected to receive a SRTS Infrastructure Grant via the [SCDOT SRTS program](#). The grant will be used for infrastructure improvements around the school. Students, parents, staff and community members met at Publix at 7:15 AM and walked to school together. At 7:55 AM the school held a ceremony at which Greenville County Councilman Willis Meadows gave a speech about the importance of the upcoming SRTS project at Duncan Chapel Elementary.

Midlands: Hand Middle School(Columbia) participated in their 4th annual IWalk event. More than 175 students, parents, faculty and staff members participated last year! Students and parents met at Sims Park by 8:00 AM to begin their walk to school. Hand Middle School's School Resource Officer lead the walk to the school for students and parents. Students were asked to wear school colors on the day of the event to show off their school spirit!

Lowcountry: Oakbrook Middle School (Ladson) has found a new and interesting way to incentivize students to walk to school during their Walking Fridays. Every Friday, students who walk to school are entered into a T-shirt raffle. One selected student receives an "Oakbrook Strong" T-shirt in gold. Only students who walk to school can get that particular shirt. The gold "Oakbrook Strong" shirt has become *the* T-shirt to get!

Do you have a story to share? Enter our IWalk Photo Contest by emailing a photo of your event,

support for International Walk to School Day and the Safe Routes to School Resource Center.

Now that you've had your IWalk event, we want to hear how it went. Click here to complete our [event survey](#) and give us your feedback on your experience. Also, enter our International Walk to School Day Photo Contest by emailing your favorite photo from your event, along with a brief event description to your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) by **October 31st**. Photo entries will be uploaded to our [Facebook page](#) on November 3rd and the photo with the most likes at 5pm on November 7th will win a SRTS prize basket!

Grant Opportunity: National Center for Safe Routes to School and Schwinn's Helmets on Heads Mini- Grants Program

The National Center for SRTS and Schwinn's Helmets on Heads program is providing **\$1,000 mini grants to 25 schools** across the country.

Funds can be used to start or sustain a bicycling program at your school. Selected schools

along with an event description, to your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) by Friday, October 31st.

Upcoming Event: School Bus Safety Week and Halloween Safety

Almost every student will ride in a school bus at least once this school year. Whether it's to school, on a field trip or to an after school care program, it's important to review school bus safety.

National School Bus Safety Week is October 20-24, 2014. Here are some ideas to help celebrate:

- Incorporate NHTSA's **Bus Safety Lessons** into PE class. Click here to download the lessons for grades [K-1](#), [2-3](#), and [4-5](#).
- Watch school **bus safety videos** in class or play them on your morning announcements.

National School Bus Safety Week provides an opportunity to discuss getting to school safely with your students who ride the bus. Contact your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) with questions or for assistance.

Halloween is also around the corner! Make sure to share [Halloween Safety Tips](#) with students and parents. You can also use this [Halloween Safety Info graphic](#), created by Safe Kids, in your newsletters and on your school bulletin boards.

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 popular glow in the dark silicone bracelets to **Silver and Gold Level Partners**. As of last year, Bronze Level schools no longer receive these types of

should use the grants to fit their own needs and interests around safe bicycling and helmet safety education. Funded schools will be required to include education on correct helmet use and are encouraged to share [Schwinn's Helmets on Heads pledge](#) with their students. Grant activities must take place during the Spring 2015 semester and ideas could include starting an after school bicycle club, implementing a bike safety curriculum in your PE class, or establishing a bike train program for ongoing bike to school days.

The [application deadline is October 22nd](#).

Spotlight on a Friend: Safe Kids York County and Rock Hill Police

The Resource Center has partnered with [Safe Kids York County](#) and the Rock Hill Police Department to provide Safety Patrol trainings at schools in the Rock Hill area. So far, four schools have scheduled trainings: Rosewood Elementary, Independence Elementary, Ebenezer Avenue Elementary, and India Hook Elementary.

Safety Patrol trainings are

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.

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!

intended to provide pedestrian, bicycle and car-rider safety education to Safety Patrol members so that they can then teach their peers about these topics and serve as safety role models. The Resource Center has also developed resources to help schools [plan a training session](#) for their own Safety Patrols, [educate parents](#) about Safety Patrol topics, and provide a [pocket guide](#) to safety patrol students. [Contact your SOC](#) to plan a Safety Patrol training event at your school now.

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!



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

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