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# SOUTH CAROLINA

## Resource Center Newsletter



Volume 5, Issue 7, July 2015

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## Resource Center News: SC SRTS Statewide Forum Review



On Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, the Resource Center hosted the first South Carolina Safe Routes to School Statewide Forum. Attendees from all over the state (including Jasper, Spartanburg, and Florence Counties) gathered at Spring Valley High School in Columbia. Participants were able to network with educators, safety advocates, planners, and engineers throughout the day. Twenty-five speakers presented on a multitude of topics



Rodney Oldham, CHES, CPT

### From our State Coordinator:

I would like to personally thank all of our Forum attendees, presenters, vendors, and venue host! With more than 100 registrants, 12 breakout sessions, a keynote speaker, and 11 vendors, the 2015 SC SRTS Statewide Forum was a huge success!

For anyone unable to attend the conference, [click here](#) to

including infrastructure funding, bike safety events, and how to spice up your SRTS events.

[Presentations are being posted here.](#) (Scroll to the bottom of the Forum web page.)

Thank you to all of the dynamic speakers and vendors for helping us make the Forum a successful event! In addition, a special thank you to Richland County Councilwoman Julie Ann Dixon for her support and for hosting us in her district!

## Upcoming Event: International Walk to School Day Registration is OPEN!

[Register NOW](#)\* to participate in International Walk to School Day (IWalk) on October 7<sup>th</sup> or any date in October! 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 school care provider)

Please contact your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) for assistance with planning a safe and fun 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 25<sup>th</sup>. The Resource Center will have a limited supply, and based on the number of past events, may run out.

access the Forum agenda with presenter biographies. And many presentations are now available [on the Resource Center's website.](#)

We look forward to using your feedback and input to plan for the next SC SRTS Statewide Forum, which is tentatively scheduled for June 2016!

[Contact your School Outreach Coordinator](#) with any questions about the 2015 Forum, and I look forward to seeing you at the 2016 Forum!

## Spotlight on a Friend: New Outstanding Friend

This summer, the Resource Center is recognizing one new Outstanding Community Friend.

**Chartwells School Dining Services** provides school breakfast, lunch, and snacks in Spartanburg School Districts 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7. They partner with schools to serve healthy breakfasts and snacks on International Walk to School Day. Additionally, Chartwells sends mascots to participate in the school walks and provides lessons on nutrition education to compliment the physical

Register Early!

## Highlight on a Partner: South Carolina #1 in the Country for IWalk 2014!

Congratulations to South Carolina for having the highest participation rate in the United States for schools participating in International Walk to School Day last October! According to the [National Center for Safe Routes to School's 2014 Walk to School Day Final Report](#), South Carolina ranked #1 in the nation with 1 in 4 elementary and middle schools participating in the event. This marks the third year in a row that South Carolina has ranked first in the nation for participation rate! Thank you to all of our school partners and community friends who organized and participated in I-Walk events. We wouldn't have been able to achieve this historic accomplishment without you.

Click [here](#) to see a list of the 25 schools in SC that are registered to participate in International Walk to School Day so far.

Please [register](#) your school's event for International Walk to School Day, and let's keep South Carolina at #1 for four years in a row!

## Grant Opportunity: KEEN Effect

Are you part of a non-profit organization that increases responsible outdoor participation to build a strong community or introduces new audiences to the outdoors through responsible outdoor participation? Through the KEEN Effect, non-profit organizations around the world who are dedicated to responsible outdoor participation may be awarded a \$10,000 grant. Applications are due July 31, 2015. Click [here](#) to learn more.

activity messages often emphasized by the Walk to School Day events. Chartwells is also the largest sponsor of the Golden Shoe Awards in Spartanburg County. These awards include a 1st, 2nd, 3rd place, and a "Breakthrough Award" to recognize a new school or district that participated in International Walk to School Day for the first time. Competition is tough for the Golden Shoe Awards; the process recognizes districts or schools and their coordinators and encourages Spartanburg County's high participation rate for events.

Thank you, Chartwells!

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!



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

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