

The content in this preview is based on the last saved version of your email - any changes made to your email that have not been saved will not be shown in this preview.



SOUTH CAROLINA

Resource Center Newsletter



Volume 5, Issue 8, August 2015

In this issue

Resource Center News: IWalk Registration is OPEN
Partner Highlight: Safety Assessments
Spotlight on a Friend: Eat Smart Move More Cherokee County
Grant Opportunity: Dollar General Literacy Foundation Grant
Like us on Facebook!
From our State Coordinator
Upcoming Events: Student Tally Month
Upcoming Opportunity: Walk to School Day Photo Contest

Resource Center News: IWalk Registration is OPEN

[Register NOW*](#) to participate in International Walk to School Day (IWalk) on **October 7th**! For the previous three years, South Carolina has had the highest rate of school participation in the country. Let's make it another record-breaking year! Register your event and be part of the excitement!

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,



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

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 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 by September 25th. Bracelets will be provided to [Silver, Gold, and Platinum Partners](#). Standard incentives will be provided to [Bronze Partners](#). The Resource Center will provide a maximum of 500 bracelets to each Silver, Gold, and Platinum Partner event and will supplement with standard incentives for the remaining quantity needed. Based on the number of past events, we may run out. Register early!

Partner Highlight: Safety Assessments

Since the Resource Center's inception in 2011, we've helped conduct 86 School Safety Assessments (aka Walk Audits). Safety Assessments bring together stakeholders to assess the barriers to and opportunities for safe routes at and around a school. Stakeholders observe arrival and/or dismissal, walk the existing and potential routes around the school, and discuss wants, needs, and immediate safety concerns.

A good number of schools that have completed Safety Assessments have gone on

I encourage your school and community to look for opportunities to participate all month long. Here are two dates to mark on your calendar and to plan for:

- [Worldwide Day of Play](#) is **September 19th** 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 22nd**. 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

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

to draft SRTS [Travel Plans](#), earn our Gold Partner designation, and even secure grant funding.

So far, two schools have already planned Safety Assessments to take place this fall.

- **Briggs Elementary**, in Florence, is conducting their Safety Assessment on September 14th
- **Riverside Middle**, in Greer, has scheduled their Safety Assessment on October 20th

Contact your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) to learn more about Safety Assessments and to schedule yours today!

Spotlight on a Friend: Eat Smart Move More Cherokee County

This summer, the Resource Center received endorsements from nine new Community Friends! One of those new Friends is **Eat Smart Move More (ESMM) Cherokee County**.

ESMM Cherokee County is a sub-committee within [Know\(2\)](#) which is an educational initiative and pilot program in Cherokee County. This past spring, ESMM Cherokee County and Know(2) helped the Resource Center promote SC Walk to School Day and achieved an increase in event participation by 400% in Cherokee County schools! On top of that, Know(2) and ESMM sponsored the first ever Know(2) Golden Shoe Award to recognize the most innovative Walk to School Day event.

Thank you for your support!

If you would like to nominate a community

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! You can find a useful [tip sheet here](#).

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 meeting! The parent survey can also be completed online. Contact your local [SOC](#) for more information.

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

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 2015!

Grant Opportunity: Dollar General Literacy Foundation Grant

Have you worked closely on improving literacy for the students in your school? If so, the Kids In Need and Dollar General Literacy foundations are offering grants for projects designed to "improve the literacy of pre-K to 12th grade students." Submit applications by **September 30, 2015** in order to win a grant from \$100 to \$500 for original projects that create "new knowledge, awareness, or self-discovery in the area of literacy." Click [here](#) in order to learn more about this grant.

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!

your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) by **Friday, October 30th**. Get your cameras ready! Look for contest rules and prize information in next month's newsletter and online during September and October.



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

[Forward email](#)



This email was sent to jelliott@tooledesign.com by info@scsaferoutes.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [About our service provider.](#)



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