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SOUTH CAROLINA Resource Center Newsletter



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Resource Center News: SC Walk to School Day

South Carolina Walk to School Day Registration is now open! The official event is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 9th** and schools will be celebrating throughout March. There are many ways to participate. Schools can plan various walk-and-roll to school, park and walk, walk at school, walk-and-roll from school events, or pedestrian and bicycle safety events. No matter the activity, the goal is to emphasize how walking and biking are healthy and fun activities. [Click here to register now!](#)

Incentive items for the events will be distributed on a first-registered, first-served basis, and quantities are limited. Please contact your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) with any questions or to receive



Rodney Oldham, CHES, CPT

From our State Coordinator:

Happy New Year!

On December 9th, the Southeast Chapter of the Association for Commuter Transportation (SEACT) announced that the South Carolina Department of Transportation's Safe Routes to School program and its Resource Center was selected as the Outstanding Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program for 2015!

assistance with planning your school's SC Walk to School Day! Last year we had more than 215 schools participate. Help us surpass our record by registering your event now!

Consider organizing a Walking School Bus for SC WTSD and use this event to launch an ongoing Walking School Bus Program. Walking School Buses build momentum and enhance pedestrian safety by bringing groups of children together to walk with adult chaperones. [Contact your School Outreach Coordinator to schedule a Walking School Bus Information Session](#) and learn more about how to prepare, build interest, and launch a Walking School Bus Program!

Partner Highlight: Mitchell Elementary School

Mitchell Elementary School, part of Charleston County School District, has been a partner with the Safe Routes to School program since 2011. Nurse Lidie Collier serves as the school's SRTS Champion. She works with the Lowcountry Coordinator to put on many fabulous safety and health events for the students at Mitchell. We are happy to announce that she has been selected as the 2015-2016 South Carolina School Nurse of the Year! Way to go, Lidie!

Spotlight on a Friend: Hubsmith Safe Routes to School Champion Award

Nominate a local leader for the [Hubsmith Safe Routes Champion Award](#), in remembrance of Deb Hubsmith. The award will be presented to a nominated individual who exemplifies leadership, commitment, and a positive impact on Safe Routes to School advocacy and advancement in their community.

I am proud that the hard work and efforts made by South Carolina's Safe Routes to School and its Resource Center are being recognized over other transportation programs throughout the southeast including Georgia, North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida! *The SC SRTS Resource Center was launched in 2011. From 2011 to 2015, the Resource Center has enrolled 400 elementary and middle schools into the SRTS program which encourages students, including those with disabilities, to walk or bicycle to school. These SRTS Partner schools make up approximately 40% of the state's public elementary and middle schools and allow the program to reach more than 208,000 students.*

We could not have received this recognition without the hard work and support of our Partner schools, Community Friends, and school Champions. Thank you for all that you do!

Spotlight on a Friend: Nominate Your Outstanding Friend

If you would like to nominate a community organization for our "Outstanding Friend" designation, please complete our [online nomination form](#).

Nominees may represent any sector that works in Safe Routes to School - education, transportation, health, advocacy, equity, community or business. Nominees can be employed in the Safe Routes to School world, volunteers or leaders in related fields (e.g. parent champions, Safe Routes to School coordinators, principals, health professionals, bicycle or pedestrian advocates). Nominees will be judged on their leadership qualities and vision, impact on advancing Safe Routes to School, skills in building coalitions and political will to achieve their goals, and focus on equity.

If you know of a Safe Routes to School advocate who exemplifies the above qualities of leadership, please [submit a nomination](#).

Nominations are due no later than February 10, 2016.

Award Opportunity: James L. Obserstar Safer Routes to School Award

Call for Applications! The National Center for SRTS welcomes applications for the James L. Obserstar Safe Routes to School Award. The award spotlights outstanding achievements by a local SRTS program that has improved the safety or increased the number of elementary and/or middle school students who safely walk and bicycle to school. Particular consideration will be given to applicants who have made active transportation to/from school an integral part of school culture.

The applications deadline is Thursday, February 18, 2016. To learn more and to submit an application, [click here](#).

We're accepting nominations on a rolling basis.

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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!

Learning Opportunity: SC Safe Routes to School Forum June 9th!

Mark your calendars! SC SRTS program and its Resource Center will be holding a statewide forum, tentatively scheduled for **Thursday, June 9, 2016**, in the Columbia area. Participants will spend the day learning how to support and improve their SRTS program. The day-long, free event will include topics such as pedestrian and bicycle safety training, funding resources, and starting new or improving mature SRTS programs. This will be an excellent opportunity to share ideas with, and learn from, school champions, school district administrators, SCDOT officials, bicycle and pedestrian and Safe Routes experts, and public safety personnel. Come and network with other schools and groups that are all committed to creating safe, healthy environments for students!



SCsafetroutes.org
Resource Center Hotline 855.4SC.SRTS

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



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