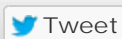


Share:



Join Email List

Powered by
Constant Contact

SOUTH CAROLINA

Resource Center Newsletter



Volume 3, Issue 6, June 2013

In this issue

Resource Center News: Thanks for Another Successful Year!

Upcoming Event: Save the Dates

Spotlight on a Friend: National Bike to School Day Events

Highlight on a Friend: Bike Walk Greenville

Like us on Facebook!

From our State Coordinator

Opportunity: Walking Works Program for Elementary Schools

Grant Reminders: Fuel Up to Play 60 and Saucony

Not a Silver Level Partner Yet?

Resource Center News: Thanks for Another Successful Year!

The SC Safe Routes to School Resource Center wants to thank our school Partners and community Friends for another great year of walking and rolling! Since 2011, participation in Safe Routes activities has continued to increase. More schools and communities are encouraging students to be physically active and practice safe pedestrian/bicycle skills across South Carolina.

The number of Walk and Bike to School Day events has increased significantly over the past two years:

October 2011 International Walk to School Day -
136 schools participated

October 2012 International Walk to School Day -
206 schools participated



Rodney Oldham, CHES, CPT

From our State Coordinator

Summer is nearly here! With the school year winding down, now is the perfect time to hold one more Safe Routes event before kids get out for summer vacation! Use this time to talk with your students about summer bicycle and pedestrian safety topics and suggest ways for them to continue being physically active while not in school. Customize our [Summer Walk flyer](#) to promote the event!

Some other summer ideas to promote include:

March 2012 SC Walk to School Day - **147** schools participated

March 2013 SC Walk to School Day - **187** schools participated

May 2012 National Bike to School Day- **23** schools participated

May 2013 National Bike to School Day- **31** schools so far!

Thank you for organizing such great activities for your schools! The Resource Center is excited to support even more activities and events during the next school year.

Upcoming Events: Save the Dates

With the school year winding down, many schools are already planning next year's calendar. Below are some dates to pencil-in now!

October 9, 2013 - [International Walk to School Day](#)

March 5, 2014 - South Carolina Walk to School Day

May 2014 - National Bike Month and Bike to School Day (date TBD)

Schedule meetings with your [SOC](#) this summer to plan for next year's SRTS events!

Spotlight on a Partner: National Bike to School Day Events

Red Cedar Elementary in Bluffton held a National Bike to School Day event on May 3rd. Volunteers from Sun City Cyclers led student bike trains to the school. Over 100 students participated! The school also has a bicycle rodeo planned with local law enforcement in conjunction with their end of the year Summer Picnic.

Moultrie Middle in Mount Pleasant held a National Bike to School Day event on May 15th and also held

- June 5th is [World Environment Day](#): challenge students to walk or ride bikes, instead of riding in cars, and document their travel experience.
- June 21st is [Go Skateboarding Day](#): stress the importance of wearing helmets while riding skateboards, scooters and bicycles; encourage these activities as great ways to stay active!
- June is [National Safety Month](#): this year's theme includes "Driving Safety." Send parents safe driving tips and highlight the need to drive at slower speeds in the school zone!

Opportunity: Walking Works Program for Elementary Schools

'Walk Across America' this fall with BlueChoice Health Plan SC's Walking Works Program. Encourage teachers to lead their classes on five minute walks every day and track their progress on a walking map of the United States. Pedometers and printed walking maps are provided by BlueChoice SC. Free incentives

a bicycle rodeo and safety event on May 20th. The school partnered with Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) Safe Kids, Mount Pleasant Trysports, and the local police and fire departments to hold this educational and skills training activity for sixth grade students.

Marshall Elementary in Orangeburg celebrated National Bike to School Day with their fourth graders on May 21st. All fourth-grade students watched a video on the importance of helmet safety. Afterwards, they were asked to sign a helmet pledge. This was a kick-off event for next year's fifth-grade bicycle club.

H.E. Corley Elementary in Irmo greeted all their bike riders and walkers on the morning of May 8th for National Bike to School Day. PASS (South Carolina's standardized test) did not stand in the way for H.E. Corley students to walk and roll to school in celebration of National Bike to School Day!

Spartanburg schools, including Pine Street Elementary, Jesse Boyd Elementary, Houston Elementary and Meeting Street Academy, established "Park and Ride" locations for families to meet and ride together on Bike to School Day, with Spartanburg Police Department officers leading the bike trains. Combined, these four schools had more than 350 students in Spartanburg bicycling to school!

Blue Eagle Academy in Clover held a bicycle skills event for the entire Clover community on May 9th. The school sent home flyers to their own students, and also to the surrounding elementary schools. Safe Kids York County teamed up to offer FREE bicycle helmets to participants. Eat Smart Move More York County supplied volunteers to help staff the event and Blue Eagle Academy provided dinner to participants and their families. Over 50 children and parents came out to practice their bike riding skills!

Highlight on a Friend: Bike Walk Greenville

The Safe Routes to School program is comprised of the **Five E's: Education, Encouragement,**

from BlueChoice Health Plan SC will also be delivered to schools whose students 'Walk Across America' after 12 weeks.

The deadline to enroll and receive pre-printed materials and pedometers is **June 15!** For more information and to enroll, click [here](#).

Grant Reminders:

Fuel Up to Play 60 Grant:

Applications to fund your school's Fuel Up to Play 60 program are due on **June 4, 2013**. Schools may receive up to \$4,000 to fund plans promoting Healthy Eating and Active Living. The Fuel Up to Play 60 grant application can be found [here](#).

Saucony Run for Good Grant:

Applications are due on **June 14, 2013**, for the Saucony Run for Good Grant. Public schools are eligible recipients to receive up to \$10,000 to fund programs that fight child obesity using track and field activities. Click [here](#) for more information and how to get started on the application.

Contact your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) for assistance and how these grants can help lead your Safe Routes to School program to Gold Level Status.

Evaluation, Enforcement, and Engineering.

Engineering, which typically includes projects to foster pedestrian and bicycle connectivity in the built environment, can be the most challenging 'E' to address. [Bike Walk Greenville](#) advocates for Engineering changes and hopes to be the voice for citizens needing active transportation choices in Greenville County. The mission of Bike Walk Greenville is to increase the quality of life and economic vitality of Greenville County by advocating for the improvement of pedestrian and bicycling opportunities and promoting the importance of health, safety, recreation and equitable transportation options.

Bike Walk Greenville is requesting your help in advocating for the infrastructure your community needs, to enable your children to walk or bike to school safely. Visit their website to join the mailing list, read their [blog](#), view the [calendar](#) of monthly meetings, or join volunteer committees!

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!

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 glow in the dark silicone bracelets to [Silver and Gold Level Partners starting 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 International Walk to School Day on October 9, 2013. Please contact your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) for assistance.



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