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# SOUTH CAROLINA

## Resource Center Newsletter



Volume 3, Issue 7, July 2013

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## South Carolina #1 in the United States for last year's International Walk to School Day

According to the [National Center for Safe Routes to School's 2012 Walk to School Day Final Report](#), **SC ranked #1** in the nation for having the **highest participation rate** with one in five elementary and middle schools participating in International Walk to School Day 2012 last October. Congratulations to all of our [School Partners and Friends](#) who organized and participated in these events to bring SC to the top!

[Click here](#) to see a list of the schools in SC that have already registered to participate in this year's International Walk to School Day so far. Congratulations to these schools for registering early!



Rodney Oldham, CHES, CPT

### From our State Coordinator

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer! With the news that SC ranked #1 in the nation for highest participation rates for International Walk to School Day 2012, I am very excited to see what the new 2013-2014 school year holds in store for SC. Thank you all for your continued support and dedication to the SRTS program! I want to encourage all schools to take a look at their SRTS efforts and

Please [register](#) your school's event for **International Walk to School Day on October 9<sup>th</sup>**, and let's keep South Carolina at #1 for two years in a row!

## Resource Center News: International Walk to School Day Registration is OPEN!

[Register NOW\\*](#) to participate in International Walk to School Day (IWalk) on **October 9<sup>th</sup>**! 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 30<sup>th</sup>. The Resource Center will have a limited supply, and based on the number of past events, we may run out. Register early!

## Upcoming Events: Student Tally Month

schedule a meeting with your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) (SOC) to plan events and implement more SRTS program strategies.

For schools interested in enrolling in the SRTS Partnership Program, make sure you complete the [Enrollment Form](#) as soon as possible to secure your International Walk to School Day incentives.

For schools that are already enrolled in our Partnership Program, continue progressing up our Partnership Levels!

- Plan your [International Walk to School Day](#) event
- Send home the [Parent Surveys](#) and administer the [Student Travel Tally](#)
- Ask your SOC to give a SRTS Presentation at your School improvement Council (SIC), Parent Teacher Organization or Association (PTO/PTA) or faculty meeting to help build SRTS support throughout your school

I am looking forward to an increase in SRTS Participation across South Carolina during the 2013-2014 school year and can't wait to hear many great success stories!

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. Collecting tallies on an annual basis is a great way to track the impact of your SRTS program. Completing student tallies will also help your school move up to a [Silver Level](#) partner with the Resource Center!

Download the student 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 arrived to school. Once the forms are completed, contact your local [School Outreach Coordinator](#), and we'll help get your forms to the National Center for processing. Your school will then receive a complete report of your student's travel patterns!

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.

## Highlight on a Friend: DHEC Division of Injury and Violence Prevention

The Resource Center has built a relationship with the [South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control \(DHEC\): Division of Injury and Violence Prevention](#). This DHEC office's mission is to prevent and reduce the occurrence of injury and violence that impacts the quality of life in South Carolina. Their offices currently offer various programs: [Child Passenger Safety](#) and the [Disabilities and Health Project](#) to achieve their mission. Visit their website [here](#) for Safety Tips for your summer celebrations. The website also has bicycle safety resources!

Child passenger safety is important. While the Resource Center promotes walking and bicycling, we realize that many families rely on a car. Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death and

## Training Opportunity: Policy and Environmental Change Webinar

To make the healthy choice the easy choice for your students and coworkers, it's essential to examine how your policies and physical environment are currently supporting good health.

Whether you are looking to create a new workplace policy or strengthen the implementation of an old one, this webinar will help you consider ways to promote healthy lifestyles through tobacco-free campus policies, healthy food policies, and policies that promote physical activity during the day.

In this webinar you will learn how to:

- Build your timeline for engaging leadership
- Structure communications
- Build a committee to help create and pass policies
- Sustain implementation of policies over time

This webinar is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 pm** and is brought to you by the NC Prevention Partners. [Click](#)

injury for children over the age of one. Program Coordinators from the division have assisted at several Safety Walk Audits across the state and use the opportunity to collect occupant safety data which is used to educate the community.

Plan your Safety Walk Audit for the upcoming school year by contacting your **SOC** now! Click [here](#) for Child Passenger Safety Tips to locate a certified technician to inspect/educate you about your child's seat.

## 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.

[here to register!](#)

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"**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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