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# SOUTH CAROLINA

## Resource Center Newsletter



Volume 3, Issue 9, September 2013

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## Resource Center News: Student Tally Month

**September** is **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



Rodney Oldham, CHES, CPT

### From our State Coordinator

September has many events and celebrations to incorporate into your Safe Routes to School program!

- September is [National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month](#) Organize a Health and Safety Fair for your students and families! Line up guest speakers and community organizations to talk about nutrition, physical activity and safety.

during that week how they arrived to school. Once the forms are complete, contact your local [School Outreach Coordinator \(SOC\)](#), and we'll help get your forms to the National Center for processing. Your school will then receive a complete report of your students' travel behavior.

Another great way to evaluate your Safe Routes to School program is to complete the [Parent Survey](#). Put this survey in your school's newsletter, 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 Event: International Walk to School Day is next month!

It isn't too late to plan for International Walk to School Day (IWalk) on **October 9th**! So far, over 150 South Carolina Schools are planning to celebrate IWalk! Click [here](#) to register your event! South Carolina continues to lead the country in the number of schools who have registered IWALK events. Let's keep the momentum going! There are many ways for your school to participate. Plan 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)
- **Walk After School** (invite students and parents to walk that afternoon/evening or plan an event with your afterschool care program)

- September 21<sup>st</sup> is [Worldwide Day of Play](#). This day is meant to encourage kids to go outside and PLAY! Organize a community 5k run or a bicycle rodeo at your school.
- September 22<sup>nd</sup> is [World Car Free Day](#). Celebrate by planning a Walk to School Day or Bike to School Day that following week. Consider launching a Walking School Bus at your school in honor of Car Free Day.

Contact your local [SOC](#) for assistance with planning any of these events. Show your students that being physically active is FUN by getting creative and making these events specific for your school!

### **New Study: How Education and Encouragement Strategies Affect Walking and Biking**

A new study conducted in Eugene, Oregon analyzed 14 schools and determined that education and encouragement programs were associated with a 5% increase in students bicycling to school. Education and other SRTS interventions, such as covered bike parking, were associated with 5-20% increases in walking and biking. To read more [click here](#).

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 today!](#)

## Spotlight on our Partner's Events

Upstate: **Monaview Elementary**, in Greenville, is partnering with [Safe Kids Upstate](#) to plan pedestrian safety education assemblies the week leading up to Walk to School Day. The SRTS Team has identified a Park and Walk meeting location, hopes to line up a band to lead the students on the walk, and may offer bicycle safety education that afternoon as well!

Midlands: **Logan Elementary**, in Columbia plans on organizing a Park and Walk event for International Walk to School Day. Logan is partnering with [Columbia's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee](#) to plan and organize their first event. The SRTS team hopes this will lead to an ongoing walking program for Logan Elementary!

Lowcountry: **Beaufort Elementary** is hosting monthly walk to school days this year! In preparation for IWalk, the school will be hosting an assembly with the local law enforcement to teach students about pedestrian safety. The school's PTA will raffle off a bicycle and helmet for students who participate in the monthly walk to school days at the end of the school year!

Highlight on a Friend: Boys and Girls Club of Southern Carolina

## New Resources: Presentation Request

Get your parents, students, and community excited about International Walk to School Day by hosting a presentation at your next meeting!

Invite your [SOC](#) to your next PTO, School Improvement Council, or Community meeting to present on Walking School Buses, SC Safe Routes to School and the Resource Center, NHTSA Child Pedestrian Safety Curriculum and more! Use this presentation as a way to build momentum for your IWalk event! Click [here](#) to request a presentation from your [SOC](#).

Looking for flyers, parent letters, and permission slips for your IWalk Event? Checkout our new toolkits for [Walk to School Day](#) and [Walk at School Day](#) on our [Encouragement Resource Page!](#)

## Grant Opportunity: Champions of the Environment

DHEC'S Champions of the Environment is an award program for environmental projects. Projects must make a difference within the community and create a lasting difference.

**Safe Routes to School** is listed as a "[recommended project](#)"

Boys and Girls Club of Southern Carolina (BGCSC) serves youth in Allendale and Barnwell counties by offering a variety of educational, recreational, cultural, and social programs. In mid-July, staff members from both counties were trained on the [NHTSA Child Pedestrian Safety Curriculum](#). BGCSC plans on incorporating the curriculum into their after school programs this school year.

After school care settings offer a great opportunity to incorporate pedestrian and bicycle safety! [Request a training](#) on the Child Pedestrian Safety Curriculum for your program site today! Also, contact your [SOC](#) for assistance with planning a [bicycle safety assembly](#) or [bicycle rodeo](#).

## Upcoming Contest: Walk to School Day Photo Contest

[International Walk to School Day](#) is less than 1 month 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 fun and exciting your event was. Pictures must be sent to your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) by **Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>**. Get your cameras ready!

The contest winner will receive a [prize basket](#) containing: SRTS pencils, stickers and bracelets to be used for on-going SRTS events; a set of pedestrian safety and bicycle safety bookmarks to reinforce safety education messages; a bound copy of the NHTSA Pedestrian Safety Curriculum to implement at your school; and MORE!

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

[idea](#)" for Preventing or Reducing Pollution in the Air. [Request](#) a Walking School Bus Information Session now to get you started!

**Schools can earn up to \$2,000 to use for their project. Applications are due on October 15<sup>th</sup>.**

[Click here](#) to review the application and learn more about this opportunity.

## 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 very popular 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.

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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