

SOUTH CAROLINA

Resource Center Newsletter



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Resource Center News

Tips for Walking in the Winter

With lighter mornings, this is a perfect time for walking and biking to school! The darker afternoons are a great opportunity to remind students of these safety tips.

- Carry a flashlight or something reflective! For Walk to School Day this year students received reflective zipper pulls that will help make them more noticeable. Small battery powered lights can also be attached to clothing or book bags.
- If there is a sidewalk, use it. If there are sidewalks on both sides of the road, walk on either side.
- No sidewalks? Walk facing oncoming traffic.
- Wear light colored warm clothes. There is no such thing as poor weather, just poor clothing!

Stay safe, and happy holidays!

Congratulations to Partners for Active Living's Golden Shoe Award Winners:

Jesse Boyd Elementary, McCarthy Teszler School, and



Rodney Oldham, CHES, CPT

From our State Coordinator

As we close out 2011, I am mindful of the great momentum we have going with Safe Routes to School in South Carolina. We look forward to building upon this momentum in 2012

I am thrilled with the number of schools who have committed to be a Partner with our Resource Center - 92!

We appreciate the support of our community partners, as well as our Friends of the Resource Center. Each of you has played a great role in building the SRTS momentum within your school and community.

Thank you for helping us to encourage healthy habits and safe travel options for students throughout the state.

We look forward to 2012!

Funding Opportunity: All-Health Team

Each month the Department of Health

Pine Street Elementary



Jesse Boyd Elementary International Walk to School Day

Each year, [Partners for Active Living](#) grants the highly coveted Golden Shoe award to a Spartanburg school that celebrates International Walk to School Day as part of a sustained program to promote physical activity.

Jesse Boyd Elementary won the Golden Shoe Award for their early morning Fitness Club, which offers time for physical activity before school to encourage students to exercise every day. Each grade comes one day per week to participate in 20 minutes of active fun before school starts.

Second prize went to McCarthy Teszler for starting a year-long Wellness Program.

Third prize went to Pine Street Elementary, which holds Walking and Wheeling Wednesdays throughout the year.

Spotlight on a Friend: Operation Lifesaver

Operation Lifesaver has recently enrolled as a Friend of the SC Safe Routes to School Resource Center. This relationship entitles our School Partners access to their great resources!

Operation Lifesaver focuses on teaching railroad safety through certified instructors and age-based, interactive lessons. Their website also offers downloadable classroom lesson plans for continuing safety education throughout the year. This partnership offers great educational resources for communities

and Environmental Control's All-Health Team awards youth who are making a positive impact on the health of their community.

The All-Health Team is looking for schools, faith based organizations and community organizations that have youth programs promoting healthy lifestyles and address health-related issues. Safe Routes to School programs may meet these requirements.

Monthly winners receive \$500 to support or improve their programs and are entered to win the grand year-end award of \$5,000. For more information or to submit an application, please visit [Other Funding Sources](#) on our SC SRTS Resource Center website.



Blythe Academy Walk to School Day 2011

More than 400 students at Blythe Academy -half the student body - celebrate Walk to School Wednesdays on the first Wednesday of every month. Parents at Blythe Academy started a Safe Routes to School program as a way to improve safety at a busy intersection where students have a limited space to wait to cross the street.

Partnering with Safe Kids Upstate, Blythe Academy won a Mini-Grant from the National Center for Safe Routes to School in the Spring 2011. The grant provided funds for safety vests, new school crossing signs, and cones, as well as educational materials and support for Walk to School Wednesdays.

Many students walk to school regularly,

with heavy train traffic.

Please contact your **School Outreach Coordinator** if you are interested in scheduling an Operation Lifesaver presenter for your school.

but as a magnet school, most students live too far away. The school has designated the nearby neighborhood as a Park and Walk site so those students can still participate and benefit from getting some physical activity before starting their school day.

A **video** produced by LiveWell Greenville demonstrates how much the students and the rest of the school community have come to embrace Walk to School Wednesdays.



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

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