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# SOUTH CAROLINA

## Resource Center Newsletter



Volume 5, Issue 5, May 2015

### In this issue

- Resource Center News: SRTS Forum Preview
- Upcoming Event: International Level Crossing Awareness Day
- Highlight on a Partner: Bike to School Day Events From our State Coordinator
- Spotlight on a Friend: Self Regional Medical Center
- Like us on Facebook!

## Resource Center News: SRTS Forum Preview



Save the Date! Register NOW! The SRTS Resource Center is hosting a Statewide Safe Routes to School Forum on Thursday, June 18, 2015, at Spring Valley High School in Columbia. Attendees will choose up to three breakout sessions addressing all aspects of Safe Routes to School including education strategies, encouragement programs, engineering treatments, and opportunities to get your community involved. The Forum will also feature plenary sessions and networking opportunities. Lunch and a light breakfast will be provided. [Click here to register!](#)



Rodney Oldham, CHES, CPT

From our State Coordinator:

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

**October 7, 2015 -**

[International Walk to School Day](#)

**November 16-20, 2015 -**

[Crossing Guard Appreciation Week](#)

We have highlighted various sessions planned for the Forum in each of our spring newsletters. In this edition, we are pleased to preview the session on [Operation Lifesaver](#), a national organization that educates people about safety around railroads. During the Forum, join our guest speaker Janice Cowen, the state coordinator for Operation Lifesaver. Janice Cowen has partnered with the Resource Center by attending Safety Walk Assessments and organizing presentations on train safety at various schools across the state.

**Janice Cowen** received her Bachelor of Arts from UNC - Chapel Hill. Janice has been the South Carolina Operation Lifesaver State Coordinator for the past fourteen years. She has served as the Operation Lifesaver National Advisory Council Chairperson since 2010 and also served on the Operation Lifesaver, Inc. National Board of Directors. In addition, Janice has served on the Safe Kids Board and Committee since 2000.

We look forward to hearing from Janice at the Forum, and we hope you'll join us!

[Click here to register for the SC SRTS Forum now!](#)

## Upcoming Event: International Level Crossing Awareness Day

**International Level Crossing Awareness Day is June 3rd!** Use this day to educate your students and their families on how to be safe around railroad crossings and railroad tracks when they're traveling on foot, on bike, or by car. Always expect a train where there are tracks! **Never try to beat the train!**

Click [here to review](#) safety lesson plans, teacher resources, and videos for children.

Operation Lifesaver, a non-profit dedicated to railroad education, may also have some volunteers willing to [present to your students!](#) Contact your

**March 9, 2016 - [South Carolina Walk to School Day](#)**

**May 4, 2016 - [National Bike to School Day](#)**

Please schedule meetings with your [SOC](#) this summer to begin planning your 2015-2016 school year events. Think of new ways to make these annual events exciting for your students. Provide healthy snacks, organize music or invite mascots to participate in your Walk to School Days! In the past, mascots from these groups and organizations have been happy to take part:

- Universities and Colleges including the University of South Carolina, SC State, and Clemson University
- High school bands, mascots, and athletes
- Local sports teams
- Area non-profits and advocacy groups
- Local Businesses

## Spotlight on a Friend: Self Regional Medical Center

The Department of Community Prevention and Wellness Services of Self Regional Healthcare connects communities to healthcare

[School Outreach Coordinator](#) to let us know about your railroad safety plans!

## Highlight on a Partner: Bike to School Day Events

**Upstate:** Richmond Drive Elementary (Rock Hill, SC) has only a handful of bike riders on a daily basis, so to encourage more to ride their bike to school, they held a "Park and Bike" event on Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. The school encouraged students and families to meet at the Westminster Presbyterian Church at 7am and ride to school as a group!

**Midlands:** AC Moore Elementary, in Columbia, encouraged all students to bike to school on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Leading up to the day of the event, the school's SRTS Champion held a school-wide Bike Safety poster contest. All posters were displayed on the day of the event and winners were announced.

**Lowcountry:** Oakbrook Elementary School held a Bike Rodeo to Celebrate Bike to School Day on May 12<sup>th</sup>. Teaching the entire second grade of 134 students, Safe Routes to School Coordinator, Jennifer Senn; Trident Area Safe Kids Coordinator, Jennifer Winkelmann; and school volunteers will take students through the steps of how to be a safe bicyclist. The day was fun, educational, and exciting!

## Grant Opportunity: Mazda Foundation Grant

Is your school looking for a program funding opportunity? Once again it is time to apply for the Mazda Foundation Grant. They will accept applications on behalf of schools, 501 (C) 3, who promotes education and literacy, environmental conservation, cross-cultural understanding, social welfare, and scientific research. Application will be

through health screenings, community outreach, and health education. Specifically, Community Prevention and Wellness Services provide a variety of health and safety programs in schools.

Additionally, services including, but not limited to diabetes, cholesterol, blood pressure and cancer screenings are provided at businesses, churches, events throughout the Lakeland region. Self Regional Healthcare has partnered with Safe Routes to School Resource Center previously to conduct pedestrian safety events at Ninety Six Elementary and will be conducting Safety Walk Audits in Edgefield and Saluda county schools this spring and fall.

Like us on  


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"[Like](#)" us to stay updated on interesting news articles, upcoming events and different funding and learning opportunities!

accepted from May 1, 2015 - July 1, 2015. If interested in learning more or downloading the application, click [here](#).



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

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