Resource Center News: Bike to School Day Success Story

With 16 Bike to School day events in the Lowcountry, there are so many success stories to be shared. One of the newest partners of the Resource Center, North Charleston Creative Arts Elementary Kaleidoscope program, held an exciting after school Bike Rodeo. Teachers, volunteers, Safe Kids Charleston Area, the North Charleston Police Bike Team, and the Resource Center all worked together to give these students a chance to practice their biking skills. Students ranging in age from Kindergarten to fifth grade biked from station to station being cheered on by their friends. It was such a great way to celebrate Bike to School Day!

Spotlight on a Friend: Safe Kids Midlands

From our State Coordinator:

Thank you all for another successful school year! Safe Routes to School continues to grow throughout South Carolina. I couldn't be more proud of the progress, support and effort we're seeing amongst our School and Community Partners! Here are some highlights from the 2016-2017 school year:

- 12 new School Partners

Like us on Facebook!
Safe Kids Midlands is one of more than 600 coalitions affiliated with Safe Kids Worldwide, an organization whose mission is to prevent accidental childhood injury. Safe Kids Midlands was established in 1995 by Palmetto Health Children's Hospital, their lead organization. Currently Safe Kids Midlands serves four counties: Lexington, Richland, Newberry and Fairfield, and is guided by a group of committed coalition members. These members are dedicated to volunteering their time and efforts towards the various events held by Safe Kids Midlands. They host programs and events that touch on a variety of safety topics including Swim and Water Safety, Pedestrian Safety, Fire Safety, Holiday/Toy Safety, Home Safety, Poison Prevention, Sports Safety and Bike Safety. One of their biggest events each year is Kids Day of Lexington. At this event, Safe Kids hosts a Bike Rodeo and Helmet Fitting/Giveaway for almost 800 kids in Lexington and the surrounding areas. They also partner with Richland County Sherriff's Department to sponsor Safe and Sound Town; a mobile project that travels to schools in the county to teach pedestrian safety and how to be safe in their community. Recently, Safe Kids Midlands has been partnering with the Resource Center to host Bike events in Richland and Lexington County.

**Partner Highlight: New Platinum Partners**

The Upstate region has been busy during the 2016-2017 school year, as three partner schools have progressed to platinum-level status. Augusta Circle Elementary (Greenville), Oakridge Middle School (Clover), and Pine Street Elementary (Spartanburg) achieved this status by completing a series of platinum requirements. This includes implementing in-classroom SRTS education, securing a school parent group as a long term partner, and sharing successes and lessons learned at the local or national level. Augusta Circle and Pine Street Elementary both have vibrant walk and roll to school days throughout the school year and have shared their lessons learned at the South Carolina Safe Routes to School Statewide Forum. Their presentations can be viewed here. Oakridge Middle is not currently positioned to encourage safe walking or biking to school, so they have implemented regular Walk AT School days and

Do not let the summer slow your momentum! As the school year winds down, host one more event to celebrate the year’s accomplishments and kick off summer. You can customize our [Summer Walk flyer](/) to help promote it! Use this time to talk with your students about summer safety topics and suggest ways for them to continue being physically active during the summer months.

**Grant Opportunity: Fuel Up to Play 60**

Applications to fund your school’s Fuel Up to Play 60 program are due on June 14, 2017. Schools may receive up to $4,000 to fund plans promoting Healthy Eating and Active Lifestyles. To qualify for
created at YouTube video to share their lessons learned through Safe Routes to School. Please check out their video [here].

**Upcoming Events: Mark Your Calendars!**

The SC Safe Routes to School Resource Center is already planning for an exciting 2017-18 school year. Mark your calendars now for the following events, and look for more information from your School Outreach Coordinator in late summer and early fall. These event dates are flexible. We encourage you to work with your school calendar to schedule events.

- **International Walk to School Day** - October 4th
- **Crossing Guard Appreciation Week** - November 13th-17th
- **SC Walk and Roll to School Day** - March 7th
- **National Bike to School Day** - May 9th

For funding, schools must:

- Enroll in Fuel Up to Play 60
- Have a registered Program Advisor
- Participate in the National School Lunch Program

The Fuel Up to Play 60 grant application can be found [here]. Please contact your School Outreach Coordinator for assistance.

Keep up with the Resource Center this school year by liking us on [Facebook](https://facebook.com)! "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