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Resource Center News: Travel Plan Assistance Recipient Schools

Congratulations to the partner schools selected to receive Safe Routes to School Travel Plan assistance from the Resource Center this year!

- Upstate: Northside Elementary School of the Arts, Rock Hill
- Midlands: Jackson School, Camden
- Lowcountry: Red Cedar Elementary, Bluffton

These three schools were selected after submitting a self-nomination application and were chosen based on interest, current work with SRTS, geographical diversity, and the current condition of the their surroundings. Each school’s Travel Plan will help to establish a long and short-term comprehensive SRTS Plan for the school and surrounding community.

From our State Coordinator

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer! As the new 2012-2013 school year approaches, I want to encourage all schools to take a look at their SRTS efforts and schedule a meeting with your School Outreach Coordinator (SOC) to plan events and discuss implementing SRTS program elements.

Schools interested in enrolling in the SRTS Partnership Program, should complete the Enrollment Form as soon as possible to secure International Walk to School Day incentives.
For more information about Travel Plans, or if you're interested in developing a Travel Plan at your school, please contact your **School Outreach Coordinator**.

## Upcoming Events: Save the Dates!

### Student Tally Month- September 2012

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. Student Travel Tallies, when collected annually, track transportation patterns at your school and throughout the state. 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 how they arrived to school on two days during the middle of that week. Once the forms are completed, contact your local **School Outreach Coordinator**, and they will help get your forms to the National Center for Safe Routes to School for processing. Your school will then receive a complete report of your students' 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 out at the first PTA meeting! The parent survey can also be completed online. Contact your local **SOC** for more information.

### International Walk to School Day Registration is OPEN!

Register **NOW** for International Walk to School Day on **October 3, 2012**. So far South Carolina is leading the nation with over 50 schools registered! There are many ways for your school to participate and include every student. Your school may encourage students to:

- **Walk TO school from their home**

- **Walk TO school from a meeting location** (such as a grocery store, park or church parking lot)

- **Walk AT school** (school-wide walk around the campus in the morning, designated class time for grade-level walks during the school day or a group walk after lunch)

- **Walk FROM school** (to their homes, to a designated pick-up location or to an after-school care provider)

Schools that are already enrolled in our Partnership Program should continue progressing up our Partnership Levels!

- Plan your [International Walk to School Day](#) event
- Send home the [Parent Surveys](#) and administer the [Student Travel Surveys](#)
- Ask your SOC to give a SRTS Presentation at your SIC, 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 and can't wait to hear many great success stories this school year!

### Spotlight on a Friend: Special Olympics with GenMove

Special Olympics South Carolina is holding two **FREE** summer training workshops with GenMove USA. These training workshops are open to all teachers (general and special education), paraprofessionals, administrators. The trainings will be held in conjunction with the Special Olympics Project UNIFY Program & Young Athletes Program.

The first Summer Project UNIFY Workshop will be held
Contact your local **SOC** for assistance on planning a safe and fun event based on your school's needs.

*Incentives will be provided to partner schools with registered events on a "first-come, first-served" basis. The Resource Center will have a limited supply, and based on the number of past events, we anticipate running out of incentive items. Please register early to guarantee incentives for your students!*

**Spotlight on a Partner: Jesse Boyd Elementary Walkability Assessment**

In May 2012, PTSO President and SIC member Sharyn Pittman organized a walkability assessment at Jesse Boyd Elementary School, assisted by DHEC’s Office of Healthy Schools and SRTS Resource Center staff. Staff from the school, Partners for Active Living, and SCDOT also participated. The team observed school dismissal and toured the nearby neighborhoods to see how it could be made safer and more appealing for students to walk to school.

The result?

SCDOT had already planned work in the area, and they were able to make some of the changes suggested in the assessment right away. For example, at one crosswalk where a crossing guard helps students cross Fernwood-Glendale Drive, the curb ramp that makes it possible for wheelchairs, strollers, and bikes to easily get on and off the sidewalk was missing. SCDOT installed the curb ramp in June.

"We are pleased with the work of Charlie Wilbanks and the SCDOT on the repair and upgrades for our sidewalks leading to Jesse Boyd." says Principal Bob Grant. "They are

**On July 26th in Charleston** at the College of Charleston Campus (Silcox Center, 24 George Street Charleston 29401) from 9:30am-4pm.

The second workshop will be held on **July 31st in Columbia** at the River Center in Saluda Shoals Park (5605 Bush River Road, Columbia) from 9:30am-4pm. Lunch will be provided.

By attending one of the workshops, you will be learning more about the upcoming year for Special Olympics. Below are a few topics that will be discussed and presented in these workshops:

- Moving Forward: What will Project UNIFY Year 5 look like?
- The Keys to Success
- Funding Opportunities
- Resource Development: What's available to help you with your program?
- Youth Engagement
- Unified Sports Coaches Certification Training
- GenMove's USA (Young Athlete Program, MATP, Motor Skill Development) Training

If you are interested in attending and participating in one of these free workshops in Charleston on
aesthetically pleasing and even more importantly, they will help to provide a safer route to school for our students, and on a larger scale, all of the community members who use the walkways to move throughout the area."

Contact your School Outreach Coordinator to discuss scheduling a walkability assessment at your school!

Upcoming Training Opportunity:
NHTSA Child Pedestrian Safety Curriculum

Be on the lookout for an upcoming training opportunity in your area!

The Resource Center will be scheduling "Train the Trainer" workshops this fall for education professionals and community stakeholders interested in implementing and teaching Child Pedestrian Safety Curriculum. This Curriculum was developed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), who also worked with the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE) and the Joint Committee on National Education Standards to directly address national physical education and health standards throughout the courses.

The curriculum was developed specifically for elementary aged students (grades Kindergarten through 5th) and is organized into 5 lessons: walking near traffic, crossing streets, crossing intersections, parking lot safety and school bus safety. This curriculum meets many SC state health and PE education standards.

Please contact your School Outreach Coordinator for more information.

What about educating Middle School students? Register to attend this upcoming webinar on July 30th to learn more about SRTS Middle School Curriculum offerings across the country!

Joint Use Agreements = Win Win

Joint use agreements are legal agreements that make it easier to have school facilities like tracks and playgrounds open to the public after school hours. Joint use agreements spell out how public agencies and nonprofits can share the costs and responsibilities - addressing legitimate concerns regarding liability, maintenance, and July 26th or in Columbia on July 31st please contact:

Beth Wendt
GenMove USA Specialist
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Like us on Facebook

Keep up with the Resource Center this summer by liking us on Facebook! Upcoming events, webinars, funding opportunities, school partners, new resources and more are highlighted on the SC Safe Routes to School Resource Center Facebook page. Check out our new page, and share with your friends today!

Funding Opportunity:
Fuel Up to Play 60

Applications to fund your school’s Fuel Up to Play 60 program are due on October 1, 2012. Schools may receive up to $4,000 to fund plans promoting Healthy Eating and Active Living.

Ideas for physical activity improvements can be viewed here, and you’ll notice that many of these activities fall in line with our Safe Routes to School Partnership Program. Use Fuel Up to Play 60 funds to establish a frequent Walk to School program or an after-school running or walking club. These program elements will also help you
vandalism.

In some neighborhoods, school facilities are the best or only options for recreational activities, so allowing after-hours access can be a major benefit to the community. Recreational use can include:

- Informal or unsupervised activities, such as children playing on the playground or adults walking on a track; or
- Formal activities on the school property such as club league soccer or YMCA sports.

Allowing the use of school facilities by the public is just one more way that communities can become more active, and is recommended as a best practice by the Safe Routes to School National Partnership.

ChangeLab Solutions, a California-based non-profit that helps communities develop laws and policies to improve health, has developed a guide called Playing Smart to help school staff and other community leaders craft and implement joint use agreements.

According to their 50 State Scan Addressing Community Use of Schools, in South Carolina a district board of trustees can adopt rules and regulations governing the use of school buildings and equipment, so this could be a good place to start if you want to formalize or create an arrangement.

achieve our Gold Level status!

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