

SAFE COMMUNITIES

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Holidays & Traffic Safety

December and January are months when families come together to celebrate Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, and the New Year. Traffic increases as families unite to celebrate this festive season. During this holiday period, we have a seasonal change where winter roars its frosty breath across the Nation causing hazardous driving conditions. Unfortunately, there are far too many traffic related incidents where family members are injured or killed because of weather-related hazardous road conditions, excessive speed, lack of wearing seat belts, and alcohol impaired driving.

Your coalition can make a difference by supporting our traffic safety partners by going to [Stop Impaired Driving](http://www.stopimpaireddriving.org/) [http://www.stopimpaireddriving.org/] and downloading the latest Holiday Planners. NHTSA has also published a Winter Tips brochure to help drivers prepare for the road. These tips are common sense events we know to do, but when we're in a hurry to get to the family, sometimes having a check list can save a life.

Winter Tips include:

- Get your car serviced now
- Check your battery
- Check your cooling system
- Fill the washer reservoir
- Check your windshield wipers and defrosters
- Inspect your tires
- Know your car
- Plan your travel and route
- Stock your vehicle
- Learn what to do in a winter emergency

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2007 Planners and Tips:

- [Crackdown Planner](http://www.stopimpaireddriving.org/planners/crackdown2007/planner/index.cfm)
[http://www.stopimpaireddriving.org/planners/crackdown2007/planner/index.cfm]
- [Holiday Planner](http://www.stopimpaireddriving.org/planners/Holiday2007/index.cfm)
[http://www.stopimpaireddriving.org/planners/Holiday2007/index.cfm]
- [Get Ready with Winter Driving Tips](http://www.nhtsa.gov/people/injury/Seasonal_Advisories/WinterDrivingTips/index.html)
[http://www.nhtsa.gov/people/injury/Seasonal_Advisories/WinterDrivingTips/index.html]



Lifesavers Conference 2008

Be sure to mark your calendar for the Lifesavers Conference to be held in Portland, OR, April 13–15, 2008. Registration forms and information will be available in early December on their website www.lifesaversconference.org.

Lifesavers is the premier national highway safety meeting in the United States dedicated to reducing the tragic toll of deaths and injuries on our nation's roadways. In 2007, Lifesavers drew over 2,500 participants, with over 80 workshops and 150 exhibits.



The conference addresses a wide range of safety and on-site. Exhibit Fees: \$500 per non-profit booth or \$1,000 per booth for for-profit. Registration forms and information will be available in early December on their website www.lifesaversconference.org.

Safe Communities America Designation

The National Safety Council has taken the lead on promoting Safe Communities Coalitions to the next level of International status through the World Health Organization (WHO). Safe Communities America is the World Health Organization United States Safe Communities Affiliate Support Center. For coalitions interested in obtaining WHO designation, the requirements are:

- Demonstrate leadership based on partnership and collaborations with all community sectors that are responsible for safety promotion in their community
- Long-term, sustainable programs covering both genders and all ages, environments, situations, and includes preparing their citizens for emergencies and disasters
- Programs that target high-risk groups and environments, and programs that promote safety for vulnerable groups
- Collect data on number and causes of injuries
- Evaluate their programs, processes and the effects of change
- Participate in national and international Safe Communities networks.

For more information on Safe Communities America, visit

<http://www.nsc.org/sca/index.htm>

U.S. Safe Communities Designations:

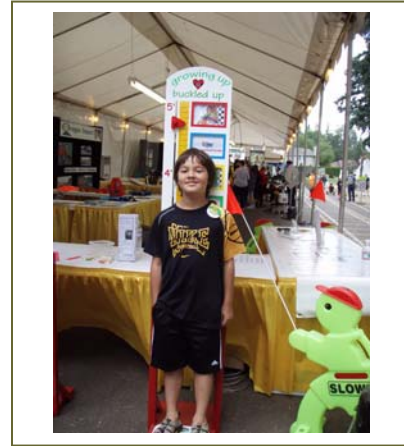
- *Dallas, Texas*
- *Anchorage, Alaska*
- *Omaha, Nebraska*
- *Springfield, Missouri*



Clackamas County Safe Communities

The Clackamas County OR coalition has sponsored "Safety Street" at their week long county fair for the past two years. They have broad representation from safety advocates, many from traffic safety including Oregon Impact (impaired driving awareness using the Fatal Vision goggles), City of Canby Traffic Unit and their "safety wheel", and Clackamas County Traffic Safety Commission.

Safe Communities staffs a driving course on "Safety Street" for children 8 years and under. In this event, the children drive peddle powered cars while their parents or guardians walk with them asking them age appropriate traffic safety questions at designated stops. Each child wins a "junior drivers license" and prize upon completion. This year, they weighed and measured children to help educate parents about their new child restraint law, which includes booster seat use until 8 years of age or height of 4 feet 9 inches.



The driving course has been so popular that they have averaged over 2,000 children each year and won "Most Outstanding Display" by the Fair Board in 2006. For more information, contact Patty McMillan, Safe Communities Program Coordinator (503) 722-6745 (office) (503) 969-4806 (cell)

Central Iowa Traffic Safety Task Force Accomplishments

Central Iowa Traffic Safety Task Force (CITSFT) had many accomplishments in 2006 regarding cooperative traffic enforcement efforts in various counties. Their joint enforcement, which once saw participation three to four times a year, now conducts joint efforts on a monthly basis. Des Moines metropolitan area and Polk County are a couple of communities that have experienced the success of joint enforcement through Agreements, which are awarded for joint law enforcement projects.

CITSFT scheduled eleven events in 2006 and completed nine of the eleven four hour projects. In all, they completed 36 hours of concentrated enforcement activities in specific area that included:

- 986 total contacts with motorists
- Issued 175 seat belt citations
- Addressed 250 speeding violations
- Cited 27 minors in possession of alcohol
- 15 DWI arrests, 1 boating while intoxicated arrest and several more motorists were evaluated along with 8 potential motorists being arrested for public intoxication
- Additionally there were arrests for narcotics, domestic assaults, outstanding warrants and several hundred equipment violations were also addressed.

Congratulations to CITSFT for a successful year. For more information on CITSFT, contact Captain Dennis McDaniel at (515) 277-4453.

1st Annual Traffic Safety Unit Award

Application deadline is December 31, 2007

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the National Sheriff's Association announced the first annual Traffic Enforcement Safety Unit Award, which will target three traffic safety priorities: occupant protection, impaired driving, and speeding. "Operation ABC Mobilization", "Speed Enforcement", and "Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest." are

programs used to measure traffic enforcement unit's success. The John Mack Brown Award is a unit or office based award, which evaluated the quality of each participating agency's program in terms of office policy and training, public information and education, enforcement activity and effectiveness. To learn more about the traffic safety award, visit www.sheriffs.org [http://www.sheriffs.org/programs/TrafficSafetyUnitAward.asp].

GTSAC – Outstanding Contributions to Traffic Safety 2007

Nominations due December 3, 2007

The Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Commission gives annual awards to outstanding individuals who's contributions to traffic safety in Michigan shows they have worked effectively toward change. These individuals can be nominated based on individual or team effort. For

more information on the event and to download the awards nomination application, visit the [Michigan.gov](http://www.michigan.gov) [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/msp/GTSAC_form_2007_04_211304_7.pdf] website.

Recipients from 12 States Awarded for Efforts

(Washington, DC) -- The Roadway Safety Foundation (RSF) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) recognized 15 local programs from 12 states across the country for excellence and innovation in operations, planning and roadway design to reduce fatalities and injuries on our nation's highways.

"The roster of award winners represents the most dynamic and creative highway safety programs, and sets a standard for others to follow," said Greg Cohen, Director of the Roadway Safety Foundation. "These projects help prevent traffic crashes and fatalities, and assist in fighting the national epidemic of nearly 43,000 road deaths and 3 million injuries that occur on our nation's roadways every year." [More...](http://www.roadwaysafety.org/safety-awards-release11-7-07.htm)

[http://www.roadwaysafety.org/safety-awards-release11-7-07.htm]



2007 Award and Honorable Mention Recipients seated among Bud Wright and Greg Cohen

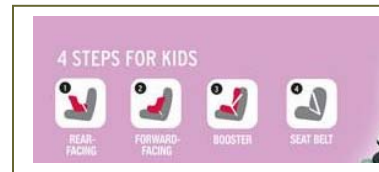
Avoid Common Mistakes of Child Car Seats

(Nov. 6, 2007) Parents fasten children into car seats thinking they're ensuring the child's safety. But chances are, unless the seat was checked by a certified professional, it's not safe.

In AAA Hudson Valley's annual car seat safety check in Albany this fall, only two out of 47 seats voluntarily checked were used correctly. More than 25 percent of the seats were considered unsafe, outdated or recalled, and the parents were given new seats. "There are just so many facets to the car seat that makes it very complicated," says

Cathy Dort, occupant protection educator for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County and child passenger safety coordinator for Capital Region Safe Kids, which co-sponsored the car seat check with AAA. Nationally, about 80 percent of car seats are used improperly, Dort says. [More...](#)

[<http://www.aaafoundation.org/multimedia/index.cfm?button=article&?SMContentIndex=1&SMContentSet=0>]



Safe Routes to School is Popular and it's Working

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs are in effect or being developed in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. In locations where SRTS programs were in effect prior to SAFETEA-LU, communities have seen improvements in safety, and more children are now walking and bicycling to schools. Early results from the federal SRTS

program show that there is a robust demand for grants at the local level for both infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects and that the program is succeeding in bringing cities, schools, parents and students together. [More...](#)

[<http://www.ite.org/news/SRTSreport2007.pdf>]

STIPDA Announces SRTS Mini-Grant Recipients

Funded by the State and Territorial Injury Prevention Directors Association (STIPDA) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), an expert panel awarded 6 of 50 applicants the SRTS mini-grants after conducting a formal review. These awards are for the completion of SRTS community activities with the mini-grants worth \$12,500 to \$15,500. The awardees are:

- Cleveland Department of Public Health (Cleveland, OH)
- Comanche County Health Department (Lawton, OK)
- Eastern Highlands Health District (Mansfield, CT)

- Maricopa County Department of Public Health (Phoenix, AZ)
- Mecklenburg County Health Department (Charlotte, NC)
- Union County Health Department (Marysville, OH)



2008 National Program Award Application

Applications due March 1, 2008

High School Award – \$1,000 Middle School

Award – \$1,000 Runner-Up Award – \$500

Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America, Inc. (FCCLA) promotes and supports community involvement through its FCCLA national programs. By identifying a need and

developing an innovative project in one of the program areas, your chapter could receive recognition and win a cash award! For more information and to download the application, visit [FCCLA's website](http://www.fcclainc.org/assets/files/pdf/award_application__community_service.pdf)

[http://www.fcclainc.org/assets/files/pdf/award_application__community_service.pdf].

American Traffic Safety Services Foundations Scholarships

The American Traffic Safety Service Association (ATSSF) provides financial assistance for post-high school education to the children of roadway workers killed or permanently disabled in work zone accidents, including mobile operations and the installation of roadway safety features. Parents

with custody or legal guardianship of surviving children are also eligible for a scholarship. ATSSF Roadway Worker Memorial Scholarships are awarded annually. Download the application to learn more about the scholarship program at

http://www.atssa.com/galleries/default-file/atssa_RMS_form.pdf.

Seeking Your Child Passenger Photos...



The AAA Foundation is seeking photos of child passengers, particularly from the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s before seat belts and car seats.

Contributors will be contacted for permission to use selected high-resolution photos, which can be sent electronically — 5 megabyte limit — or mailed to Allison Soule: AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, 607 14th Street NW, Suite 201, Washington, D.C., 20005.

Become a Safe Communities On-line News Contributor

Sometimes it's just plain hard to get a story when your staff is small (very small) and you have to dig, beg, and borrow existing story lines. The Service Center is inviting you to submit your traffic-related injury prevention stories for review and posting for the next release for February 2008. We would love to hear from you and share

your story in our national Safe Communities On-line Newsletter.

Call for more information or submit your story to Dezzie Dickson at (817) 978-3614 or email safe.communities@dot.gov.

We're Looking for Coalition Success Stories

Throughout history, the passing of information has been through story telling. Families and communities have lived on as their historical events have translated into road maps of great works and examples for others to follow. The Safe Communities Service Center wants you to share your coalitions success stories with us so that your story can be shared with our nationwide audience.

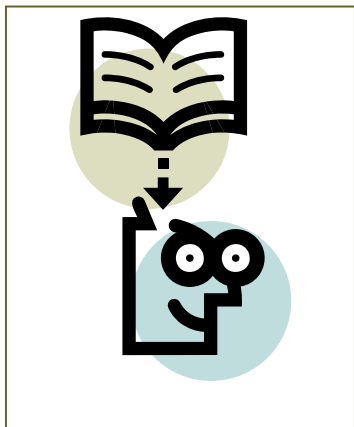
Examples of types of stories are we looking for:

- Has your coalition participated in traffic safety events during which time you had documented outcomes that were reported nationally or in your state or local newspaper?

- Has your coalition been awarded a grant as a result of positive outcomes from past performances?
- Did your coalition have an employee recognized for outstanding dedication and efforts?
- Has your coalition participated in a data collection effort that demonstrated pre and post outcomes that benefited your community?

These are only a few examples of what we are looking for. Fax your stories to the Safe Communities Service Center at (817) 978.8339 or send your stories to us at safe.communities@dot.gov

It's Time to Update Your Coalition Contact Information



Every year the Safe Communities Service Center updates its coalition database and that time is here again. Have you added a new contact person, changed your address, or phone number? Has your coalition or agency merged with another organization but are still using the Safe Communities model for traffic injury prevention? If so, then we need to get this information from you

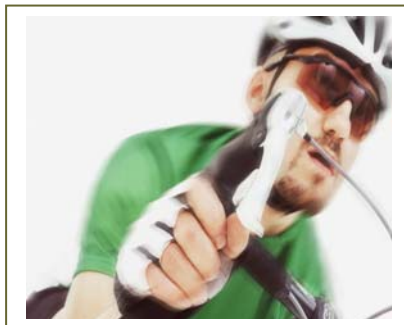
so that we can keep you abreast of current and future traffic-related happenings.

Information we collect: (copy and paste this list into the body of your email)

- Coalition Name
- Branch (for example, Traffic Safety Council, Texas A&M University)
- Type (Hospital, Police, Sheriff's Department, State/City/Local Government, Emergency Medical, Military, Ambulance, Education, etc.)
- Contact Person (Title, First and Last Name)
- Phone Number (XXX-XXX-XXXX)
- Email Address
- Web Address (URL)
- Date Coalition became active (mm/dd/yyyy)
- Comments (awards, achievements, special recognition, etc.)

Please email information to safe.communities@dot.gov.

May 2008 Bike Month Information



The information provided below is useful for planning your 2008 Bicycle Month events.

- Pedestrian Bicycle Information Center (PBIC)
 - <http://www.pedbikeinfo.org>
- State Ped/Bike Coordinators
 - <http://design.transportation.org/?siteid=59&pageid=852>
- Bike Program Materials
 - <http://www.bikeleague.org/programs/bikemonth/events.php>

- http://www.bikeleague.org/programs/bikemonth/pdf/50_things_for_bike_month.pdf
- National Center for Safe Routes to School
 - www.saferoutesinfo.org
- State SRTS Coordinators
 - http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/contacts/complete_list.cfm
- New Products
 - How to Fit a Bicycle Helmet – streaming video (English and Spanish)
 - Preventing Bicycle Crashes: Parents and Caregivers (focused on developmental limitations of kids)
 - Seven Smart Routes to Bicycle Safety for Adults
 - Bicycle Safety Activity Kit

Contact safe.communities@dot.gov for additional information.

Fresh Ideas

Dear Wendy Wellness

North Dakota Safe Communities coalition members, friends, and parents prepared questions that would be answered in the format of Dear Wendy Wellness. Each week, information was given on car seat distribution and car seat checks along with local, state and national information. This information was found on the www.safecommunities.org website ND Bright Ideas and there's no time like the present to prepare for this event. Sounds like they had a lot of fun and this event is easy to duplicate.

To view more activities for coalition best practices, visit www.safecommunities.org.

SC Training

The Transportation Safety Institute (TSI) Traffic Safety Division, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the Safe Communities Service Center, members from the Harlem Hospital Injury Prevention Program, Tennessee Governor's Highway Safety Office, and Cuyahoga County Safe Communities have completed two Safe Communities Training Workshop pilots. The pilots were conducted in Fort Worth, TX and Jamaica, NY where Safe Communities' practitioners evaluated the updated curriculum and provided feedback to enhance the quality of the training for future classes.

The training will be ready for delivery once during FY2008. For more information, contact Judy Hammond at judy.hammond@dot.gov or safe.communities@dot.gov.

User Friendly Stats Tool



This [user friendly tool](http://www.traffic-stats.us/), allows risk calculations based on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) and the National Household Travel Survey (NHTS) of the Federal Highway Administration Office of Policy. For more information, visit <http://www.traffic-stats.us/>.

To be notified of the latest
Safe Communities Newsletter,
send your request to the
Safe Communities Service Center at
safe.communities@dot.gov.

2007 and 2008 Calendar of Events

Extended to December 15, 2007

SAFE COMMUNITIES DATABASE UPDATE

Safe Communities Service Center

Safe.communities@dot.gov

December 2007

NATIONAL DRUNK & DRUGGED DRIVING

(3D) Prevention Month

NHTSA, MADD, GHSA

www.stopimpaireddriving.org

December 15–31, 2007

"DRUNK DRIVING. OVER THE LIMIT. UNDER ARREST."

National Crackdown NHTSA, MADD, GHSA

www.nhtsa.dot.gov

February 25–27, 2008

THE 73RD ROAD SAFETY CONGRESS–SECURING WIDER ENGAGEMENT IN ROAD SAFETY

Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA)
Glasgow, Scotland

For more information visit

<http://www.rospace.com/road/index.htm#callarch>

March 15–18, 2008

THE 9TH WORLD CONFERENCE ON INJURY PREVENTION AND SAFETY PROMOTION

Mérida, Yucatan Mexico

<http://www.safety2008mx.info/>

April 13–15, 2008

LIFESAVERS 2008

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HIGHWAY SAFETY
PRIORITIES

Oregon Convention Center

777 NE MLK Jr. Blvd.

Portland, OR

Registration forms and information will be available
in early December on their website

www.lifesaversconference.org

May 2008

NATIONAL BICYCLE MONTH

Nationwide observance

May 19–June 1, 2008

CLICK IT OR TICKET

Nationwide Crackdown

<http://www.nhtsa.gov/portal/site/nhtsa/menuitem.ce4a601cdf97fc239d17110cba046a0>

August 15–Sept 1, 2008

"DRUNK DRIVING. OVER THE LIMIT. UNDER ARREST."

www.stopimpaireddriving.org

Nationwide Mobilization

September 19–24, 2008

NSC ANNUAL CONGRESS & EXPO NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL

Anaheim, CA

For more information visit

<http://congress.nsc.org>

September 20, 2008

SEAT CHECK SATURDAY

Nationwide observance

September 21–27, 2008

CPS WEEK

Nationwide observance

<http://www.nhtsa.gov/portal/site/nhtsa/menuitem.9f8c7d6359e0e9bbbf30811060008a0c/>

September 29–October 1, 2008

CREATING SAFE COMMUNITIES

"Improving Communities through Multi-Jurisdictional
Relationships" Hinckley, MN

For more information, visit [Fox Valley Tech College](http://www.fvtech.edu/public/content.aspx?id=1237&pid=3) at
<http://www.fvtech.edu/public/content.aspx?id=1237&pid=3>