

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Carleen Wray, Executive Director
Phone: 919-661-7800
Toll free: 866-343-SAVE (7283)
email: cwray@nationalsave.org
www.nationalsave.org



322 Chapanoke Road, Suite 110
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603
Toll Free 866-343-SAVE
Tel 919-661-7800
Fax 919-661-7777
www.nationalsave.org

Students from Across the Country Unite to Spread Messages of Violence Prevention and Share Student Safety Tips during America's Safe Schools Week (October 22-26, 2012)

October 22, 2012 — Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) members across the nation will strengthen their resolve to unite to voice positive choices and ways to prevent school and youth violence as part of America's Safe Schools Week (October 22-26). Youth in elementary, middle, high schools, colleges and community-based agencies will *empower, encourage, educate and engage* themselves and others in preventing violence while bringing awareness to the escalating issue of violence in their schools and among their peers. By focusing on crime prevention, conflict management and service to their school and community, these students will inform other students and educators on the effects of violence and provide important skills to deescalate personal and peer-on-peer conflicts as part of their activities. SAVE members across the country are showing how they are a part of a positive solution, as they live by SAVE's slogan of "Youth Voices... Grown-up Choices!"

Wednesday of the week, October 24, is National SAVE Day. This is an important opportunity for young people to draw attention to the issue of school and youth violence and what students can do to make a difference. ***In the United States, youth violence is a significant public health problem. Homicide is the second leading cause of death of young people, with an average of 16 youth victims each day. Approximately 20 percent of high school students report being bullied at school and more than 30 percent of high school students report being in a physical fight according to a CDC national survey. More than 619,000 young people ages 10 to 24 were treated in emergency departments for injuries sustained from violence in 2009. (Centers for Disease Control, 2011)*** School and youth violence is having a major impact on young people, parents, school, law enforcement officials, and society and all awareness and educational opportunities need to be made to protect our schools, youth and future.

If you are interested in starting or supporting a SAVE chapter in your school or community or in obtaining safety tips for parents and students, visit the SAVE website at www.nationalsave.org or call toll free at 1-866-343-SAVE.

###

About SAVE

SAVE started at West Charlotte High School (NC) in 1989 following the tragic death of a student who was trying to break up a fight at an off-campus party. Students met first to console each other, then as an organization to promote violence prevention and to work together to prevent future incidents from occurring. SAVE provides education about the effects and consequences of violence and engages students in safe activities that benefit them and their community. SAVE currently has over 2,060 chapters in 48 states, with almost 230,000 members. The National Association of SAVE is a student-run, student-initiated violence prevention organization that operates out of Raleigh, NC. Additional information on SAVE can be reviewed at www.nationalsave.org or calling toll free 866.343.SAVE.