



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **National Association of Students Against Violence Everywhere Nationally Recognized for Violence Prevention Efforts**

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**Washington, D.C., February 16, 2004**—The National Association of Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE), based in Raleigh, North Carolina was nationally recognized for its violence prevention efforts. On February 16, 2004 SAVE received the Inspiration in Prevention Award from Youth Crime Watch of America and The National Crime Prevention Council.

The Inspiration in Prevention Award honors organizations and individuals that have encouraged and motivated others by their efforts to reduce violence in schools and/or communities. The award recognizes those that have become a vital part of their communities' solutions to the problems of crime, violence, and drugs.

The National Association of SAVE has been student initiated and student run since its establishment at West Charlotte (NC) High School 15 years ago. Following the tragic death of a classmate, students decided they wanted to do something to make a difference and created the first SAVE chapter. Today, SAVE has grown to include over 109,000 students in 1300 chapters in 42 states and four foreign countries and it is still expanding. Chapters operate in elementary, middle, and high schools, as well as in community agencies and college campuses. SAVE provides education about the effects and consequences of violence and helps provide safe activities for students, parents and communities. SAVE members take the lead in planning chapter activities by using the SAVE Essential Elements of conducting crime prevention and conflict management activities, as well as providing meaningful service through projects in schools and communities.

To celebrate the achievements of SAVE chapters everywhere, the National Association of SAVE holds a culminating event each spring. The annual SAVE Summit is a rare and much anticipated opportunity for young people to speak with other young people and exchange ideas. SAVE students and advisors learn about the successes of each other's SAVE chapters, receive tips on how to make their chapter more effective, and how to influence other students at their school to be proactive and join SAVE. This year

students, teachers, law enforcement officers, counselors, and community leaders from across the nation will attend the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Summit, "SAVE: Lighting the Peaceful Way for 15 Years!" to share ideas and accomplishments and to help celebrate the first 15 years of SAVE. The event will take place on Saturday, March 27, 2004 in Raleigh, NC.

SAVE has continued to grow nationwide due to support from its national sponsor, Chevrolet, as part of its community service initiative, Chevy **R.O.C.K.** (**R**eaching **O**ut to **C**ommunities & **K**ids). Chevrolet sponsors SAVE on a national level to generate awareness as SAVE continues to expand and spread their message to youth everywhere.

For further information on the Summit or other SAVE activities, please visit **[www.nationalsave.org](http://www.nationalsave.org)**. Anyone interested in starting a SAVE chapter at their school can contact SAVE at 1-866-343-SAVE to receive free start-up materials and guidance.

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