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Students Against Violence Everywhere, The Allstate Foundation and Walkersville High School / Frederick County's Sheriff's Office Promote Teen Safe Driving

WALKERSVILLE, MD (March 15, 2012) — The Allstate Foundation, Capital Region has awarded a \$16,500 grant to Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) to assist SAVE chapters in Virginia, West Virginia, District of Columbia, Maryland and Delaware in their efforts to increase youth safety and promote safe teen driving. This grant from the Allstate Foundation will support the SAVE program in schools and community agencies in Capital Region states. Teen safe driving awareness campaigns will be conducted during key times of the year including Teen Safe Driving Month (May), prom, and graduation.

Walkersville High School SAVE Chapter members will make daily school announcements, disseminate information during lunch hours and hold a poster contest. During May, the chapter will have a seatbelt check, hold a provisional driver's license restriction check and a cell phone usage check. The SAVE Chapter Advisor is Dfc. Teresa Holland.

SAVE is a peer-to-peer organization that focuses on the power of positive peer influences. According to a recent Allstate Foundation survey, *Shifting Teen Attitudes: The State of Teen Driving 2009*, peers are a major influence on teens – both positive and negative. Some of the concerning statistics in the study that SAVE chapters will address include:

- Eighty-two percent of teens reported using cell phones while driving.
- Nearly half (48 percent) of girls admit they are likely to speed more than 10 mph over the limit, versus 36 percent of boys.
- Seventy-seven percent of teens admit they have felt unsafe with another teen's driving.

“This generous grant from The Allstate Foundation will assist students in finding real solutions to the issues of teen safe driving that they face each day,” stated SAVE’s executive director, Carleen Wray.

“By empowering teens to become smart driving activists in their schools and communities, we hope to reverse the staggering statistics,” said Deborah Pickford, Corporate Relations Manager for Allstate’s Capital Region. “Through programs like SAVE, we seek to develop innovative, peer-to-peer approaches to raise awareness of the issue and ultimately, to help save teen lives and reduce injuries.”

About the National Association of Students Against Violence Everywhere:

SAVE started at West Charlotte High School in Charlotte, N.C. 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 helps provide safe activities for students, parents and communities. For more information on SAVE or starting a SAVE chapter, visit www.nationalsave.org, or contact SAVE at (866) 343-SAVE to receive free start-up materials and guidance.

About The Allstate Foundation:

Established in 1952, The Allstate Foundation is an independent, charitable organization made possible by subsidiaries of The Allstate Corporation (NYSE: ALL). Through partnerships with nonprofit organizations across the country, The Allstate Foundation brings the relationships, reputation and resources of Allstate to support innovative and lasting solutions that enhance people's well-being and prosperity. With a focus on teen safe driving and building financial independence for domestic violence survivors, The Allstate Foundation also promotes safe and vital communities; tolerance, inclusion, and diversity; and economic empowerment. For more information, visit www.allstate.com/foundation.

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