

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Association of Students Against Violence Everywhere Names Local Student to 2013-2014 Youth Advisory Board *Haley Abernathy, Sophomore at Highland School of Technology, Named to National Advisory Board*

GASTONIA, NC. (August 05, 2013) — Carleen Wray, executive director of the National Association of Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE), has announced that Haley Abernathy, a sophomore at Highland School of Technology, has been selected as one of six high school students from across the country to serve on the 2013-2014 National SAVE Youth Advisory Board (YAB). Members of the board are meeting in Charlotte, NC to participate in a National Youth Leadership Institute where they are trained as presenters and spokespersons for the national organization. At the Institute, Abernathy was elected by her peers to serve as Event Planner.

To quote Haley, “My favorite thing about school this year was the community service opportunities. Most of those opportunities came from SAVE, I valued every community service event and each event made me more enthusiastic about the next one...the most valuable thing I have learned this year is that there is always another friend to be made.”

This is the second year that Haley has been involved with her local SAVE chapter, and her first with the National Youth Advisory Board. Haley is hoping to have a great time in the Youth Advisory Board with the other members while achieving many goals for the success and advancement of SAVE. The Board will meet throughout the year to discuss youth violence issues and develop action plans for SAVE chapters across the nation.

Members of the YAB developed their leadership skills through participation in training sessions, discussions of best practices for school violence prevention and the practice of educational activities for sharing with other SAVE students. They created goals for the year as well as a proactive action plan to combat violence through the implementation of the three essential elements of SAVE: crime prevention, conflict management and service projects.

SAVE is a student-run, student-initiated public nonprofit violence prevention organization with over 2,000 chapters in 48 states and more than 230,000 members in elementary, middle, high schools, colleges and communities nationwide.

Back to School Safety Tips: <http://nationalsave.org/who-we-are/chapters/chapter-access/back-to-school-safety/>

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.

<http://nationalsave.org/who-we-are/people/youth-advisory-board/>

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