

e-SAVE SOURCE

Youth Voices...Grown-Up Choices!

National Association
of Students Against
Violence Everywhere

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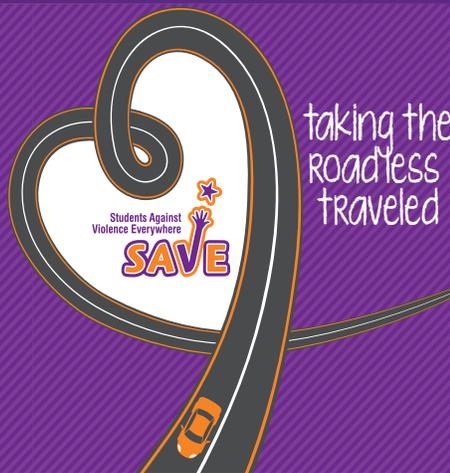
February 2015
Volume 15, Issue 2

Focus On: Character Counts

National SAVE Summit

March 21, 2015

Raleigh, NC



Join SAVE on the Road Less Traveled at the NC State McKimmon Center. This fun and educational event is a time for youth to showcase effective violence prevention strategies and share their successes with their peers. **Register your chapter members today at <http://nationalsave.org/save-summit-registration/>**

SAVE's Got Talent: Does your SAVE chapter or SAVE members spread the message of nonviolence through song, spoken word, stepping, or some other awesome way? If so, then we would like them to perform at the SAVE Summit through our SAVE's got Talent! Please send a description of their talent to info@nationalsave.org by February 18, 2015. Chapters may submit multiple entries for consideration. Winning submissions will be notified by February 20 if they are chosen to perform.



Music Video Contest: SAVE chapters are invited to get creative and make a video for the song "American Boy." The winning video will be shared on social media and recognized at the National SAVE Summit! The video can consist of recorded video clips, a slideshow with pictures and words, or any other creative method. Send your video link to info@nationalsave.org by March 6, 2015. If you haven't downloaded the song "American Boy" by the Tony Dorsey Band, you can purchase it on iTunes or at the SAVE store.



"Character is like a tree and reputation its shadow. The shadow is what we think it is and the tree is the real thing."
- Abraham Lincoln

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Create a SAVE License Plate: SAVE chapters are asked to create a visual of their SAVE Chapter to display at the National SAVE Summit! This year's visual should be in the design of a vanity license plate. A standard license plate is 6" X 12." Please display your nonviolent messages on heavy paper, like cardstock or poster board, and bring to the Summit. Be creative! If you cannot attend the Summit, please mail your chapter's license plates to the National SAVE office before March 6, 2015.

Call for Photos: SAVE is collecting photos for a slide show that will premier at the Summit. If you have photos or videos of your SAVE Chapter in action that you'd like included in this year's slide show presentation, please email them to cstory@nationalsave.org



SUMMIT KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Mike Hall: Zero to Hero!



"One day, you will wake up, and the life you have and the life you want...with be the same thing." – Mike Hall

By implementing strategies that he shares with his audiences across America and beyond, Mike's life went from ZERO to HERO by his senior year. The lacrosse team voted him as captain and he was the star player. His confidence was at an all time high even before he was approached in the hallway at school by a girl from the newspaper. 670 seniors had just voted Mike as the, "Person Most Likely to Change the World."

He has a deep passion to see people live the life they've always wanted. A life with meaning. A life that matters. The life of a HERO.

Friends kept nagging Mike to write, and so he did. In the past 3 years, he's written two books. The Only 2 Words Young Leaders Must Know gives one of the clearest and easily implementable strategies for influential leadership you'll find. He also penned Jigsaw, a fun and poignant plan for growing up, for teens. Several schools have developed school-wide projects and even offer classes using Jigsaw as the curriculum. Learn more at <http://mikeisspeaking.com>

National Youth Violence Prevention Week

March 23-27, 2015

The National Association of Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) is proud to be a founding partner of the National Youth Violence Prevention Campaign. The goal of this campaign is to raise awareness and to educate students, teachers, school administrators, counselors, school resource officers, school staff, parents, and the public on effective ways to prevent or reduce youth violence. This week long national education initiative will involve activities that demonstrate the positive role young people can have in making their school and community safer. SAVE serves as the crossroads to the campaign and provides countless resources to prepare for the event, including the official campaign Action Kit that serves as a step-by-step planning guide, suggestions for how each sector of the community can support the campaign, activity ideas, links to over 40 national organizations sponsoring the event, articles and interviews on violence prevention, and much, much more!



<http://nationalsave.org/NYVPW>

Teen Safe Driving: Reckless or Wreckless?

On January 24, Mississippi SAVE Chapters attended the Teen Safe Driving Workshop sponsored by the Allstate Foundation. Youth heard from Alexa Cacibauda, a 21 year old senior at Mississippi State. Alexa challenged everyone to speak up to unsafe drivers. She attends the Methodist Rehabilitation Center to recover from the brain and spinal cord injuries she sustained from a motor vehicle accident in 2013. Participants also heard from Corporal B.J. Seibert of Mississippi Highway Patrol and Allstate Agent Steven James. SAVE Chapters presented information on how they are making a difference in their schools and communities as recipients of Teen Safe Driving grants thanks to the Allstate Foundation. Chapters are excited about their upcoming activities for Teen Safe Driving Month in May. Thanks to Biloxi High School for hosting the workshop!



SAVE Question of the Month

Please share the SAVE Question of the Month with your SAVE members. This is a place to ask questions and get responses from SAVE members across the country.

February is National Teen Dating Violence Prevention Month. How does your SAVE chapter raise awareness about abuse in youth relationships and help to prevent teen dating violence?

Please blog your responses to: <http://nationalsave.org/qom-february-2/>

Student Perspectives: Janelle Green, Academic Magnet High School (SC)

A few days ago there was a tragedy at Wando High School. One Matthew Joseph Fischer was at his girlfriend's house when Lucas Bennett Cavanaugh sent him a snapchat telling him to come over, and another one that said he was going to kill him. Cavanaugh went, and the two started to fight. When the fight came to a head Fischer pulled out a pocket knife and fatally stabbed Cavanaugh. He left the crime scene, and then called his mother, who brought him back to the scene and had Fischer call the police. Fischer remains in jail because there is no bail for murder charges. This story while sad, is not shocking. This type of violence happens monthly, weekly, and sometimes daily in Charleston, it just doesn't happen in these types of communities. Cavanaugh and Fischer both had bright futures ahead of them, that much is true, but they also both had a lot of growing up to do, something that is clear when the actions of both boys are analyzed. They were old enough to drive, and almost old enough to vote, old enough to know exactly what they were doing and what the consequences could be, and yet today two families have lost their sons. The problem with teen violence does not just stem from inner city schools, or poor kids in bad neighborhoods, though those could all very well play a part in it, the real problem is the amount of responsibility and knowledge teens are given, and the lack of common sense capabilities needed to maximize not only their potential, but society's as a whole. When things like this happen not only have we lost two young men who could have done great things, we have lost yet another war against senseless violence, and that is a fight that no nation can afford to lose.



Teens have to know that no matter how they feel, no matter what their reality is at that moment, it gets better. Feelings, while not at all invalid, change, and realities are dictated only by the environment you're in. When you go on to college, to study something you really love, and then get a job doing that same thing, your reality at that moment will be light years away from your high school reality. Often in this age of social media teens focus on what is happening in the now, getting updates every second about what goes on in the world. It's not often that teenagers think about the future, let alone life after high school. We feel like this time of awkward self consciousness is permanent. The best thing that I can think to tell someone who is feeling like they're going through something that will never end, is to tell them to stay hopeful for the future. As time goes on perspectives shift, and there is so much more to life than high school and Facebook and Snapchat. I would remind them that they want to be there to see things get better. I would tell them that there is more out there for them than their current situation. I would let them know that there are good experiences, and good people. I would tell them that there is good out there in the world, waiting for them. I would tell them to have hope, and to hold onto the knowledge that it gets better. If I wanted to give hope to someone, I would tell them that it gets better. As a newly initiated member of SAVE I hope to be able to spread this message wherever I go. I hope that through this organization I get to reach out to others and let them know that it gets better.

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Shop the SAVE Store
<http://nationalsave.org/shop/>

Twenty Twinkling Stars - Beautifully illustrated picture book written for children aged 3-7 to celebrate their passions, interests and tender spirit. Inspired by the Sandy Hook students. The book celebrates the universal wonder and spirit of all children and is a perfect bedtime story. \$10
<https://www.facebook.com/TwentyTwinklingStars>



American Boy - "American Boy" a song donated to SAVE by the Tony Dorsey Band, captures the raw emotions provoked by the senseless acts of violence that take place far too often in America. Crimes often committed by our American Boys. Available on iTunes or in SAVE's store. \$0.99
<http://nationalsave.org/american-boy-song/>



February Special!
Large Stickers: Buy 50 get 5 free!
Item #115

<http://nationalsave.org/large-save-stickers-set-of-50/>

Upcoming Events

Feb	National Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month	http://www.teendvmonth.org/
9-15	Random Acts of Kindness Week	http://www.randomactsofkindness.org/
24-27	National Conference on Bullying	http://www.schoolsafety911.org/
Mar		
21	National SAVE Summit (NC)	https://nationalsave.org/summit/
23-27	National Youth Violence Prevention Week	http://nationalsave.org/NYVPW
May	National Youth Traffic Safety Month	http://nationalsave.org/chapter-tools/crime-prevention/teen-safe-driving/



Be Heard - Get Social!

#NATIONALSAVE

← SCAN THE CODE WITH YOUR SMART PHONE TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH SAVE!

Chapter Highlight: East Bay High School (FL)

In January, students from the East Bay High School SAVE chapter discussed ways to handle bullies with students at the Riverview campus of Pepin Academies. Pepin Academies serves students with various learning disabilities.

The SAVE students performed skits on what to do in bullying scenarios and read stories to the third- through fifth- grade students. They also asked the elementary school students about times they were bullied.

“The students wouldn’t stop raising their hands to tell specific stories of when they were bullied,” said chapter advisor Julie Compton. “It made everyone in the room have a common connection.”

The East Bay High School SAVE chapter made a presentation to another school in January as well. They also participated in No-Name Calling Week Jan. 19-23 to celebrate and promote kindness. (Source: The Tampa Tribune)



Monthly Focus: Character Counts

All is fair in LOVE and SAVE! February, the month of love, is the perfect time to show your good character! What are some positive character traits that you admire in others? During this month, try to demonstrate good character traits. Be a positive role model for those around you so they can learn good traits as well. Choose a person in your life that demonstrates good traits and shadow that person for a day. Use the activity ideas to put the following traits and others in action this month in your school and community.

Good Character Public Service Announcement - Created by the SAVE Youth Advisory Board:
<http://nationalsave.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/have-good-character-february.mp3>

For activity ideas and lesson plans focusing on character and other upcoming topics, visit <http://nationalsave.org/who-we-are/chapters/chapter-access/>



YABer Yak: Abigail Lawson, Biloxi High School (MS)

Character is one of the most important things to have. No one can take away ones character. Your character is a reflection of the life you lead and the choices, good or bad, you make. Character is constantly revolving as new situations are brought upon us. People do not judge character and it can make or break some relationships whether they do business or personal. The best way to resolve your character is to do worthy deeds through community service, exploring new ways of seeing things, and self-reflection. It cannot be erased by simple acts. Just know even if everything seems to be going wrong have faith that your character will stand the test of time and get you through till the end.

Opportunities & Information

Disney Friends for Change Grants - Deadline: February 18

Disney Friends for Change Grants offer young change-makers \$500 to gather their friends and turn their creative ideas to help their communities into projects taking place on or around Global Youth Service Day - April 17-19, 2015. Whether protecting the planet, providing food to hungry people, helping other kids learn, or promoting healthy behaviors, Friends for Change help make their communities greener, safer, smarter, healthier, cleaner, and fairer. Youth ages 5-18 located in all 50 states and DC are eligible. Apply and turn your idea from a dream into reality:
http://www.YSA.org/disney_friends_for_change_us_grants

Teen Dating Violence Research - NIJ’s latest Research in Brief, Teen Dating Violence: How Peers Can Affect Risk and Protective Factors, explores the latest research on teen dating relationships to uncover how peers can encourage or hinder help-seeking behavior after violence. For more information, visit <http://goo.gl/tFbGsa>