

# e-SAVE SOURCE

*Youth Voices...Grown-Up Choices!*

National Association  
of Students Against  
Violence Everywhere

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## Focus On: Back to School Safety

### Monthly Focus: Back to School Safety

by Haley Abernathy, SAVE Youth Advisory Board Chair

It is time to go back to school! I am going to share some things your chapter can do to give a warm welcome to your new members and teach your school about back to school safety. I personally like the idea of making a back to school brochure or tip sheet for students to read at orientation. This sheet/brochure can be used to inform students of the benefits of joining SAVE while also giving tips on back to school safety. Your chapter could consider hosting a SAVE picnic or a tailgate party on school grounds before the new school year starts.



It is also a good idea to conduct a safety assessment and create a safety plan for your school. Remember to consider crime prevention measures, conflict management solutions, and campus supervision staffing. If you are looking for ways to promote your SAVE chapter, I would suggest hanging up posters with information on upcoming meetings and/or having this information announced through the PA system. Whatever you do remember to have fun and be safe this year!

For more information and ideas visit:

<http://nationalsave.org/chapter-tools/crime-prevention/back-to-school-safety/>

"Never judge someone by the way he looks; or a book by the way it's covered; for inside those tattered pages, there is a lot to be discovered."

~ Stephen Cosgrove

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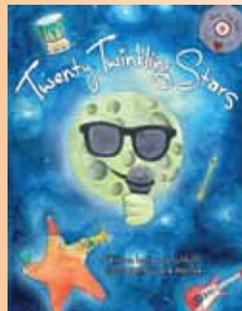
## SAVE Staff

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## **Twenty Twinkling Stars Opportunity for SAVE Chapters**

The National Association of Students Against Violence Everywhere was selected by the Arbonne Charitable Foundation to receive a grant to engage, empower, encourage and educate teens in providing character education to younger students. Through the grant, SAVE chapters will lead outreach to preschools, kindergartens and first grade classrooms to provide lessons on positive character traits, kindness, and bullying prevention. High School, Middle School and Elementary

SAVE Chapters can participate. Students will utilize the book *Twenty Twinkling Stars* and related lesson plan materials. This project will build leadership skills, communication skills, presenting skills, and confidence in the youth presenters as well provide valuable life skills to the children who hear their presentation. Schools participating receive two free *Twenty Twinkling Stars* books as well as a lesson plan and activity guide.



For more information and to download the chapter agreement, visit:

<http://nationalsave.org/twenty-twinkling-stars/>

## **Spread Peace and Kindness through Service!**

Martin Richard was an 8-year-old boy who believed in togetherness, teamwork and inclusion. Martin was tragically killed when the second of two bombs exploded near the finish line of the Boston Marathon on April 15, 2013. We can honor his wish for a more peaceful world by being kind and compassionate.

This fall, from September 14th – October 16th, generationOn, Hasbro and the Martin Richard Foundation invite you to join us in spreading peace and kindness. Whether it's planting a peace garden, making a get-well card for a sick friend, or simply inviting someone new to sit at your school lunch table, there are many free and easy ways to help us create a more peaceful world.

Visit [www.generationOn.org/peace](http://www.generationOn.org/peace) to learn about ideas on how to create peace in your community and join us in spreading Martin's message on social media by creating your own peace poster or sharing your acts of kindness using #NoMoreHurtingPeople.



## Officer Daisy's Do's & Don'ts Gang Awareness



by Officer Daisy McCarroll, SAVE Advisor of the Year

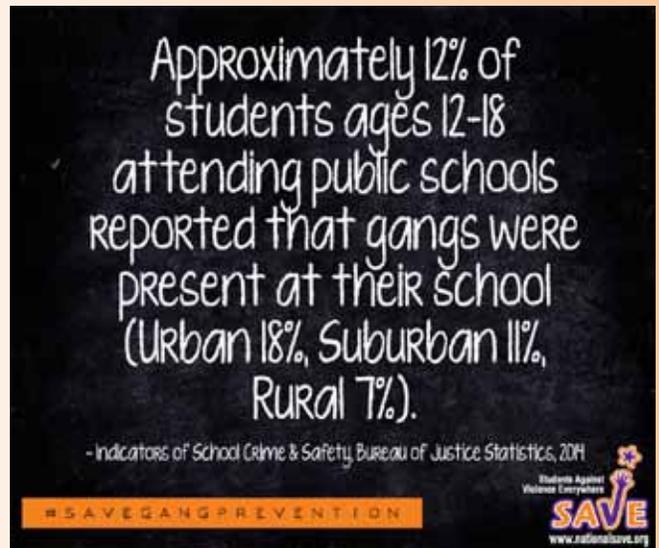
**What Is A Gang?** A gang is defined as a group of people who form an alliance for a common purpose, share a common identity and are involved in wrongful or delinquent activities. The average age of gang members is from 14-21 years of age; however, recent trends indicate that children are being recruited into gangs at a much younger age, some when they are in elementary school. Gangs can include people of every gender, race, culture and socioeconomic group. Most gangs **TARGET YOUTH** that are **EASILY TALKED INTO DOING WORK** for the gang.

**So why do kids join gangs?** Many kids join a gang because of peer pressure. If your kids are hanging around gangs and gang members, you can almost guarantee that they are being pressured to join the gang. Some kids are looking for acceptance. Many kids feel that they are not getting the attention they feel they deserve at home. They start looking for this attention and love in other places and often find what they are looking for in a gang. More and more, we are seeing kids join a gang to earn money through illegal services. Selling narcotics, robberies, burglaries, auto thefts, and other property crimes are common in many gangs. Some kids join a gang for the excitement and to socialize. Easy access to liquor, narcotics, and girls are attractive to potential gang recruits.

**Signs of Gang Involvement.** There are many signs that parents and guardians can use to tell if a child is involved in a gang. These include:

1. **Having unexplained money, items, or clothing**
2. **Wearing clothing of all one type, style, or color**
3. **Using hand signs, special slang or words with hidden messages**
4. **Associating with known gang members**
5. **Withdrawing from family, worsening attitude with parents**
6. **Carrying weapons**
7. **Having gang graffiti on walls or personal items**

If you have concerns that your child or friend is involved in a gang, it is important to discuss it with them. This will not be easy due to the fear of gang retaliation. It is important to intervene to protect the child from drugs, violence and criminal activity. If you suspect the child is involved in gang activity, access agencies in your community for help.



### SAVE Question of the Month

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

**“What are three Back-to-School Safety tips?  
What will your SAVE chapter do to encourage Back-to-School safety??”**

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

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



**August Special!**  
**SAVE Pens: Buy 10 for \$10 and get 1 free!**  
**Item #110**



**SAVE Wooden Ruler:**  
**\$1 each**  
**Item #169**



**Change the World Stickers: \$5 for 50**  
**Item #171**

**Change the World Bottle: \$2 each**  
**Item #170**



**SAVE a Life Keychains: \$1.50 each**  
**Item #172**

**Journey Shirt \$12.00 each**  
**Item #173**



**Upcoming Events**  
**More info: [nationalsave.org/events](http://nationalsave.org/events)**

<b>Sept</b>	<b>Focus: Speak Out: Are You OK?</b>
7-10	National Suicide Prevention Week
11	National Day of Service & Remembrance
14-10/16	Martin Richard Bridge Builder Campaign
21	International Day of Peace
<b>Oct</b>	<b>Focus: Bullying Prevention</b>
	National Bullying Prevention Month National Crime Prevention Month
5	Child Health Day
5-8	Mental Illness Awareness Week
19-23	<b>America's Safe Schools Week</b>
21	<b>National SAVE Day</b>
23	<b>National SAVE Rock-A-Thon</b>
27	Mix-It-Up at Lunch Day
<b>Nov</b>	<b>Focus: Weapon Safety</b>
	Runaway Prevention Month
23-27	National Family Week

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step  
 - Lao Tzu



National SAVE Youth Summit  
 March 12, 2016  
 McKimmon Center  
 Raleigh, NC



## Meet the 2015-2016 National SAVE Youth Advisory Board (YAB)

### **Haley Abernathy** **Highland School of Technology, NC**

Haley Abernathy is a senior at Highland School of Technology in Gastonia, NC where she is taking courses in the Medical Science curriculum. According to her SAVE advisor, Dr. Ami Parker, "Haley was instrumental to the success of our SAVE activities. She is a ball of energy, always asking what more she can do." This is Haley's fourth year in SAVE and 3rd year serving on the YAB. During her senior year Haley will serve as the President of the SAVE chapter at her school and Chair of the National SAVE YAB. Haley said, "I have grown so much in the past three years and I have gained many of my accomplishments and leadership skills through SAVE. I am looking forward to serving with the new board members and savoring my last year on the board."



### **Margaret Adams** **Chapel Hill High School, NC**

Margaret Adams is a senior at Chapel Hill High School in Chapel Hill, NC. Ms. Adams has served in multiple leadership capacities with the YMCA and her school soccer team. Since SAVE has impacted Maggie in such a positive way, she works hard to recruit new members for the club especially underclassmen. She has put a lot of time and effort into learning about SAVE and now she is ready to take on a leadership position to initiate change in the organization. Maggie's SAVE Advisor, Jim Wise, said that "whenever they have an activity planning or need someone to take a leadership role, Maggie is always the first one to step forward and take responsibility for getting things done".



### **Gabrielle Allen-Destroismaisons** **E.A. Laney High School, NC**

Gabrielle Allen-Destroismaisons is a senior at E.A. Laney High School in Wilmington, NC. Gabby is a member of the Beta Club, National Honor Society, and National Society of High School Scholars. Gabrielle has served as President of her school's Latin Club and Co-President of the Human Rights Club. Gabby volunteers with the Special Olympics and is a member of the Wilmington Symphony Youth Orchestra. Gabby has served as Historian of her SAVE chapter and played a key role in coordinating her SAVE chapter's partnership with the Rape Crisis Center. Gabby is excited to serve as her SAVE chapter's President this coming year. One of Gabby's many goals as a YAB member is to reduce the amount of young people who feel the need to violently end their lives or hurt others as a way of coping with stress and mental illness.



### **Mamie Frank** **White Oak High School, NC**

Mamie Frank is a senior at White Oak High School in Jacksonville, NC and is a section leader of the marching band and a member of the National Honor Society. Mamie volunteers with the Carolina Animal Protection Society and Infant of Prague Thrift Store. Ms. Frank has been a member of SAVE since 2012 and has served as the Secretary and Vice President. Through SAVE, she has been helping those in need in her community including children at a local elementary school. David Anderson, the Vice Principal at White Oak High School believes that under Mamie's leadership, "SAVE has become one of the most popular and visible clubs on campus." Mamie's SAVE advisor has found her to be an "enthusiastic, encouraging, and empowering change agent fighting against violence everywhere." Mamie wishes to see more activity and unity among SAVE chapters during her time as a YAB member.



### **Jordan German** **Optimism Preventive Services, SC**

Jordan German is a junior at Georgetown High School in Georgetown, South Carolina. She volunteers 15 hours every week with Optimism Preventive Services, Inc. as a youth leader and peer mentor. Jordan works part-time, is a member of her school's varsity cheerleading team, and is very active in her church. Additionally, Jordan is a member of Honor Society and the Science club at her high school. Jordan's SAVE chapter is community based which gives her the opportunity to work with both her community and school. Through SAVE, Jordan has worked on projects related to teen dating and violence, National SAVE Day, Drug Awareness' Week, and the Stepping out against Bullying walk. Jordan served as her chapter's Secretary and has been elected to serve as the 2015-2016 President. This will be Jordan's second year on the Youth Advisory Board. As a YAB member, Jordan wants to continue to inspire and most importantly recruit more youth to join SAVE.



## National SAVE Youth Advisory Board cont'd

### **Thuy-Hien (Rose) Le** **Biloxi High School, MS**

Rose Le is a junior at Biloxi High School in Biloxi, MS. Rose is a dedicated student receiving the "Perfect Attendance" award as well as the award for "Going Above and Beyond" from her high school. Ms. Le has held several leadership positions such as Vice President of the Builders Club, President of National Honor Society, and Vice President of the sophomore class. Rose is a member of the Spanish Club and her schools track and field team. Rose served as Vice President of her SAVE Chapter and has been instrumental in helping her chapter grow from about 10 members to now 70 members in just four years! Rose is a dedicated and hard worker with a great positive attitude which she is eager to bring to the SAVE Youth Advisory Board.



### **Sarah Spradlin** **Scurry County SAVE, TX**

Sarah Spradlin is a junior at Ira High School in Ira, TX. Ms. Spradlin is a member of National Honor Society, Track Team, as well as the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Sarah has been a great member of her community through her volunteer work with her local women's shelter. Sarah joined SAVE and became the leader of her school's first Junior High SAVE group. Sarah has been instrumental in her county's SAVE chapters as she was President of the Ira SAVE and President of the Scurry County SAVE group. Additionally, Sarah served as the Secretary of her SAVE chapter during the 2011-2012 school year. Sarah is confident that through her position on the SAVE Youth Advisory Board, she will be a great role model for SAVE members everywhere and will encourage them to achieve their goals!



### **Jenny Suwanmanee** **East Chapel Hill High School, NC**

Jenny Suwanmanee is a junior at East Chapel Hill High School in Chapel Hill, NC. Jenny was born in Thailand and moved to the United States in 2006 and is fluent in English, Thai, Chinese, and Japanese. She is involved in multiple organizations that focus on helping others and the community such as Habitat for Humanity, the Ronald McDonald House, and the Elliot Woods Tutoring Program. Additionally, Jenny is on her school's softball and field hockey team. Ms. Suwanmanee has been a member of SAVE for two years during which she has initiated and lead various club events. Through SAVE, Jenny has participated in activities during National Youth Violence Prevention Week and helped to communicate the dangers of relationship violence in her school. Her advisor, Shari Coveney, believes that Jenny has found a good balance between academics, athletics, and club participation and is confident that she will be a good leader on the Youth Advisory Board.



### **Larissa Wilson** **Scurry County, TX**

Larissa Wilson is a junior at Ira High School in Ira, TX. Larissa is a member of the "Say What" group at her high school and runs track. Larissa volunteers at her local women's shelter and is a youth member of the Ira First Baptist Church. Ms. Wilson has been a member of SAVE for four years in which time she has served as the club's Treasurer and Vice President. During the 2014-2015 school year, Larissa also served as the Scurry County SAVE group President. Through SAVE, Larissa has been involved with the annual "Walk a Mile for a Child." Larissa is hoping to change the lives of others by speaking out to them about their struggles during her time on the SAVE Youth Advisory Board.



### **Kaleigh Wright** **Cuthbertson High School, NC**

Kaleigh Wright is a sophomore at Cuthbertson High School in Waxhaw, NC. Kaleigh is very active in her school as she is on the Principal's Advisory Council, a member of the BETA club, and is an officer for Health Occupation Students of America. Outside of school, Kaleigh participates in competitive cheerleading and recently accepted an internship at Carolinas Medical Center Main. Kaleigh has also volunteered with organizations such as the Special Olympics and Relay for Life. The Principal of Cuthbertson High School said that "Kaleigh is not only dedicated to her school and community, but she is also a sincere and kind person." As a member of the YAB, Kaleigh would like to promote the benefits of non-violence and spread the SAVE club into schools that do not have the program as well as reach younger kids in order to impact them when they are most impressionable.

