



Focus on Community Safety Program

OBJECTIVE: Educate members and others about community, home, and vehicle safety issues, and encourage citizen action on these issues

ACTION PLAN

COMMUNITY SAFETY

- o Make sure the Amber Alert emergency response system implemented by local police to rescue kidnapped children is in place in your state. For information visit www.AmberAlertNow.org
- o Investigate whether Code Adam has been adopted by stores in your community. Code Adam reduces the possibility of children being abducted. Visit www.MissingKids.com for information about how to register a store.
- o Involve community officials in National Night Out; register and receive the NNO kit filled with how-to materials. Registration is free. (See Resources)
- o Contact the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse for assistance in creating a volunteer child-abuse prevention program in your community. (See Resources)
- o Get involved with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. (See Resources)
- o Work with local law enforcement officials, neighborhood coalitions, and city and town councils to develop crime prevention programs. Utilize National Crime Prevention Council's McGruff the Crime Dog, when distributing materials at schools and community fairs. Access McGruff from law enforcement officials. (See Resources)
- o Review the GFWC Community Safety for Women fact sheets at www.GFWC.org/Programs.
- o Investigate how your club can assist the community in forming a Citizen Corp group coordinated nationally by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. For information: www.USFA.FEMA.gov (See Resources)
- o Work with schools providing printed materials and inform them of USFA's Kids Page on the Internet. Kids Page has many helpful games, quizzes, and other activities to educate children about fire safety. (See Resources)
- o Hold a club or community program on keeping children safe from unintentional injury. Contact the National SAFEKIDS Campaign for coalitions near you and for materials on safety in winter and summer activities, water, poisons, toys, firearms, sports, school and playground, and information on product recalls. (See Resources)
- o Become aware of hazardous product recalls by contacting the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. For a listing of recent recalls, send a postcard to Recall List, CPSC, Washington, DC 20207. Be sure to identify yourself as a GFWC club member. Remind members of local hazardous product collection sites and collection dates so that they can safely remove these products from their homes. Publicize local hazardous product collection sites and dates. (See Resources).



WHEN IT WAS LAUNCHED IN 1975, GFWC's Hands Up program was the largest and most involved project undertaken by the Federation. GFWC received a major grant from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration at the U.S. Department of Justice to help launch the community safety program.





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- o Participate in the CPSC Recall Round-Up, presented annually in the spring. Work with local and state officials and safety organizations.

HOME SAFETY

- o Take advantage of the opportunity to reduce calls from telemarketers by registering online at www.DoNotCall.gov or calling toll free 888/382-1222. Registration is free.
- o Work with your local fire department or hospital community liaison to hold a fire safety awareness day for children and parents. Include topics such as home fire drills, what to do once you've escaped a burning structure, residential sprinklers, safe storage of combustibles and special concerns for children and older adults.
- o Investigate toy safety and recent recalls by visiting the Consumer Product Safety Commission at www.CPSC.gov
- o Set up an awareness campaign to remind community members to change batteries in smoke detectors when clocks change back to standard time.
- o Obtain fact sheets from the United States Fire Administration. Titles include: "Fire Safety During or After a Natural Disaster," "Bedroom Fire Safety," "Fireplaces," "Electrical Fires," "Rural Fire Prevention," and "Holiday Fire Prevention". (See Resources)
- o Present a First Aid and CPR class at a club program. Work with a local hospital or health clinic.
- o Work with your local Office of Aging or Senior Center to present a community forum on safety for older persons. Contact the Center for Disease Control's SAFE USA office and the AARP for information on how to obtain materials on a variety of safety concerns for seniors. (See Resources)
- o Get involved in food safety. Visit www.FoodSafety.gov for information from handwashing to packing a safe lunch.
- o Visit www.FSIS.USDA.gov for information about salmonella, safe handling of take-out food, and keeping food safe during an emergency.
- o Distribute the Food Safety Quiz for Kids at PTA meetings or at local schools. Visit www.FoodSafety.gov for this and other activities.

VEHICLE SAFETY

- o Find out about your state's current legislation regarding double and triple trailer trucks and longer single trailer trucks on state highways. If larger trucks are permitted, work with your state legislators to tighten regulations or cap weight and sizes allowed. If larger trucks are not permitted, work with your federal legislators to support freezes in truck weight and length on Federal Highway System roads.
- o Find out if your local law enforcement agency and fire/rescue personnel have taken courses in the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration Child Passenger Safety training. If not, provide information on the need for training and how it can be obtained, including sources of possible subsidies to reduce costs to participants. (See Resources).
- o Order the poster "Growing Up with Safety" from the National Safety Council. Give to a teacher or bring to a class for a discussion period. (See Resources)
- o Promote the proper use of child safety and booster seats. Booster seats are for children between 40 and 80 pounds and under 4'9" tall. These generally are children from ages four to nine who are too small to be properly protected by adult seatbelts but are too big for child safety seats. Provide information to low-income parents who can apply to the United Way for free seats donated by Ford Motor Company.





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- o Hold public awareness events such as a fitting station for safety and booster seats during the National Safety Council's Child Passenger Safety Week, the week of February 14. (See Resources)
- o Invite a speaker from the AARP to educate your members and their parents about the 55ALIVE/Mature Driving Program. (See Resources)
- o Find out if your state has a high incidence of accidents and fatalities among young drivers. If so, work with state legislators to tighten laws regarding requirements before a new driver can obtain a license. Work with your local officials and schools to encourage driver training and safe driving seminars for young drivers. Contact NHTSA for statistical information on young driver licensing. (See Resources)
- o Promote the use of seat belts and work toward the passage of seat belt laws. (See Resources)

RESOURCES

AARP

601 E ST NW | Washington, DC 20049

P: 202/434-2067 | W: www.AARP.org

Contact: Deborah Russell | drussell@aarp.org

AARP is the nation's leading organization for people age 50 and older. It serves their needs and interests through information and education, advocacy, and community services that are provided by a network of local chapters and experienced volunteers throughout the country. Program materials may be obtained through their website or by telephone or letter. To locate a 55ALIVE/Mature Driving Program near you, call 888/227-7669.

COALITION AGAINST BIGGER TRUCKS, LLC

901 North Pitt ST, STE 310 | Alexandria, VA 22314

P: 888/CABT123 | F: 703/535-3322 | E: cabt@earthlink.net | W: www.CABT.org

The Coalition Against Bigger Trucks is a national, nonprofit grassroots organization with the single mission of preventing increases in truck size and weight because of safety, infrastructure, economic, and environmental concerns. The website provides maps showing truck size and weight restrictions by state, as well as current legislation information.

COUNCIL OF BETTER BUSINESS BUREAUS

4200 Wilson BLVD, STE 800 | Arlington, VA 22203

P: 703/276-0100 | F: 703/525-8277 | W: www.BBB.org

The Council is an umbrella organization for more than 180 Better Business Bureaus in the U.S. and Canada, which are supported by 230,000 local business members. The Council publishes wise buying tips booklets for consumers, business advisories for companies, and reference material for associations and advertising agencies. Write for a copy of the brochure, "Tips on Avoiding Telemarketing Fraud." (\$15 per 100). To find local Better Business Bureau information, go to www.BBB.org.





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FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Consumer Response Center | Washington, DC 20580

P: 202/382-4357 (FTC-HELP) | F: 202/326-2012 | W: www.FTC.gov

Contact: Stan Harewood

The responsibility of the FTC, in part, is to assist consumers and to ensure fair business practices are employed. The FTC offers a series of informational materials covering a variety of consumer issues, including cars, credit, health, homes and real estate, and sales practices. The FTC is also responsible for the National Do Not Call registry.

HEALTHY FAMILIES AMERICA

National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse

332 S. Michigan AVE, STE 1600 | Chicago, IL 60604-4357

P: 313/663-3520 | W: www.HealthyFamiliesAmerica.org

Contact: Claire Saura

An initiative under the partnership of the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse and Ronald McDonald House Charities, Healthy Families America strives to ensure that all new parents, particularly those facing the greatest challenges, receive the education and support they need with their newborns. Programs include building parenting skills and preventing childhood health problems, notably child abuse and neglect.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TOWN WATCH

1 Wynnewood RD, STE 102 PO BOX 303 | Wynnewood, PA 19096

P: 610/649-7055 | P: 800/NITE-OUT | F: 610/649-5456 | W: www.NATW.org

Contact: Matt Peskin, Executive Director | natwnno@aol.com

NATW is a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to the development and promotion of organized community crime prevention activities and to the groups and individuals participating in local crime watch efforts. NATW sponsors National Night Out, an annual crime and drug prevention event. It is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; generate support for and participation in local anti-crime efforts; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community relations; and send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back

NATIONAL CENTER FOR INJURY PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Unintentional Injury Prevention

MS K65 4770 Buford HWY NE | Atlanta, GA 30341-3724

P: 770/488-1506 | F: 770/488-1667 | E: ohcinfo@cdc.gov | W: www.CDC.gov/NCICP

The National Center for Injury Prevention and Control has information that relates to children and home safety.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN

Charles B. Wang International Children's Building, 699 Prince ST | Alexandria, VA 22314

P: 703/274-3900 | P: 800/843-5678 | F: 703/274-2200 | E: volunteer@ncmec.org | W: www.MissingKids.com

NCMEC is a private, nonprofit organization that provides services nationwide for families and professionals in the prevention of abducted, endangered and sexually-exploited children. It serves as a clearinghouse of information, operates a tipline, and offers training programs to law-enforcement and social service professionals.





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NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT INFORMATION

PO BOX 1182 | Washington, DC 20013-1182

P: 703/385-7565 | P: 800/394-3366 | W: www.CALIB.com/NCCANCH

The Clearinghouse serves as a national resource for the acquisition and dissemination of child abuse/neglect information. It develops publications and services to meet the needs of users.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE

332 S. Michigan AVE, STE 1600 | Chicago, IL 60604-4357

P: 312/663-3520 ext.141 | W: www.ChildAbuse.org

Contact: Erin Casey

With chapters in every state, NCPCA works to prevent child abuse. NCPCA provides a catalog of low-cost materials and a list of local chapters.

NATIONAL CONSUMERS LEAGUE

1701 K ST NW, STE 1200 | Washington, DC 20006

P: 202/835-3323 | F: 202/835-0747 | E: ncl@nclnet.org or info@nclnet.org | W: www.NCLNnet.org

Contact: Faith Silvers, Development Associate & Membership Coordinator

The League is a nonprofit consumer advocacy organization that represents consumers and workers on a variety of issues, including health care, food and drug safety, financial services, telecommunications, and fraud. The League operates the National Fraud Information Center hotline (800/876-7060), which provides consumers with accurate information on how and where to report fraud, and offers advice for consumers who seek information. The League also offers a variety of informational materials.

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON CHILD ABUSE AND FAMILY VIOLENCE

1155 Connecticut AVE NW, STE 400 | Washington, DC 20036

P: 202/429-6695 or 408/655-3145 | W: www.NCCAFV.org

Contact: Alan Davis, President

The Council serves as a referral to victims or others seeking information related to child abuse, domestic violence, or elder abuse. It provides free fact sheets.

NATIONAL CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

1000 Connecticut AVE NW, 13th FL | Washington, DC 20036

P: 202/261-4126 | F: 202/785-2134 | E: kdalferes@ncpc.org | W: www.NCPC.org

Contact: Kim Dalferes

NCPC is a nonprofit organization that works to enable people, acting individually and together, to reduce crime and build safer, more vital communities. NCPC offers a wide range of assistance in community crime prevention programs, including: training and technical assistance; educational materials, including books, brochures, posters, and reproducible materials; McGruff the Crime Dog; and locally-based demonstration programs as learning labs for effective prevention strategies.





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NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR VICTIM ASSISTANCE

1730 Park RD NW | Washington, DC 20010

P: 202/232-6682 | F: 202/462-2255 | E: nova@try-nova.org | W: www.Try-NOVA.org

NOVA is a private, nonprofit organization of victim and witness assistance practitioners, criminal justice professionals, researchers, former victims, and others committed to the recognition of victims' rights. NOVA offers information, referral, and advocacy services for crime victims and their helpers; provides training programs for victim assistance; and promotes public support for victims' rights and services.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

Consumer Division

PO BOX 8189 | Silver Spring, MD 20907-8189

P: 888/252-7751 | W: www.CDC.gov/SafeUSA

SAFE USA™ is a working alliance of major public and private partners dedicated to significantly reducing the high rate of injuries and deaths that occur annually in the United States.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

Office of Occupant Safety 400 7th ST SW, NRO-10 | Washington, DC 20590

P: 202/452-9488 | P: 800/327-4236 | W: www.NHTSA.DOT.gov/People

Contact: Eric Gaul

This division of the U.S. Department of Transportation is responsible for developing and implementing motor safety programs for the public. NHTSA increases public awareness through its regional offices and public service announcements.

NATIONAL SAFE KIDS CAMPAIGN

1301 Pennsylvania AVE NW, STE 1000 | Washington, DC 20004-1707

P: 202/662-0600 | W: www.SafeKids.com

A program of the Children's National Medical Center, the Campaign is the first nationwide childhood injury prevention campaign. With more than 300 coalitions in 50 states, the Campaign's long-term goals are to reduce the incidence of children injured or killed by avoidable circumstances.

NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL

Occupant Protection Programs

1025 Connecticut AVE NW, STE 1200 | Washington, DC 20036-5105

P: 202/296-6263 | F: 202/293-0032 | E: guzzettc@nsc.org | W: www.NSC.org

Contact: Carole S. Guzzetta, Director

The National Safety Belt Coalition, an affiliate of the National Safety Council, is a network of organizations and individuals who promote public awareness of the importance of safety belts, child safety seats, and air bags. The materials, activities, and programs focus on the correct use of occupant protection devices.





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U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Publication Request, Office of Information and Public Affairs | Washington, DC 20207

P: 800/638-2772 | E: publications@cpsc.gov | W: www.CPSC.gov

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission protects the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death from 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call CPSC's toll-free hotline. Free publications on a large variety of subjects are also available by writing to the address listed above. These publications describe some of the common hazards associated with the use of consumer products and recommend ways to avoid these hazards. All publications can be viewed on the website. Clubs may copy all materials.

U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION

Publications Center, 16825 S. Seton AVE | Emmitsburg, MD 21727

P: 301/447-1000 | P: 800/561-3356 | F: 301/447-1052 | W: www.USFA.FEMA.gov

The US Fire Administration is part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency whose mission is to reduce the number of deaths and economic losses resulting from fire and related emergencies. Customers can choose from over 200 free publications available through the Publications Center.

AWARDS

CLUBS

\$50 will be awarded annually to one club in the nation to recognize creativity in implementing an effective GFWC Focus on Community Safety Program. The award will be based on narratives. State GFWC Focus on Community Safety Program Chairmen should forward the winning state entry to the national GFWC Focus on Community Safety Program Chairman by March 15 of each year.

STATES

A GFWC certificate will be awarded to one state federation in each membership category to recognize outstanding achievement in the GFWC Focus on Community Safety Program. Award presentations will be made annually in honor of junior and general membership participation.

