Message From the Coordinator

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a safe and happy summer and that you thought of many ways to energize your chapters. Let’s make this year one of the best and busiest ever for the SADD program.

While you were taking a break from school, we were hard at work preparing for our 29th Annual SADD Leadership Conference. This year, the conference will be held Nov. 18-20 at the Hilton North Raleigh. This will be one of our most exciting and creative conferences yet. Bring your scrapbooks, posters, videos or other projects to share.

The best news about the conference is the price. The registration fee for the 2011 conference is the same as it was in 2010. Pricing information is available on the registration forms at www.ncsadd.org.

Additionally, we are to again offer scholarships to help you attend the conference. These opportunities are limited, so register early for consideration.

While we want you to have fun and enjoy the conference, it is first and foremost a prevention training retreat with the mission of equipping you with the skills needed to help your fellow students make better decisions about highway safety, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, teen pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, bullying/violence and other areas that present a challenge for youth. SADD chapter members serve as school-based prevention leaders, and the state conference will help you to become better leaders.

Who will be Advisor of the Year?

Don’t forget to nominate your advisor for the Advisor of the Year Award. Without the support and commitment of advisors, we could not have SADD chapters, and we could not have a conference. Show your appreciation by sending a one-page typed essay stating why you think your advisor deserves this honor. The nominations must be received by Oct. 31, 2011. The winner will be announced at conference. Email your entry to hsoutherland@ncsadd.org, or mail to:

Harriett Southerland
Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office
1319 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1319

Have you registered or reregistered your chapter this year? If you have not done so, please take care of this right away at www.sadd.org. If you registered in the past, you now need to reregister each new school year. That is the only way the North Carolina SADD office can know which schools are active. After registering, please send a note State Coordinator Harriett Southerland at hsoutherland@ncsadd.org. Be sure to state if any details have changes, such as advisor name or contact information.
The 2010 NC SADD Leadership Conference was one of our most successful ever. Our motto was “Saving Lives: One DECISION at a Time.”

Our banquet speaker was Milton “Big Milt” Creagh, national motivational/prevention speaker and former host of the PBS series, “Parenting Works.” He also made the award-winning docu-drama, “Masquerade: Unveiling Our Deadly Dance with Drugs and Alcohol.” Creagh talked about how contemporary music is sometimes used to influence young people to have a favorable attitude toward alcohol and drugs. We thank the Western Center for Prevention Resources for sponsoring his presentation.

Caroline Yarnell of Carrboro High School received the NC SADD Student of the Year Award. Carolina did an excellent job of leading the Student Advisory Board and representing her fellow SADD members. She also appeared on the OPEN/net TV program to educate the public about the SADD program.

The 2010-2011 Student Advisory Board did an excellent job in planning and assisting with the conference—from choosing the motto and picking the colors, to decorating for the banquet to loading up the van on Sunday afternoon. They were indispensable. They had Saturday planning meetings in Raleigh several times before conference, where they planned the activities while having fun and pizza.

If you are an active leader in your chapter, a positive role model, self motivated and have ideas to share, consider applying for the 2011-2012 Student Advisory Board.
(right) Taylor Logan, Kaylah Petterson and Kaylynn Newton demonstrate unacceptable conference behavior.

(left) Advisor Leandra Showalter (right) and the Cleveland High School delegation show off their custom SADD shirts and cool sunshades.

(left) The state coordinator and the Student Advisory Board cheer another successful conference. Clockwise from bottom left, Darian LaNeave, Wake Forest University; Taylor Logan, West Johnston High; Kaylah Patterson, Northeast Guilford High, Caroline Yamell (Student of the Year), Carrboro High; Travis Deckard, UNC-Wilmington; Andy Taylor, West Johnston High; Kaylynn Newton, Southwest Onslow High and Harriett Southerland, State Coordinator.

Visit ncyalo to see more photos.
Share Your Success

Let local SADD chapters throughout the state know what great work your chapter is doing in your school or community to prevent destructive decisions among youth. Don’t assume no one is interested in your activities. Sharing ideas and staying connected is the only way we can keep NC SADD strong and active.

Whether your SADD program is brand new or well established, we can all learn from each other. If you have an activity or project to share, send a photo and a summary to hsoutherland@ncsadd.org. We’ll share your news at the conference and may feature it in a future newsletter.

Hooray for Randolph County!

This summer, Randolph County announced that all of its middle and high schools would have SADD chapters, and the state coordinator has been working hard to get all the chapters set up. Let’s hope our other counties will follow Randolph County’s leadership in doing all they can to maintain the health and safety of our youth.

Don’t forget to register for the 2011 SADD Leadership Conference