

Safe Kids Savannah
Monthly meeting, January 13, 2009

Attendance:

Jimmy Brown, City of Tybee Island
Steve Davidson, SKGA and DHR
Yolanda Fontaine, HAS
Lisa Heusel, AWARE training Services
Wayne Ifill, Savannah Fire
Theresa Palmer, CC Aquatic Center
Mike Stubbs, BOE
Jennifer White, Starfish Aquatics
Joey Wright, SCMPD

Isabel Duque, Babies Can't Wait
Jane Garrison, CCHD
Alison Gramza, CCHD
Melanie Howard, Candler Hospital
Lisa Jordan, CC Extension Services
Sally Silberman, CC Health Department
Thandi Thurman-Beck, Amerigroup
Donna Williams, Amerigroup

Visitors/New members:

Elaine Bromley, Lisa Heusel's Mom
Gene Maxey, Metro Police Marine Patrol

Jane Love, MPC and new PACE chair
Rodney Reynolds, Metro Police Marine Patrol

1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:** Chairman Joey Wright welcomed members.

2. **Old Business**

- Update on **web site:** www.safekidssavannah.org is under construction
- **CPAT:** Coalition performance due Feb 2009 to SKUSA. Joey Wright read over the principles of performance required by Safe Kids USA. Jane Garrison will be completing the report.

3. **New Business**

- **Safe Kids Week, April 26-May 3** ("Raising Safe Kids...One Stage at a Time"): Member discussed possible events. Jane asked members to be considering possible programs for that week to promote injury prevention. If you are interested in chairing that committee, contact Alison or Jane to volunteer. Now is the time to begin our planning.
- **Summer Puppet Show** and Cultural Affairs Grant: We received \$5,000 grant that will fund 6 puppet shows to be held at Leisure Services summer camps. Dates are June 23, 24, 25, 26, 29 and 30 beginning at 10:00 AM. More details at we get closer to those dates. Angela Beasley's Puppet People will provide the show and Safe Kids volunteers will provide information from the Kids Don't Float Program.
- 'In with the new, out with the old' February program: **Alison Gramza will officially become the Safe Kids Coordinator effective February 1, 2009.** Jane asked for recommendations about letting the community know about the change. Sally Silberman will send out a press release. At the February 10 monthly meeting we will include this as part of the program.

4. **Reports**

- **Coordinator's report** Jane Garrison (353-3148 jbgarrison@dhr.state.ga.us)
 - **Leadership Conference SKGA:** January 26-27 in Atlanta. Four members will be attending-Alison Gramza, Jennifer White, Janice Bentley and Melanie Howard.
 - **SKGA reports:** Coalition Survey reports on our activities and safety equipment distribution. Coalition Inventory provides information and cost estimates of equipment and goods that we have in storage and at 420 Mall Blvd for tax reporting for Safe Kids Georgia.
 - **CDC report:** A copy of the report was attached to the December email with minutes. See the following web pages for more information on these important childhood injury prevention reports.
http://www.cdc.gov/safecchild/Child_Injury_Data.htm ,
http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/child/injury/world_report/en/
 - **Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act:** This federal law requires that thrift stores comply with federal standards related to lead and other recalls of consumer goods. See www.cpsc.gov for a summary of the law. Please advise any thrift stores you might visit or know about.
 - **Training opportunities:**
 - Georgia Center for Non-profits: Raising Money Smartly, January 28 (in Savannah)
 - Georgia Center for Non-profits: Developing a High Performing Board, March 3 (in Savannah)

- **Georgia Poison Center:** Instructor Training Program can be scheduled in local communities. Safe Kids Savannah has sponsored this every other year. Members discussed holding again this year. No decision was made.
 - 2009 National Injury and Violence Prevention Research Conference, March 5-6 in Atlanta.
 - **Savannah Sand Gnats** has invited us to set up an information booth at all of their Sunday afternoon games (9). Games begin at noon on April 13, May 3 and 24, June 14 and 28, July 19, Aug 7, 16 and 30. Members signed up to man the booths. Anyone else interested in helping can contact Alison or Jane. (It's more fun with 2 people.)
 - **Budget:** To date Safe Kids Savannah has designated funds totaling \$10,035.35. This includes \$6,154.13 for Buckle UP, \$1,853.04 for Walk This Way, \$2,028.18 for Kids Don't Float. This does not include the \$1,500 'Drain cover' grant nor the Puppet Show \$5,000 funds that will be deposited upon receipt. The funds from bear sales have not been totaled and do not show in this report. For a copy of the spreadsheet contact Jane.
- **Membership** Donna Williams (220-7571, dwilli@amerigroupcorp.com)
 - Donna reminded members to send in the **\$25 membership dues**. Copy of form is included with emailed minutes.
 - Also remember to call new members if you are a mentor or ask to **be a mentor for new members**.
- **Resource Development** Thandi Thurman-Beck (345-4483, tthurma@amerigroupcorp.com)
 - **Bear sales** continue. Return unsold bears to Alison at 420 Mall Blvd and continue to see any when you have the opportunity. We have collected over \$840 at this point.
 - Thandi asked members to begin collecting items for the 'Chinese Auction' that will be a part of the annual awards luncheon in May.
 - Thandi will be working on a '**dress down**' day with schools to raise awareness of Safe Kids, as well as additional funds.
 - Thandi will also be sending out letters to local businesses requesting support funds.
- **Public relations** Janice Bentley (350-8861, bentljal@memorialhealth.com)
 - **CDC Childhood Injury Report:** Patterns of Unintentional Injury was discussed as mentioned above. Janice was not feeling well and did not attend. Report was provided by Jane. Sally Silberman sent a press release to Savannah News, Coastal Family and TV stations.
- **Advocacy** Steve Davidson reporting as interim
 - Upcoming legislative session proposed legislation to include:
 - **Seat belt law** extended for trucks that would provide \$4 Million additional Federal dollars for GA
 - **'Young drivers' bill** to prohibit use of cell phones while driving
 - Joey Wright explained that a driver can be charged for a crash or some other violation if you can provide they were 'distracted' for example by cell phone use.
 - **Trauma Services** legislation information brochures were distributed.
 - Jane provided handout with contact information for GA legislators. Also see www.legis.state.ga.us
- **Fire** Kevin Tomko, Wayne Ifill reporting as interim
 - 200 Coloring books were provided to be used with the fire safety house. **Chevron Cars** sent these to all Safe Kids Coalitions. A children's page on fire safety is at www.chevroncars.com.
- **Occupant safety** Linda Denhardt (748-4374, nannyrn@aol.com)
 - **Opportunities for Child Passenger Safety Technicians. Volunteers needed.**
 - **Tuesday, Feb 3:** Car seat check and distribution at Wesley Community Center 9:30-11:00 with lunch provided—Sponsored by UPS and Safe Kids Georgia.
 - **Friday, Feb 13:** CEU credit 1.5 hr 'Introduction of new and review of current car seats'. Meet at Burlington Coat Factory children's department at 10:00. Also will provide Tech check-offs for car seat installations. Alison Gramza and Jane Garrison will be leading the 'class'.
 - **Saturday, Feb 14:** Car seat check event at Candler in the parking lot of JC Lewis Cancer Institute, 11:00AM until 3:00 PM. Lunch provided for volunteers. Set-up and takedown help is also appreciated. Thank you to Melanie Howard for arranging this annual event.
 - Distribution of prescription pads: We still have copies of these that Doctors may use to provide information on correct car seat for children. Come by the Safe Kids Office at 420 Mall Blvd to pick up.
 - Jane will be ordering 2008 LATCH books. Any Technician that would like to be included in the order can purchase the books at \$25 each. Contact Jane if you want a copy.

- **PACE** Alison Gramza (691-7445, amgramza@dhr.state.ga.us)
 - Michele Hartzell submitted **safe Routes to School grant to GA DOT**. Assistance for infrastructure needs around schools is being made available through federal funds. Schools that were included: White Bluff Elementary, Largo-Tibet Elementary, Garden City Elementary and Georgetown Elementary. Separate applications were submitted by Tybee Island for St. Michaels and Garden City for Gould Elementary. GA DOT handles the project, so there is no exchange of funds nor need for local construction over-site.
 - **New chairperson of PACE, Jane Love**, attended the meeting. John Bennett has stepped down after serving as interim for the past year. John has served in past years along with Joyce Baker. Jane is employed with MPC (Metropolitan Planning Commission) as transportation planner. She coordinated the recent FHA (Federal Highway Administration) workshop on pedestrian design that was attended by about 40 local municipality employees. We look forward to her work as chair of PACE.

- **Water Safety** Jennifer White (912 657-2280, jennifer.white@starfishaquatics.com)
 - **SKUSA advocacy grant for anti-vortex drain covers** was received in the amount of \$1,500. Environmental Health at the Chatham County Health Department will be working with local pool operators to provide needed information about Federal legislation requiring anti-vortex drain covers.
 - **Aquatic Center held a 'holiday swim event'** that was attended by 25 children and led by Theresa Palmer.
 - **A Water Safety Event will be held on May 16** at the Aquatic Center similar to the 'Make a Splash' program last year that was so successful.
 - **Kids Don't Float loaner boards** are still working well. Safe Kids USA is reapplying with the US Coast Guard for additional funding for the program. Mike Dick, a local firefighter, has suggested holding a spring and fall fishing tournament at Bull River Marina to raise funds for the program. He hopes that he and some other fire fighters will help to build additional loaner boards. A meeting will be held to begin making plans for this. Safe Kids Savannah budget still includes funds from the original grant. More details at next meeting.

- **Announcements**
 - **Danger Rangers** educational component is going out of business. You may still order safety materials and download some of the children's materials at <http://www.dangerrangers.com/>, but not much longer.
 - Amerigroup will be holding a **'Roll Out for Health'** at Star Castle in March. Agencies may set up booths with educational information. Contact Donna Williams at (220-7571, dwilli@amerigroupcorp.com) for more info.
 - Healthy Mother, Healthy Babies will hold a **health fair on March 28** at Savannah High.
 - **Baby Showers** will be held at Babys R Us throughout the coming year.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 10, 2009
 Community Room
 Southside Fire Department
 10703 White Bluff Road
 Savannah, GA 3106

PREVENTING ACCIDENTAL CHILDHOOD INJURIES

www.safekids.org
www.safekidssavannah.org

