

**Safe Kids Savannah**  
**Monthly meeting, February 10, 2009**

Attendance:

Janice Bentley, Trauma Services, Memorial	Jimmy Brown, City of Tybee Island
Sharon Carson, CCDFCS	Cathy Cribbs, ENA
Linda Denhardt, ENA	Isabel Duque, Babies Can't Wait
Kristi Emerson, Backus Children's Hospital	Jane Garrison, CCHD
Alison Gramza, CCHD	Michelle Hartzell, Savannah/Chatham Schools
Lisa Heusel, AWARE training Services	Melanie Howard, Candler Hospital
Casey Jones, WJCL/Advisory Board members	Penny Maggioni, R.O.C.K.
Karen Martin, United Community Bank	Lanie Peterson, Volunteer at-large
Johnnye Rogers, CCR & R	Mike Stubbs, Savannah/Chatham Schools
Thandi Thurman-Beck, Amerigroup	Jennifer White, Starfish Aquatics
Joey Wright, SCMPD	

Visitors/New members:

Linda Dorin, Savannah Red Cross	Tammie Graham, Candler Hospital
Amy Headrick, Savannah Red Cross	

- 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:** Chairman Joey Wright welcomed members. Chairman Wright introduced Alison Gramza as the new coordinator. Jane Garrison will continue with Safe Kids Savannah on a part-time basis.
- 2. Old Business**
  - Update on **web site:** [www.safekidssavannah.org](http://www.safekidssavannah.org) is now on-line. Jane Garrison asked that members visit and critique the site. Call her at 691-7445 or email any suggestions for improvements or changes. Links to member web-sites may be included, along with any up-coming events that members would like to publicize.
  - **Safe Kids Week will be celebrated April 26-May 3.** The theme is "Raising Safe Kids... Once Stage at a Time". Planning is underway for special events for that week. Any member agency that has something planned during that week is encouraged to include injury prevention as part of that event.
  - **Safe Gnats displays:** Several members signed up to help with displays at the Sunday afternoon baseball games. A full calendar will be placed on the web-site. Everyone is welcomed to volunteer and you get into the game free. 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.)
- 3. New Business**
  - **Safe Kids Savannah awarded Outstanding Coalition 2009 from Safe Kids Georgia:** Alison announced the award that our coalition received during the annual Safe Kids Georgia Leadership Conference. Janice Bentley, Melanie Howard, Jane Garrison and Alison Gramza attended the conference. Safe Kids Savannah was recognized by Mitch Stoeller, CEO of Safe Kids Worldwide, at the awards breakfast.
  - **Ninth Annual Essay Contest:** The Savannah/Chatham Schools will once again sponsor this annual essay contest for grades 4 and 5. Michele Hartzell will help to coordinate this through the Health and PE Department. Students will be asked to interview their parents about injury prevention. Safe Kids members will judge the entries. Winners will be recognized at our annual awards luncheon.
  - **CMN grant** was submitted by Kristi Emerson for Backus Children's Hospital. The grant will be used to print placemats for Carey Hilliard's restaurant. Kristi will be planning an art contest for elementary children with the winning designs to be used for the placemats. (Great work Kristi!)
- 4. Reports**
  - **Coordinator's report** Alison Gramza 912 353-3148, [amgramza@dhr.state.ga.us](mailto:amgramza@dhr.state.ga.us) )  
The following are events members may wish to participate in through a display table. Contact Alison for additional details.
    - **Teddy Bear Hospital:** Backus Children's Hospital will be holding this event on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM at the Hoskins Center on the Memorial Campus.
    - **Springfest:** This annual event will be held April 4 in the Cuyler-Brownsville neighborhood.
    - **West Broad YMCA Family Day** will be held on Saturday, April 25.
  - **Membership** Donna Williams (220-7571, [dwilli@amerigroupcorp.com](mailto:dwilli@amerigroupcorp.com) )
    - No report.

- **Resource Development** Thandi Thurman-Beck (345-4483, [tthurma@amerigroupcorp.com](mailto: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 \$1282 at this point.
  - **'Dress down' day** with schools is still being considered to raise awareness of Safe Kids, as well as additional funds. Cathy Cribbs suggested contacting Memorial Day School and Calvary for participation. Michelle Hartzell will consider sending information through the public school contact email. More details at the next meeting.
- **Public relations** Janice Bentley (350-8861, [bentlja1@memorialhealth.com](mailto:bentlja1@memorialhealth.com) )
  - **TV spots on WJCL:** Casey Jones, anchor at WJCL, is working on a weekly spot providing information on child health and safety to be sponsored by Safe Kids Savannah. Members were asked to consider Pediatricians that might be willing to be interviewed. One week will be reserved for injury prevention each month. Planning is under-way for this great public awareness opportunity.
- **Advocacy** vacant
  - Monday, February 23 is 'Trauma Day' at the Capital. Contact Janice Bentley for more details.
  - Handout with contact information for GA legislators. Also see [www.legis.state.ga.us](http://www.legis.state.ga.us)
- **Fire** Kevin Tomko, Wayne Ifill reporting as interim
  - No report.
- **Occupant safety** Linda Denhardt (748-4374, [nannyrn@aol.com](mailto:nannyrn@aol.com) )
  - **Opportunities for Child Passenger Safety Technicians. Volunteers needed.**
    - **Wednesday, Feb 11: Car Seat Distribution** at the Lady Bamford Center 7:30-9:30 AM.
    - **Thursday, Feb 12: Car seat** distribution at Wesley Community Center 7:30-9:30AM
    - **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.
- **PACE** Jane Love (651-1443, [lovej@thempc.org](mailto:lovej@thempc.org) )
  - Alison Gramza reported for Jane Love. Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at noon in the library of First Presbyterian Church on Washington Street.
- **Water Safety** Jennifer White (912 657-2280, [jennifer.white@starfishaquatics.com](mailto:jennifer.white@starfishaquatics.com) )
  - **SKUSA advocacy grant for anti-vortex drain covers** was received in the amount of \$1,500. A meeting was held with Environmental Health at the Chatham County Health Department who will be working with local pool operators to provide needed information about Federal legislation requiring anti-vortex drain covers. A press conference is planned, no date set, as well as a community workshop. Environmentalist will be surveying public pool owners during their annual pool inspections. Compliance with the federal law that was effective December 08 has been difficult due to back orders for the pool drain covers, as well as for pools that have custom drains.
  - **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, is planning a spring and fall fishing tournament at Bull River Marina to raise funds for the program. Part of the funds may also be used if needed for the Fire Safety House.
  - Jennifer will be attending the National Drowning Prevention conference in Miami next week.

**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](http://www.safekids.org)  
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