

Pennsylvania Teen Safe Driving Resource Guide

In partnership with PennDOT
and the PA DUI Association

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Introduction

Car crashes are the leading cause of death for Pennsylvania teens. According to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), there were 27 fatalities in crashes involving 16 and 17-year-old drivers and 22,712 16 to 20-year-olds were involved in reportable crashes on the Commonwealth's roadways in 2013.¹

Additionally, despite a statewide law banning alcohol consumption by anyone under 21 years of age, 19% of drivers in the 16-20 age group were drinking drivers.²

What's driving these numbers? While many teens crash because of risk-taking, most crashes occur because the novice behind the wheel doesn't have the skills or experience needed to recognize a hazard and take corrective action. Researchers at the Center for Injury Research and Prevention at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia point to driver error as the most prevalent reason for teen crashes with recognition (i.e., inadequate surveillance, distraction) and decision errors (i.e., following too closely, driving too fast for conditions) topping the list.³

This inability to recognize danger and respond accordingly is prompted by brain development. The part of the teen brain that controls impulse, decision making and judgment – the prefrontal cortex – isn't fully developed until the early to mid-twenties.⁴ This explains why teens are "high-risk" rather than "bad" drivers; they're hampered by biology and inexperience.

Pennsylvania, like the other 49 states, is addressing teen driver safety by enacting graduated driver license or GDL laws. This three-stage licensing system includes a learner or supervised practice driving stage, a junior license (intermediate) stage that allows for unsupervised driving but includes restrictions that address risk, and a full licensure stage where all provisions are lifted. GDL works – research shows it cuts crashes 20 to 40%⁵ – because it gets to the heart of why teens crash and die on our roadways by:

- **delaying full licensure (a good thing because of the developmental, behavioral and experiential issues described above);**
- **limiting passengers and banning texting (key sources of teen distraction);**
- **keeping teens off the road late at night (when they're likely to be fatigued and/or joyriding); and**
- **requiring seat belt use (critical due to teens' elevated crash risk and the lifesaving benefit of proper restraint).**

Pennsylvania strengthened its GDL law in 2011 to include additional practice hours during the learner's permit stage (65 hours, 10 at night and 5 in inclement weather), a limit on teen passengers (no more than one under 18 years of age during the first six months of junior licensure) and a primary seat belt requirement for the driver and all passengers under 18.⁶ An all-driver texting ban also went into effect in March 2012.

Building upon Pennsylvania's GDL and texting laws, PennDOT partnered with the PA DUI Association to develop this online teen safe driving resource guide. At the heart of this document is a matrix of teen safe driving-related resources currently available in the Commonwealth ranging from websites, printed materials and facilitated programs, to simulators, behind the wheel training, workshops, and school-based initiatives. These resources were identified through a survey of more than 1,000 individuals working in the traffic safety and public health sectors, and through interviews and on-line research.

It should be noted that the guide is not all-inclusive and no resource was

¹ Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. (2014). 2013 Crash Facts & Statistics. Harrisburg, PA. Retrieved from <http://www.dot.state.pa.us/Internet/Bureaus/pdBHSTE.nsf/InfoFb13?OpenForm>

² Ibid.

³ Curry, A. E., Hafetz, J., Kallen, M. J., Winston, F. K., & Durbin, D. R. (2011). Prevalence of teen driver errors leading to serious motor vehicle crashes. Center for Injury Research and Prevention, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA.

⁴ Shope, J. T. (2006). Influences on youthful driving behavior and their potential for guiding interventions to reduce crashes. *Injury Prevention*, 9-14. (DOI: 10.1136/ip.2006.011874).

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Teen Driver Law [Web document], Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Harrisburg, PA. Retrieved from [http://www.justdrivepa.org/Resources/Teen%20Driver%20Law%20\(June%2012\).pdf](http://www.justdrivepa.org/Resources/Teen%20Driver%20Law%20(June%2012).pdf)



intentionally excluded. However, emphasis was given to listing Pennsylvania-based resources as well as resources with a national scope that either feature state-specific information and/or are delivered/sponsored by a Pennsylvania-based entity. The matrix provides key information (i.e., program type, audience and geographic area served, cost) as well as a web link and/or contact to help parents, teens, law enforcement, elected officials, community members, traffic safety activists, and others take advantage of these resources.

The matrix also indicates whether a resource is evaluated – an essential aspect of an effective intervention. Evaluation should be ongoing and assess whether a program is achieving the desired outcomes so that it can be tweaked or retooled as needed. But even more important, evaluation should be conducted to ensure that the program is doing good not harm. For purposes of this guide, evaluation is segmented into three types – simple, experimental and controlled.

Simple evaluation includes pre-surveys or tests to gauge participants' current knowledge and/or behaviors prior to participating in a program and a post-

test at the conclusion to determine if their understanding and/or intentions changed. This is a simple, low-cost way to assess if the information provided is resonating with the participants and possibly prompting future action. It's important to note, however, that a change in knowledge, beliefs and intentions is a helpful metric, but not a guarantee of the desired behavior change.

An experimental evaluation typically includes pre- and post-tests coupled with a follow-up survey three and/or six months after completing the intervention to confirm if participants' change in knowledge and/or behavior is lasting. A controlled evaluation involves comparing teens who participated in an intervention with teens who didn't (a control group) to fully understand impact. Researchers are likely to compare the participant and non-participants' knowledge and behavior changes, along with crash and violation data. Securing the latter, however, can sometimes be difficult due to privacy issues, cost and access.

As the matrix illustrates, traffic safety and public health officials, driver educators and victim advocates are using multiple strategies to help teens (and their parents) recognize the awesome

responsibility that comes with obtaining a drivers license. While there is no inoculation against crashes, helping teens understand the tremendous risk they face during their early years of licensure, and how and why graduated driver licensing works to address that risk, have been identified as key elements of an effective intervention. At the same time, ensuring that families recognize that Pennsylvania's GDL law sets minimum rather than maximum standards is also critically important.

Immediately following the matrix, you'll find additional information about some of these resources. Those highlighted include new, cutting-edge and/or model programs as well as one-of-a-kind initiatives that are showing through data analysis and/or peer reviewed research showing promising results. Additionally, many of these programs include a discussion about teen crash risk and graduated driver licensing as critical components. None of the featured resources, along with the others listed in the matrix, however, are endorsed by PennDOT or the PA DUI Association.

To ensure that the resource guide is current, annual updates are planned.

Organizations interested in having their teen safe driving resource considered for inclusion in the next edition of this guide, should contact Felicity DeBacco Erni, Project Director, at 717-238-4354 or fdebacco@padui.org. Guide users are also encouraged to contact Felicity if they encounter a problem accessing any of the resources listed in this current edition.

Mile for mile teens are involved in three times as many fatal crashes as all other drivers.⁷ But there is good news – fatalities involving 16 and 17-year-old drivers in the Keystone State are the lowest on record. Teen driving, however, remains a priority for PennDOT, the PA DUI Association and their many safety partners who recognize that further reductions can only be achieved and sustained through a comprehensive program. Working collaboratively, government, law enforcement, non-profit, and private sector organizations across the state are dedicating significant resources to not only educate teens, parents and all roadway users about the risks for novice drivers, but also to enforcing lifesaving laws. Recognizing that no death is acceptable, they're committed to ensuring that all Pennsylvania teens survive their most dangerous driving years. ●

⁷ Insurance Institute for Highway Safety/Highway Loss Data Institute. (2014). Teenagers. Driving means extra risk for teens [Web page]. Arlington, VA. Retrieved from <http://www.iihs.org/iihs/topics/t/teenagers/fatalityfacts/teenagers>



About the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) is directly responsible for the identification of roadway safety issues related to both driver behavior and roadway improvements. To address the constant demand of evolving highway safety concerns, PennDOT develops multiple plans throughout the year that collectively make up the Highway Safety Plan. PennDOT's problem identification and performance target-setting processes, performance targets and measures, and strategies help to achieve a shared goal of fatality and crash reduction on the Commonwealth's roadways. The vision of PennDOT is to provide the safest roadways possible so that everyone arrives safely at their destinations. The mission is to improve highway safety by developing, promoting and implementing education, enforcement, engineering, and emergency services strategies. PennDOT fulfills its mission through a variety of public information, education and enforcement efforts. For more information, visit www.justdrivepa.org and www.dmv.state.pa.us/centers/TeenDriversCenter.shtml.

About the Pennsylvania DUI Association

Established in 1979, the Pennsylvania Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Association is a non-profit, professional organization working to address the DUI problem in all of its many stages from prevention and enforcement to adjudication and rehabilitation. The association provides information, direction, training, technical assistance, and support to highway safety professionals with the goal of eliminating impaired driving and the harm it causes. Through its efforts, the PA DUI Association is creating a healthier and safer environment for all people in the Commonwealth. For more information, visit www.padui.org.



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Print & Online Resources	Format ● Print ● Online	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
The Parents Supervised Driving Program Handbook & RoadReady Mobile App	● ●	Permitted teens & their permits	Statewide	Easy-to-follow guide that's provided to each teen with their learner's permit and at driver license centers to help parents help their teens become safe, responsible drivers. The mobile app, which can be downloaded, enables parents to track their teen's practice drive times and training progress.	Yes <i>(Experimental)</i>	Free	Year-round	Safe Roads Alliance, State Farm Insurance, Sheetz & PennDOT	Jan McKnight itmcknight@pa.gov 717-787-0485
JustDrivePA.com	●	Teens, parents & the general public	Statewide	Young driver information center addresses PA's teen driving law, parent/teen contracts, the zero tolerance law, and offers tips for parents and teens. Information may be downloaded and printed.	No	Free	Year-round	PennDOT	ra-penndotpress@pa.gov 717-783-8800
PA Driver's License Practice Test App	●	Pre-permit/ permitted teens & the general public	Statewide	Available for iOS and Android platforms, this app features a realistic representation of PennDOT's actual driver's knowledge test. Download practice questions to prepare for the exam or refresh your knowledge and become a better driver. The app also features information to help drivers stay safe and be informed on the road.	No	Free	Year-round	PennDOT	Jan McKnight itmcknight@pa.gov 717-787-0485
PA Teen Driver License Plate	●	Teens & their parents	Statewide	An optional tool for parents and guardians to use to alert other drivers that a teen is behind the wheel. The plate design reflects the "Family of Plates" color scheme of blue, white and yellow, but also features an inverted triangle in red with the words "Teen Driver" in yellow and "Please Be Courteous" in blue on the sides of the left and right sides of the triangle.	No	\$20	Year-round	PennDOT	Jan McKnight itmcknight@pa.gov 717-787-0485



Print & Online Resources	Format ● Print ● Online	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
Safe Driving Guide for Teens & Parents	● ●	Pre-permit/ permitted teens & their parents	Statewide	Designed for distribution by pediatricians, the colorful folder which includes tip cards addressing communication, practice driving, overcoming the risks, and graduated driver licensing, plus a parent/teen driving agreement and driving log, can now be ordered and/or downloaded directly by families.	No	Free	Year-round	PA Traffic Injury Prevention Project, American Academy of Pediatrics & PA DUI Association	Angela Osterhuber <i>PA TIPP</i> aosterhuber@paaap.org 494-446-3008 Felicity DeBacco Erni <i>PA DUI Assoc.</i> fdebacco@padui.org 717-238-4354
Mobile App - Driving Log & Teen/Parent Agreement	●	Pre-permit/ permitted teens & their parents	Statewide	Track and save driving progress through multiple lessons designed to ensure teens fulfill the junior permit requirements in preparation to drive. Create and save online an agreement outlining driving rules, privileges and consequences.	No	Free	Year-round	PA Traffic Injury Prevention Project, American Academy of Pediatrics & PA DUI Association	Angela Osterhuber <i>PA TIPP</i> aosterhuber@paaap.org 494-446-3008 Felicity DeBacco Erni <i>PA DUI Assoc.</i> fdebacco@padui.org 717-238-4354
teendriversource.org	●	Teens, parents, educators, policymakers, researchers	Nationwide	This award-winning site offers the latest evidence-based information and tools to help prevent teen driver crashes, including fact sheets and other resources for parents, teens, educators, policymakers, and researchers. Information may be downloaded and printed.	No	Free	Year-round	Center for Injury Research & Prevention at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	Christine Norris norrisc@email.chop.edu 609-206-2839
Enhancing Education to Keep Teens Safe on the Road (Parent & Teen Modules/Resources)	●	Educators (for use with parents & teens)	Nationwide	Research-based PowerPoints, facilitator guides and handouts which may be downloaded and used by educators to inform parents and teens about the leading public health threat to teens – car crashes.	Yes (Meets <i>National Education Standards</i>)	Free	Year-round	Center for Injury Research & Prevention at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	Christine Norris norrisc@email.chop.edu 609-206-2839



Print & Online Resources	Format ● Print ● Online	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
DriveItHome.org	●	Parents	Nationwide	The website discusses the risk for teen drivers and features numerous resources for parents including a digital driving coach, blogs, videos, a sample contract (which is downloadable) and more. It also promotes information sharing between parents to help them help their teens.		Free	Year-round	National Safety Council, Allstate Foundation, GM Foundation, Toyota, AT&T Foundation	parentinfo@driveithome.org
Road Ahead	● ●	School counselors, driver educators, parents, teens	Erie, Crawford, Mercer, Forest, Warren & Venango Counties (<i>may be localized for use in other counties</i>)	This hardcopy and digital newsletter highlights teen driving programs, tips, new laws, and other safe driving information and is mailed to school counselors, driver educators, libraries, and driver license centers.	No	Free	Monthly	PennDOT Engineering District 1-0	Marianne Warner mawarner@pa.gov 814-678-5035
Keys2Drive	●	Parents, teens	Nationwide	The AAA website features a range of tools to help parents and teens throughout the entire learning to drive process from choosing a driving school to deciding when solo driving is permitted. Also addresses PA's graduated driver license and is home to the online version of the <i>Dare to Prepare</i> workshop for pre-permit teens and their parents.	No	Free (<i>some services referenced on the site are fee-based</i>)	Year-round	AAA	



Print & Online Resources	Format ● Print ● Online	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
Impact Teen Drivers	●	Parents, teens, educators, advocates	Nationwide	A facilitated evidence-based program that uses teen-targeted videos, interactive materials such as the probability wheel (reveals your chances of being involved in a crash based on various forms of distraction), presentations, posters, lesson plans, activity outlines, PSAs, social media, and more to empower teens to take control of protecting themselves and their friends when they're on the road. Some materials may be downloaded and reproduced, others must be ordered.	Yes (<i>Simple, Experimental & Control</i>)	Free	Year-round	Impact Teen Drivers	Felicity DeBacco Erni fdebacco@padui.org 717-238-4354 Kelly Browning info@impactteendrivers.org 916-733-7432
National Teen Driver Safety Week (NTDSW)	●	Teens, parents, educators, advocates	Nationwide	Conducted annually during the third week of Oct., NTDSW calls attention to the increased crash risk for teen drivers. Download materials to plan an event to educate parents, teens, community members, and the media.	Yes (<i>Number of Participants & Media Coverage</i>)	Free	Materials available year-round and updated annually	Center for Injury Research & Prevention at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	Christine Norris norrisc@email.chop.edu 609-206-2839



Community-Based Educational Programs	Format	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
Dare to Prepare	Workshop	Pre-permit teens & their parents	Berks County	The facilitated program focuses on the importance of parental involvement, why teens crash, graduated driver licensing, vehicle selection, parent-teen driving agreements, and more. A AAA membership is not required to participate.	Yes (<i>Simple</i>)	Free	Twice per quarter	AAA Reading-Berks	Cheryl Gouker cgouker@aaardgberks.com 610-374-4531, X7117
			Lancaster, Mifflin, Juniata, Huntingdon, Cumberland, Perry, Dauphin, Adams & Lebanon Counties					AAA Central Penn	Marge Weinlein drivingschool@aaacp.com 717-898-6900, X2239
			Lehigh and parts of Carbon, Chester, Montgomery & Northampton Counties					AAA East Central	Theresa Podguski tpodguski@aaaec.com 610-434-5141 (ask for Safety Dept.)
			Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Blair, Cameron, Clarion, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Fayette, Forest, Greene, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, Mercer, McKean, Northumberland, Union, Venango, Washington, Westmoreland, Warren & parts of Cambria, Snyder & Somerset Counties					AAA East Central	Terry Rae Anthony tanthony@aaaec.com 412-365-7211 (ask for Safety Dept.)



Community-Based Educational Programs	Format	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
AAA Teen Driving Programs	Presentations, programs, competitions, expos, summits	High school & college students	Lehigh County & parts of Carbon, Chester, Montgomery & Northampton Counties	Presentations addressing distracted driving, seat belts and air bags, defensive driving, and alcohol and driving are available as well as mock crashes, alcohol-free mix-offs, driving competitions, and driving expos and summits.	No	Free	Upon request	AAA East Central	Theresa Podguski tpodguski@aaaec.com 610-434-5141 (ask for Safety Dept.)
			Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Blair, Cameron, Clarion, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Fayette, Forest, Greene, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, Mercer, McKean, Northumberland, Union, Venango, Washington, Westmoreland, Warren & parts of Cambria, Snyder & Somerset Counties		No	Free	Upon request	AAA East Central	Terry Rae Anthony tanthony@aaaec.com 412-365-7211 (ask for Safety Dept.)
Survive UR Drive	Workshop	Teens 14-17 years of age	Bucks County	An interactive teen designed program that teaches new or soon-to-be licensed drivers responsible behind-the-wheel behavior. Discusses in graphic detail the consequences of underage drinking, distracted driving and other risky behaviors through first-person accounts and a hands-on demonstration.	Yes (<i>Experimental</i>)	Free	Twice per year	Central Bucks Family YMCA	Rachel Mauer rmauer@cbfymca.org 215-348-8131, X1167



Community-Based Educational Programs	Format	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
Reality Education for Drivers (RED)	Workshop	Pre-permit & newly licensed teens with their parents (<i>parent or guardian must attend if teen is under 18</i>). Some teens with moving violations are referred by a district justice.	Allegheny, Butler, Beaver, Westmoreland, Washington, & Armstrong Counties	An interactive, 5-hour program about the realities of motor vehicle crashes presented in a hospital setting by trauma, social service and legal officials, and a crash victim living with the consequences of his actions. Education coupled with simulation and discussion are used to engage the attendees.	Yes (<i>Simple, Controlled</i>)	Free	Three times per year (<i>March, June, August</i>)	Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC	Chris Vitale christine.vitale@chp.edu 412-692-8229
End Distracted Driving (EndDD)	Workshop/presentation	Teens, college students, parents	Nationwide	Scripted, scientifically-based powerpoint presentation, developed with guidance from The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, addressing the dangers of distracted driving that is ready for download and use by law enforcement, traffic safety professionals, community groups, students, and educators. Presentations are given by a network of trained volunteer speakers many of whom are trial lawyers. The program is designed to engage audiences and encourage attitude and behavior change.	Yes (<i>Simple</i>)	Free	Upon request	Casey Feldman Foundation/ EndDD.org	Joel Feldman info@endDD.org 215-285-9145



Community-Based Educational Programs	Format	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
Teen Driving Education Class	Workshop	Teens 16-19 years of age cited for a moving violation (<i>referred by judges</i>) & their parents, other teens also welcome	Dauphin, Cumberland & Lebanon Counties	An interactive, 4-hour program for high-risk teen drivers and their parents about the realities of motor vehicle crashes presented by trauma, social service and legal officials, and a crash victim living with the consequences of his actions. Education coupled with simulation and discussion is used to engage the attendees.	Yes (<i>Experimental</i>)	\$50	Four times per year	Penn State Hershey Medical Center	Beverly Shirk bshirk1@hmc.psu.edu 717-531-3885
<u>Owen's Foundation</u>	Speaker presentation	Tweens, teens, college students, adults	Dauphin, Cumberland & Lancaster Counties	The tragic death of 8-year-old Owen Brezitski, killed in 2011 by a 17-year-old distracted driver, is the genesis of the foundation's mission and message which focuses on pedestrians, drivers and traffic safety. Community presentations feature discussion, statistics and a short video that brings Owen to life.	No	Free	Upon request	Owen's Foundation (<i>Karen & Mike Brezitski</i>)	Karen Brezitski orange4owen@comcast.net 717-652-4535
<u>What Do You Consider Lethal? (WDYCL)</u>	Workshop	Teens	Statewide	The 60-minute facilitated program is designed to start a dialogue among teens and encourage them to leverage positive peer pressure to make good decisions when on the road by using stories of real teens and their families.	Yes (<i>Simple, Experimental & Controlled</i>)	Free	Upon request through a network of 500 facilitators	PA DUI Association, Impact Teen Drivers	Felicity DeBacco Erni fdebacco@padui.org 717-238-4354 Kelly Browning info@impactteendrivers.org 916-733-7432



Community-Based Educational Programs	Format	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
What Do You Consider Lethal? (WDYCL)	Workshop	Parents & Teens	Statewide	The 90-minute facilitated program combines the WDYCL presentation with strategies for parents, including information on graduated driver licensing laws and open discussion.	Yes (<i>Simple</i>)	Free	Upon request through a network of 500 facilitators	PA DUI Association, Impact Teen Drivers	Felicity DeBacco Erni fdebacco@padui.org 717-238-4354 Kelly Browning info@impactteendrivers.org 916-733-7432
DUI Safety Bug	Hands-on demonstration	Fully licensed teens	Statewide	A custom VW engineered to demonstrate the loss of control when operating a motor vehicle while impaired. The key difference is that it's the car – not the driver – who is drunk simulating a real-life experience without the risk.	No	Please contact for information and fees	Upon request	PA DUI Association	Liane Petras lpetras@padui.org 717-238-4354
PA Teen Safe Driving Coalition	Programs, resources, workshops	Teens, parents, advocates, community members	Statewide	Works to help teens build skill and minimize the risk associated with driving through the proven principles of graduated driver licensing.	No	Free	Year-round	PA DUI Association	Felicity DeBacco Erni fdebacco@padui.org 717-238-4354



Community-Based Educational Programs	Format	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
Community Traffic Safety Programs	Workshops, in-school programs, simulators, training, materials	High school students, parents, driver education teachers, community members	Statewide <i>(by regions)</i>	Serving the state through six regions, the CTSPs provide teen safe driving programs, resources, speakers, and more.		Free	Year-round	PennDOT & numerous local government/non-profit partners	
			Chester County	Chester County Highway Safety Program	N/A	Free	Year-round	District Attorney's Office of Chester County	Lori Aguilera laguilera@chesco.org 610-344-5557
			Philadelphia County	Street Smart	N/A	Free	Year-round	Phila. Health Management Corporation	Donna Ferraro <i>(Phila)</i> donna@phmc.org 215-985-2534 Suzanne Kubiak <i>(Delaware County)</i> skubiak@phmc.org 215-985-2583
			Bucks County	Bucks County Transportation Management Association	N/A	Free	Year-round	Bucks County TMA	Katherine Olson kathy@bctma.com 215-343-4264
			Delaware County	Delaware County Transportation Management Association	N/A	Free	Year-round	Delaware County TMA	Lauren Amway lamway@dctma.org 610-892-9440
			Montgomery County	Montgomery County Highway Safety Project	N/A	Free	Year-round	Montgomery County Health Dept.	Katie Kucz kkucz@montcopc.org 610-278-5117



Community-Based Educational Programs	Format	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
Community Traffic Safety Programs	Workshops, in-school programs, simulators, training, materials	High school students, parents, driver education teachers, community members	Adams, Lancaster, Lebanon & York Counties	Center for Traffic Safety (<i>seat belt challenge & teen safe driving competitions, Traffic Safety Jeopardy, Teen Safe Driving Committee</i>)	Yes (<i>Simple for select programs</i>)	Free	Year-round		Wayne Harper dwharper@yorkcounty.org Laura Fagan fagan500@comcast.net Barbara Zortman barbzortman@gmail.com 717-840-2330 800-955-7233
			Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin & Perry Counties	South Central PA Highway Safety (<i>high school teen driving presentations [several meet science teaching standards], seat belt challenge, teen safe driving competition</i>)	Yes (<i>Simple for select programs</i>)	Free	Year-round	American Trauma Society	Robb Mott romott@atspa.org 717-766-1616 800-822-2358
			Berks, Carbon, Monroe, Schuylkill, Northampton & Lehigh Counties	North Central Highway Safety Network (<i>high school teen driving presentations, seat belt challenge</i>)	Yes (<i>Simple for select programs</i>)	Free	Year-round	North Central Highway Safety Network	Mark Alonge malonge@nchsn.org Carol Alonge calonge@nchsn.org Joe O'Donnell jodonell@nchsn.org Robin Rivera rrivera@nchsn.org 570-628-2414



Community-Based Educational Programs	Format	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
Community Traffic Safety Programs	Workshops, in-school programs, simulators, training, materials	High school students, parents, driver education teachers, community members	Columbia, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Sullivan & Union Counties	Community Traffic Safety Project	N/A	Free	Year-round	North Central Highway Safety Network	Bob Schaeffer bschaeffer@nchsn.org 570-628-2414
			Bradford, Lycoming & Tioga Counties	Community Traffic Safety Project	N/A	Free	Year-round	ChiliTech Network Services	Chris Smith comphwy@chilitech.net 570-433-0820
			Luzerne, Susquehanna, Wayne & Wyoming Counties	Northeast Regional Highway Safety Project (<i>driving simulators, high school teen driving presentations</i>)	Yes (<i>Simple for select programs</i>)	Free	Year-round	Catholic Social Services	Rebecca Rybak rrybak@csswb.org 570-829-3489, X337
			Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon & Somerset Counties	Cambria Allegheny Regional Highway Safety Network	N/A	Free	Year-round	Cambria County	Rick Speicher rspeicher@co.cambria.pa.us 814-472-4887
			Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Elk, Clinton, Juniata, McKean, Potter & Mifflin Counties	Central PA Highway Safety Network	N/A	Free	Year-round	North Central Highway Safety Network	Dave Toohey dtoohey@nchsn.org 814-355-7598
			Crawford, Erie, Forest, Mercer, Venango & Warren Counties	Northwest Regional Highway Safety Network (<i>simulators</i>)	No	Free	Year-round	Erie County Dept. of Health	Geoffrey Crankshaw gcrankshaw@ecdh.org 814-451-6549 800-662-7274



Community-Based Educational Programs	Format	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
Community Traffic Safety Programs	Workshops, in-school programs, simulators, training, materials	High school students, parents, driver education teachers, community members	Allegheny, Beaver & Lawrence Counties	Allegheny County Health Department Community Highway Safety Project (Youth Traffic Safety Advisory Council, annual YIELD peer-to-peer conference, seat belt challenge, Sci-Tech Day at Carnegie Science Center, teen safe driving competition, teen safe driving presentations)	Yes (Simple for select programs)	Free	Year-round	Allegheny County Health Dept.	Nicole Barnett nbarnett@achd.net 412-247-7962
			Armstrong, Butler, Clarion, Indiana & Jefferson Counties	Indiana University of Pennsylvania Institute for Rural Public Health & Safety (teen safe driving presentations, teen driving competition, mock traffic courts & crashes, training guide for parents, safe driving awareness day, resources [brochures, posters, fatal vision goggles, National Guard pedal carts])	Yes (Simple for select programs)	Free	Year-round	IUP	Jeff Grim jgrim@iup.edu 724-357-4877
			Fayette, Greene, Washington & Westmoreland Counties	Southwest Regional Traffic Safety Network (Intermediate Unit #1 Youth Traffic Safety Council, seat belt challenge, teen safe driving competition, Teen Safe Driving Summit, simulators)	Yes (Simple for select programs)	Free	Year-round	North Central Highway Safety Network	Colleen Lantz clantz@nchsn.org 412-221-0244



School-Based Programs	Format	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
16 Minutes/Sixteen Minutes of Your Life	Individual or group presentation	Teens 16 years of age	Statewide	A 16 minute, one-on-one or small group meeting with a police officer the month a teen turns 16. The discussion focuses on youth inexperience, impaired driving, distraction caused by passengers, aggressive driving, seat belts, and more as well as the consequences of violating the law with a goal of strengthening respect and rapport.	Yes (<i>Simple, Experimental</i>)	Free	Upon request	Pennsylvania's Community Traffic Safety Projects, PennDOT, BuckleUp PA	North Cental Highway Safety Network 570-628-2416
Survival 101: A Student's Guide to Staying Alive	Classroom presentation	Middle & high school students	Statewide	This dynamic, hard-hitting multi-media program is designed to encourage appropriate decision making by teens. Police officers draw from their personal experiences to address seat belt use; impaired, distracted and drowsy driving; and real teen crashes and fatalities in a relatable way that reaches teens.	Yes (<i>Simple, Experimental</i>)	Free	Upon request	Pennsylvania's Community Traffic Safety Projects, PennDOT, BuckleUp PA	North Cental Highway Safety Network 570-628-2416
Teen Safe Driving Competition	Hands-on competition	Teens 15-18 years of age	Statewide	Schools select their "best" student drivers to compete in regional competitions that test their knowledge of the PA driver's manual, driving perception and behind the wheel abilities on a closed course. The top scorers from the regional contests advance to the state championship. All compete for scholarships and prizes.	No	Free	Annually	Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association, Pennsylvania's Community Traffic Safety Projects	Kevin Stewart kstewart@pmta.org 717-761-7122, X107



School-Based Programs	Format	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)	Club/Activity	High school students	Statewide	School-based, student-led chapters work to educate their peers about making healthy rather than destructive choices when it comes to using drugs, drinking alcohol and engaging in other risky behaviors.	No	Free	Year-round (schools are asked to register their SADD chapter)	PA DUI Association	Felicity DeBacco Erni fdebacco@padui.org 717-238-4354
Ride Like a Friend. Drive Like You Care. (RLAF)	Downloadable materials	High school students	Statewide & nationwide	This pre-designed, school-based campaign encourages safe teen passenger and driver behavior. Student leaders work with teachers and school officials to plan and conduct activities focusing on buckling up, respecting the driver and more over a 3-5 day period. Improving the safety of teen driving with peer passengers is at the heart of RLAF.	Yes (<i>Simple & Experimental</i>)	Free	During the school-year	Center for Injury Research & Prevention at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	Christine Norris norrisc@email.chop.edu 609-206-2839
No Text Zone	Presentation/activity	High school & college students	Dauphin, Cumberland & Lebanon Counties	Peer-to-peer program designed to educate teens and young adults about the dangers of texting and driving. Typically conducted during/after lunch, teens encourage their peers to sign the No Text pledge and participate in activities demonstrating their inability to multitask. Giveaways provided and activities led by PSHMC staff.	No	Free	During the school-year	Penn State Hershey Medical Center, CBS 21	Judi Dillon jdillon@hmc.psu.edu 717-531-4413



School-Based Programs	Format	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
ThinkFirst for Teens	Classroom presentation	High school students	Philadelphia, Montgomery & Bucks Counties	Affiliated with the National ThinkFirst Injury Prevention Program, speakers address seat belt safety; distracted, impaired and aggressive driving; and other behaviors and risk factors that cause traumatic injury and death among teens. Video, discussion and a speaker who has sustained a traumatic brain injury are components of the program.	Yes (<i>Simple</i>)	Free	Upon request	Einstein's ThinkFirst	Cathy Markey markeyc@einstein.edu 215-456-3344
ThinkFirst for Teens			Philadelphia, Delaware, Montgomery, Chester & Bucks Counties		Yes (<i>Simple</i>)	Free	Upon request	Magee Rehabilitation Hospital	Keith Newerla knewerla@mageerehab.org 215-587-3412
ThinkFirst for Teens			Luzerne County		Yes (<i>Simple</i>)	Free	Upon request	ThinkFirst of Northeast PA	Matthew Banford mбанfo@allied-services.org 570-826-3916
ThinkFirst for Teens			Allegheny, Butler, Beaver, Washington & Westmoreland Counties		Yes (<i>Simple</i>)	Free	Upon request	Think First Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC	Darius Carlins darius.carlins@chp.edu 412-692-5868



School-Based Programs	Format	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
Connor Johnson Foundation	Speakers, charity sporting event	Teens & parents	Beaver, Allegheny & Butler Counties	Founded in memory of Connor Johnson who was killed while riding in a van operated by a 16-year-old distracted driver. Supports, through speakers and fundraising, teen led school and community events that educate parents and teens about the dangers of inattentive and distracted driving. Sponsors annual Memorial Cup All-Star Ice Hockey Game.	No	Free (<i>donations accepted</i>)	Year-round	Connor Johnson Foundation	Michelle Johnson michelle@connorjohnsonfoundation.org 724-272-0550
Taking the Lead - Ford Driving Skills for Life	School assembly	High school students	Allegheny & surrounding counties	This one-hour presentation addresses the leading causes of teen crashes and includes victim impact speaker, Michelle Johnson (Connor Johnson Foundation) who dicusses the importance of driving safely and the consequences of poor decision making.	No	Free	During the school-year	KDKA-TV, Ford Motor Company Fund, Westfield Insurance, Governors Highway Safety Association, Allegheny Country Pretrial Services	Melissa Wade mwade@kdk.com 412-575-2365
YIELD (Youth Involved in Educating Legal Drivers) Traffic Safety Summit	Conference	High school students	Allegheny County	Developed by youth for youth, the annual conference features motivational speakers, student activities, simulation, displays, and more. Following the conference, teens go back to their schools/ communities to share what they learned and develop traffic safety initiatives. Limited to 200 students.	Yes (<i>Simple</i>)	Free (<i>schools must provide transportation</i>)	Annual	Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, AAA, TIPP, PA DUI Association, Allegheny County Health Dept, PennDOT District 11, Allegheny Pretrial Services	Pam Wahal pwahal@alleghenycourts.us 412-931-6125



School-Based Programs	Format	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
Fatal Awareness Conference	Conference	High school students	Allegheny County	Addresses the dangers of drug and alcohol use through keynote speakers, workshops and peer-to-peer discussion with juvenile offenders.	Yes (<i>Simple</i>)	Free	Annual	Allgeheny Pretrial Services	Pam Wahal pwahal@allegheycourts.com 412-931-6125
Teen Driver Safety Symposium	Conference	High school students, driver education instructors	Lebanon County	Open to all Lebanon County high schools by registration, students participate in indoor and outdoor workshops and breakout sessions addressing traffic safety topics specific to young drivers.	Yes (<i>Simple</i>)	Free	Annual	Center for Traffic Safety	Barbara Zortman barbzortman@gmail.com 717-840-2330
What Do You Consider Lethal? (WDYCL)	Workshop	Teens	Statewide	The 60-minute facilitated program is designed to start a dialogue among teens and encourage them to leverage positive peer pressure to make good decisions when on the road by using stories of real teens and their families.	Yes (<i>Simple, Experimental and Controlled</i>)	Free	Upon request through a network of 500 facilitators	PA DUI Association, Impact Teen Drivers	Felicity DeBacco Erni fdebacco@padui.org 717-238-4354 Kelly Browning info@impactteendrivers.org 916-733-7432
What Do You Consider Lethal? (WDYCL)	Workshop	Parents & Teens	Statewide	The 90-minute facilitated program combines the WDYCL presentation with strategies for parents, including information on graduated driver licensing laws and open discussion.	Yes (<i>Simple</i>)	Free	Upon request through a network of 500 facilitators	PA DUI Association, Impact Teen Drivers	Felicity DeBacco Erni fdebacco@padui.org 717-238-4354 Kelly Browning info@impactteendrivers.org 916-733-7432



Driver Education & Training (School & Community-Based)	Format	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
Approved Driver Education Programs	Online database	Teens, parents	Statewide	School districts, charter schools, non-public schools, intermediate units, area vocational technical schools, private driver training schools, community colleges, universities, correspondence, and online theory driver education programs approved to provide driver education in Pennsylvania.	No (<i>not applicable</i>)	Free	Year-round	Pennsylvania Department of Education	John Kashatus johkashatu@pa.gov 717-783-4382
Indiana Univ. of PA Novice Driver Education Program	In-car training	Permit holders, parents	Indiana & surrounding communities	Novice drivers receive 10-15 hours of free behind the wheel training taught by IUP students enrolled in the Safety/Driver Education Teacher Certification program (<i>HPED 354, Application of Driver Education Modes</i>).	Yes (<i>Student Teacher is evaluated</i>)	Free	Summer	Indiana University of Pennsylvania	Tracy Gordish tgordish@iup.edu 724-357-4051
Modern Driver Institute	Classroom instruction & in-car training	Teens, parents	Southeastern Pennsylvania (<i>Quakertown</i>)	Professional defensive driving, classroom and behind the wheel instruction specializing in students with autism, anxiety, AD/HD, and learning disabilities.	Yes (<i>Simple, Experimental</i>)	\$75/hour (<i>Behind the Wheel</i>); \$150/person (<i>30-hour classroom program</i>)	Year-round	Modern Driver Institute	Michael Mercandante mike@moderndriver.org 215-237-4870
Safety SIM	Mobile simulator	Teens with and without a driver's license	Statewide	Equipped with a real dashboard, steering wheel and driver's seat, the SIMulator provides realistic, hands-on experience to help novice drivers gain confidence and develop safety awareness.	No	Please contact for program details and fees	Upon request	PA DUI Association	Liane Petras lpetras@padui.org 717-238-4354



Driver Education & Training (School & Community-Based)	Format	Audience	Geographic Area	Description	Evaluated	Cost	Frequency	Sponsoring Organization	Key Contact
Lehigh Valley Hospital Network Simulator Program	Mobile simulator	Teens & adults	South Central & Northeastern Pennsylvania	A Virtual Driver Interactive program gives drivers the opportunity to experience impaired or distracted driving without putting themselves or others at risk through a high-tech simulator experience.	Yes (<i>Simple</i>)	Free	Upon request	Lehigh Valley Health Network	William McQuilken william.d_mcquilken@lvhn.org 610-402-9047
FOCUS - Action Against Distraction Driver Simulation Program	Mobile simulator	High school students	Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Lawrence, Washington & Westmoreland Counties	Provides teens the opportunity to experience the consequences of distracted and impaired driving on a high-tech simulator in their schools. The program is designed to modify teen driving behaviors so they don't repeat their mistakes when they're on the road.	Yes (<i>Simple & Experimental</i>)	Free	Upon request	Allstate Foundation, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC	Darius Carlins darius.carlins@chp.edu 412-692-5868
Driver Education Workshop	Workshop	High school driver education teachers	Adams, Lancaster, Lebanon & York Counties	One-day professional development program for driver education teachers addressing the latest safe driving topics, PennDOT and Dept. of Education updates, and new resources. A swap session enables educators to share lessons, activities and information with their peers.	Yes (<i>Simple, Post-Evaluation Only</i>)	Free	Annually	Center for Traffic Safety	Wayne Harper dwharper@yorkcounty.org 717-840-2330
			Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin & Perry Counties		Yes (<i>Simple, Post-Evaluation Only</i>)	Free	Annually	South Central PA Highway Safety (American Trauma Society)	Rob Mott romott@atspa.org 717-766-1616

The Parent's Supervised Driving Program & Road Ready Mobile App

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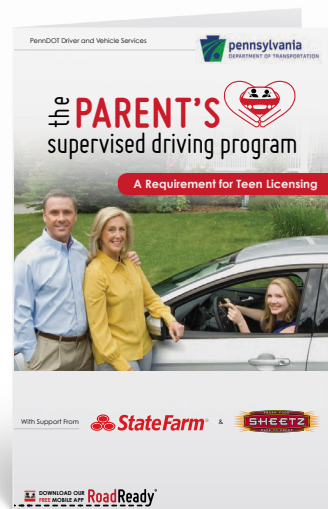
Fatal Awareness and YIELD Conferences & Lebanon County Teen Driver Safety Symposium

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The Parent's Supervised Driving Program & Road Ready Mobile App

Safe Roads Alliance, State Farm Insurance, Sheetz & PennDOT



THE PARENT'S SUPERVISED DRIVING Program, developed by the Safe Roads Alliance and sponsored by State Farm Insurance and Sheetz, provides parents a printed handbook designed as a simple, easy-to-follow guide to help their teens become safe and responsible drivers. The alliance is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving highway safety by promoting driver education with a particular emphasis on behind-the-wheel training.

The program also includes a mobile app to help parents track their teen's practice drive times and training progress. Handbooks have been printed and distributed to Pennsylvania driver license centers statewide and are distributed to all teen drivers when a learner's permit is issued.

Parental involvement in teen driver learning has a measurable, positive impact on driving safety. A 2012 study published by The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) and State Farm, *Driving Through the Eyes of Teens*, noted that when parents are actively engaged in the supervised driving process teens are 50% less likely to crash, 71% less likely to drive intoxicated, 30% less likely to drive distracted,

and twice as likely to wear seat-belts. Absent clear objectives and methodical approaches, parents often revert to teaching based on personal experiences and memories. This tendency often leads to suboptimal results.

[The Parent's Supervised Driving Program](#) – awarded the 2013 National Roadway Safety Honorable Mention – offers a solution to the problem of under-resourced and unprepared parents of teen drivers who are confronted with the 30-70 hour graduated driver licensing (GDL) supervised driving requirement (65 hours in Pennsylvania). *The Parent's Supervised Driving Program* partners with state transportation and licensing agencies to make sure that parents are actively provided information when their teens receive a learner's permit. The program reinforces parents' responsibilities and driving best practices with the ultimate goal of ensuring that teens receive enough experience in a variety of conditions before they start driving independently.

The Parent's Supervised Driving Program handbook includes step-by-step driving instructions to help parents help their teens through the supervised driving process, including practicing in

a variety of conditions and focusing on "higher order" driving skills. Pennsylvania state licensing centers provide The Parent's Supervised Driving Program to all teens and families upon issuance of the learner's permit at no cost. The guidebook not only strengthens the supervised driving period, but also pushes parents to extend their involvement beyond what's required under the state's GDL law.

RoadReady® Mobile App

Optimized for iOS7, [RoadReady](#) logs drive times for parents and teens based on the state GDL requirement (65 hours, 10 at night and 5 in inclement weather for Pennsylvania teens). With GPS and location services enabled, RoadReady provides an accurate measure of the time spent behind the wheel. RoadReady's functionality also offers parents an easy, efficient way to guarantee their teen receives the most experience behind-the-wheel, by allowing parents to:

- **Manually enter previous drives**
- **Track multiple drivers**
- **Record road type, weather conditions and distance**
- **Export and print a driving log**
- **Receive badges for driving accomplishments**

RoadReady also offers a distraction-free, supervised driving experience – users can put the phone away while driving and resume the app experience once they park. ●

- **Log teen learner's permit driving time automatically with GPS**

The Parent's Supervised Driving Program & Road Ready Mobile App

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Impact Teen Drivers & What Do You Consider Lethal Workshops

Impact Teen Drivers, PA Teen Safe Driving Coalition & PA DUI Association

WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER LETHAL?

That's the question **Impact Teen Drivers** (ITD) asks teens, parents and community-members in their quest to prevent reckless and distracted driving and save lives. Established in California in 2007, ITD is an evidence-based program that uses teen-targeted videos, interactive materials such as the probability wheel that reveals your chances of being involved in a crash based on various forms of distraction, presentations, posters, lesson plans, activity outlines, public service announcements, social media, and more to empower teens to take control of protecting themselves and their friends when they're on the road. All of the materials are available free to schools in Pennsylvania and nationwide through ITD's web portals: impactteendrivers.org and whatslethal.com.

The program is designed to start a dialogue among teens so they take ownership of what they learn about the risks and severity of distracted driving and leverage positive peer pressure to make good decisions. The focus, according to the ITD team, isn't on scaring teens, but appealing to them on a "visceral level" by using stories of real teens and their families. The program uses emotion, humor and facts that are taken from the

latest research and conveys this information in terms and words that resonate with teens.

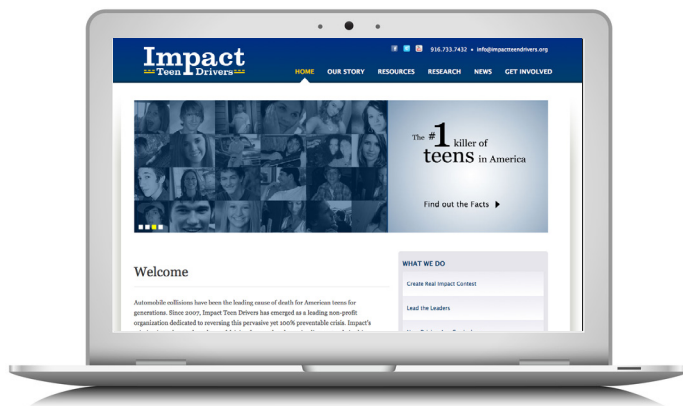
ITD's bedrock program is [What Do You Consider Lethal? \(WDYCL\)](#). The 60-minute presentation, designed for use by teachers, safety educators, first responders, health professionals, parents, students, and community members, focuses on generating dialogue and encouraging teens to take the lead in peer-to-peer messaging. (A 10-Step Facilitator Guide provides a step-by-step-tutorial.) A 90-minute parent-teen workshop combines the WDYCL presentation with strategies for parents, including information on graduated driver licensing laws, and open discussion.

Training is key to ITD's outreach and success in reaching teens. In Pennsylvania, ITD teamed with the Pennsylvania DUI Association and PA Teen Safe Driving Coalition to conduct 5-hour train-the-trainers sessions for adults to help them enhance their knowledge of distracted driving, bolster their presentation skills and train others to deliver the WDYCL program. Currently, 500 traffic safety and public health professionals are trained to facilitate both the teen and parent-teen programs in the Key-

stone State. To date, more than 2 million high school students in Pennsylvania and nationwide have participated in ITD programs.

The WDYCL program has been evaluated through observational surveys conducted at high schools two weeks prior to delivery and at 6- and 9-month intervals afterward. Noticeable improvements in behavior were observed, particularly when the program was coupled with enforcement. Following the WDYCL program, seatbelt use increased to 96% and all distracted driving behaviors decreased by up to 7.7%. The distraction with the greatest observed decrease was talking to teen passengers, which was reduced from 22.4% to 9% following the program.

In addition to this study, pre- and post-surveys are administered to teens who participate in the program to measure attitudes and behaviors, while police officers and educators who participate in the train-the-trainer program complete a post-test to assess their gains in knowledge and ability to teach the program. These surveys consistently demonstrate significant increased knowledge and skills among program participants. ●





The Parent's Supervised Driving Program & Road Ready Mobile App	Impact Teen Drivers & What Do You Consider Lethal Workshops	End Distracted Driving Student Awareness Initiative	Safe Driving Guide for Teens & Parents	Drive It Home (Parent Website)	Reality Education for Drivers	Teen Driving Education Class & No TXT Zone	Survive UR Drive	Teen Driver Resources	Fatal Awareness and YIELD Conferences & Lebanon County Teen Driver Safety Symposium	Community Traffic Safety Programs	Students Against Destructive Decisions
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End Distracted Driving Student Awareness Initiative

Casey Feldman Foundation, EndDD.org

WHEN JOEL FELDMAN'S 21-YEAR-OLD daughter, Casey, was struck and killed by a distracted driver in July 2009, he never imagined he would parlay what he describes as "telling a sad story," into an interactive, fun and impactful presentation that is changing teens' attitudes and behaviors about distracted driving. What's more the [End Distracted Driving Student Awareness Initiative \(EndDD\)](http://EndDistractedDriving.org), sponsored by the Casey Feldman Foundation, is delivered by a network of more than 900 volunteer speakers, 800 of whom are trial lawyers who have volunteered thousands of hours to this cause.

Feldman, a Philadelphia trial lawyer who earned a masters degree in counseling after Casey's death, readily admits he drove distracted before his daughter was tragically killed. He worked with researchers at the Center for Injury Research & Prevention at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), psychologists and teen safe driving experts to develop the 55 to 75-minute program. The evidence-based program employs research, facts, emotion, and humor to educate teens. Facilitators use a PowerPoint presentation and script, both downloadable at no cost from

EndDD.org, to help teens understand what distraction is as well as engage in a discussion about its various forms, not all of which are illegal. The presentation is designed not to be confrontational. Teens are surprised when facilitators admit they had often driven distracted themselves and won't lecture or tell them what to do, but rather ask for their help in solving what is not just a teen problem.

Humorous and tragic videos discussing real people whose lives have been affected by distracted driving are woven into the presentation to help teens explore how the choices they make can have life-long consequences. EndDD.org created a number of videos that are used in the program, including one that is part of the USDOT *Faces of Distracted Driving* series. Throughout the presentation teens are asked to commit to taking specific steps to drive safer and to formulate a plan for distraction-free driving using the EndDD.org *Family Safe Driving Agreement*.

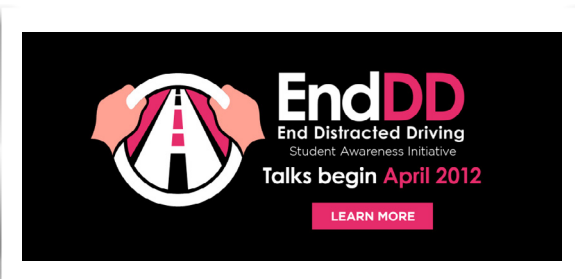
In addition to asking teens to reflect on their own driving behaviors, they're taught they can effectively intervene when others drive distracted. Teens

participate in role play exercises to help them try out and gain confidence in using bystander intervention strategies. The program's goal is to have teens become safety advocates for their peers, parents and communities and to change the driving culture so that distraction-free driving is not only socially acceptable but expected. Teens also participate in a simple interactive exercise – writing backwards from 100 to zero while engaged in a cell phone conversation – to demonstrate how easily their skills are diminished when they attempt to multi-task. The program is grounded in the belief that when teens learn first-hand the facts and consequences of distracted driving, they're more likely to make positive choices that are long-lasting.

Evaluation is built into the program. EndDD worked with CHOP to develop pre- and post-surveys that invite the participants not only to evaluate the program, but also to indicate if they're adopting the behavioral objectives. Data obtained to date reveals the program is beginning to have an impact. Teens are talking with their parents about distracted driving resulting in a reduction in parent texting (so far the drop for teens isn't statistically signif-

icant). Teens also agree that it's okay to speak up when they observe unsafe actions in the car. The presentation is reviewed and updated annually based on input from researchers; the fourth version was released last fall.

Although facilitators do not need to be lawyers, the majority of EndDD presentations are given by trial lawyers. Feldman noted that while public perception about trial lawyers may be mixed, trial lawyers have enthusiastically endorsed the campaign and are speaking to teens in communities throughout Pennsylvania and nationwide. Driver education instructors, healthcare professionals, injury prevention coordinators, and safety professionals also regularly facilitate presentations and EndDD works with youth organizations supporting their safety programs and efforts. A list of registered facilitators is available on EndDD.org. All facilitators are asked to register with the campaign and sign an agreement before downloading presentation materials. ●





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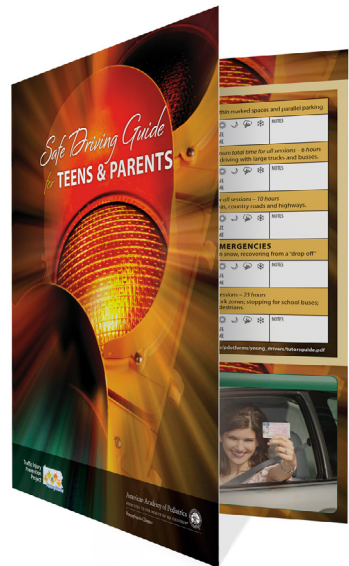
Fatal Awareness and YIELD Conferences & Lebanon County Teen Driver Safety Symposium

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Safe Driving Guide for Teens & Parents

Pennsylvania Traffic Injury Prevention Project, PA Teen Safe Driving Coalition & PA DUI Association



IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A LEARNERS PERMIT, Pennsylvania teens are required to have a doctor sign-off that they're fit to drive. That opportunity prompted the Traffic Injury Prevention Project (TIPP), developed nearly three decades ago by the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (PAPP), to embark on an effort to educate more than 2,000 pediatricians and 737 community-based pediatric practices located across the state about teen safe driving.

Using a grant from The Allstate Foundation, the PA AAP and Penn-DOT's highway safety office hosted a continuing medical education (CME) teleconference for pediatric practitioners that addressed the December 2011 changes to the state's GDL law as well as the rationale for those changes and their correlation to crash data. The amendments, known as Lacey's Law, were supported by the PA AAP and reinforce the importance of practice driving as well limiting passengers and requiring seat belt use by all drivers and passengers under 18. Led by the co-director of the Center for Injury Research and Prevention at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, the CME also included a review of the

issues that heighten a teen's risk for injury and death on the road, and steps parents and teens can take in addition to GDL to lessen that risk.

To help pediatricians translate what they learned into a meaningful exchange with parents and teens, materials were developed for use in the exam room, including a colorful and eye-catching mini-poster and a folder – the [Safe Driving Guide for Teens and Parents](#) – that includes both parent and teen specific tip sheets addressing communication, overcoming the risks, and the GDL, along with eight lessons – provided in a log format – to promote skill development through practice driving. A sample parent/teen driving agreement is also provided along with a teen driving FAQ.

Pediatricians are asked to briefly review this material with teens and parents when signing off on the Learner's Permit Application (DL-180) and to leverage every opportunity to raise the issue whenever the teen is in the office. That may start with a general discussion the first time, followed by several conversations over time focusing on the GDL program and how it addresses risk, followed by the use of

an agreement, and the importance of following and adhering to the rules.

The end game, says TIPP officials, is to promote conversation in an environment that has the teen's best interest at heart. That means pediatricians convey to teens that they understand their interest in learning to drive and want to help, while at the same time ensuring that parents know what is necessary to protect their teens.

PA TIPP is also partnering with the PA Teen Safe Driving Coalition and the PA DUI Association to expand the guide's distribution network. Driver education professionals, teachers and community groups may request a supply of the guides for distribution to parents and teens who are preparing to begin or are in the permit phase of the GDL program.

A new interactive mobile app has also been designed to promote the use of two of the guide's key tools – the junior driver lessons/log and parent/teen driving agreement. Downloadable from the PA TIPP website, the app asks teens to create a profile that allows them to track and save their progress as they practice the skills outlined in

the lessons. Since the state's GDL law requires permit holders to log at least 65 hours of behind the wheel practice (10 at night and 5 in inclement weather) and parents to certify those driving hours, the tool takes the guess work out of that task. Families can also use the app to create an individually tailored parent/teen driving agreement that not only addresses driving privileges and restrictions, but also the consequences for breaking them as well as the rewards for compliance. This agreement can be saved in the teen's profile for future reference and modification. ●



The Parent's Supervised Driving Program & Road Ready Mobile App	Impact Teen Drivers & What Do You Consider Lethal Workshops	End Distracted Driving Student Awareness Initiative	Safe Driving Guide for Teens & Parents	Drive It Home (Parent Website)	Reality Education for Drivers	Teen Driving Education Class & No TXT Zone	Survive UR Drive	Teen Driver Resources	Fatal Awareness and YIELD Conferences & Lebanon County Teen Driver Safety Symposium	Community Traffic Safety Programs	Students Against Destructive Decisions
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Drive It Home (Parent Website)

National Safety Council

THE INTERNET IS A HELPFUL TOOL FOR finding information about teen driving, but it can be overwhelming to sort through the volume of material that is available as well as determine what resources are best. Recognizing the need for a resource that not only cuts through the clutter, but gives busy parents access to relevant information that will help them keep their new teen drivers safe, the National Safety Council, partnered with The Allstate, GM, Toyota, and AT&T Foundations, to launch [Drive It Home](#) in March 2013.

Built based on extensive research, including focus groups with parents, Drive It Home uses a variety of approaches to engage and educate. The website's content is built around five key themes:

- 1. Parents want what's best for their children including keeping them safe after they get their driver's license.**
- 2. Car crashes are the leading cause of teen death, but a parent's influence can make the difference.**

- 3. Teen drivers are inexperienced and everyone's teen makes mistakes. Parents are the experienced co-pilots who can help teens get the experience they need by riding with them regularly.**
- 4. Parents are coaches and must teach teens the right things, in an effective way.**
- 5. Parents have the authority to make and enforce the rules addressing the principal risks for teens – passengers, nighttime driving, and cell phones/texting – and create stricter family rules, if necessary, than state laws allow.**

tips to help them coach their new driver, read blogs authored by teen safe driving experts who are also the parents of teen drivers, and download a customizable parent/teen driving agreement.

While the website's impact has not yet been determined, the National Safety Council's goal is to reach at least one million parents and effectively change behaviors consistent with the proven principals of graduated driver licensing. The evidence-based program holds promise for helping to convey critical information to Pennsylvania parents and their peers nationwide. ●

The website uses minimal copy coupled with eye-catching design and interactive tools to convey this information. The tone is peer-to-peer rather than dictatorial. Additionally, short videos that are simultaneously quirky, humorous, emotional, and informative to appeal to different parenting styles convey key information. Parents also have the ability to engage with each other through the community discussion board, register to receive weekly



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Reality Education for Drivers

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC



IMAGINE A 16 OR 17-YEAR-OLD ROLLING out of bed before 7 a.m. on a Saturday to attend an educational program. Unlikely? Teens in Allegheny and surrounding counties have been doing just that for the past 14 years. While some teens are required to attend [Reality Education for Drivers or RED](#), for short, because they violated a traffic law, others are there because they or their parents heard about it.

Developed fourteen years ago by an interdisciplinary team at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC (CHOP of UPMC) following a series of fatal crashes that claimed the lives of eight teens, the hospital-based program uses simulation, group discussion and a hard-hitting video to steer novice drivers toward more responsible behavior on the road. Approximately 40 teens, along with their parents, begin the half-day program by learning about the risks for novice drivers, including the sobering injury and fatality statistics, and what the forces involved in a crash can do to the body from Dr. Barbara Gaines, head of CHOP of UPMC'S pediatric trauma and injury prevention program, and by viewing the *Stone Cold* video.

After that parents stay for a brief

discussion about being a positive role model (they're then dismissed for the morning), while their teens are split into small groups to begin a journey through the hospital that's designed to give them a dose of reality. Teens visit the Physical Therapy Department, where each is assigned an injury and instructed to deal with the limitations it imposes for the duration of the program. Some are fitted with immobilizing devices, while others are confined to wheelchairs or must walk with crutches. In some cases, the assigned injury prevents a teen from eating or speaking.

From there, the teens visit the Emergency Department, where one of the participants is chosen to be an arriving crash victim. The staff walks the teens through a level one simulation that includes not only treating the patient, but notifying family members. In the Intensive Care Unit, doctors and nurses discuss the care given to motor vehicle crash victims. Since it's an active ICU, teens often have the opportunity to interact with parents and patients who candidly share their life-alerting stories.

"I'll never forget the little boy who was in the ICU during one of our RED sessions," said Chris Vitale, CHOP of

UPCM's injury prevention manager and RED coordinator. "He told the teens 'I was riding my bike and got hit by a lady in a big car who couldn't see me. So look out for me and other little kids when you're driving'. That's powerful – teens are hearing and seeing first-hand the ramifications of a driver's actions – from a child."

RED participants also speak with a social worker who explains how brothers, sisters, parents, and other family members are affected when teens are injured or killed in motor vehicle crashes. A district magistrate then explains the legal consequences of engaging in risky behavior while driving, and the teens spend time with a crash victim living with the consequences of a novice-driver crash. Darius Carlins is a frequent speaker. The coordinator of CHOP of UPMC's ThinkFirst for Kids injury prevention program was 18 when a motor vehicle crash left him a paraplegic.

The morning ends with a round of RED jeopardy, which is designed to reinforce what teens learned as well as assess what they retained as a result of participating in the 5-hour program. Teens are also asked to evaluate the program, which has prompted changes over the

years. Four weeks after completing the program, a survey is mailed to the families to gauge program impact.

"RED is making a difference," said Vitale. "Parents, who we initially weren't going to include in the program, are telling us that RED impacted not only their teens' driving behavior, but also their own. They're also telling us how our discussion about seat belts and passengers is resonating with them and prompting their teens to act differently. They're buckling up and making sure that their passengers do, too, and not speeding up as they approach intersections. In some cases, teens are talking with their younger siblings and peers about what they learned."

The program is not only having an impact on parents and teens, but also the staff at CHOP of UPMC. "The staff who come in on Saturday morning are the same people who started this 14 years ago," said Vitale. "This is so rewarding for them. The teens, who generally start the morning mad or disinterested, are hugging the staff at the end of the program. It's overwhelming to them and us." ●



The Parent's Supervised Driving Program & Road Ready Mobile App	Impact Teen Drivers & What Do You Consider Lethal Workshops	End Distracted Driving Student Awareness Initiative	Safe Driving Guide for Teens & Parents	Drive It Home (Parent Website)	Reality Education for Drivers	Teen Driving Education Class & No TXT Zone	Survive UR Drive	Teen Driver Resources	Fatal Awareness and YIELD Conferences & Lebanon County Teen Driver Safety Symposium	Community Traffic Safety Programs	Students Against Destructive Decisions
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Teen Driving Education Class & No TXT Zone

Penn State Hershey Medical Center



RED ISN'T UNIQUE TO CHOP AT UPMC. In fact, it has been replicated in Texas, Massachusetts, Tennessee, North Carolina, and much closer to home. Trauma staff at Penn State Hershey Medical Center (PSHMC) began offering their 4-hour version of the program in 2007. While all teens are welcome, most who participate in PSHMC's program have been cited for a moving violation, such as speeding or running a red light, and are referred by local judges. Teens receive a reduced fine upon completion of the program.

Like its Pittsburgh counterpart, the PSHMC program takes place on Saturday morning (the least busiest time at the hospital) and includes plenty of discussion along with visits to the emergency room, intensive care unit, and physical therapy departments, to name a few. Each teen is given a card describing an actual crash and the rehabilitation associated with their injuries. "They're also required to wear a cervical collar, which they hate," added Beverly Shirk, PSHMC's pediatric trauma care coordinator. "But it's an effective way to get them to think about the consequences associated with unsafe driving."

Teens are also asked to complete a survey of their driving habits, which prompts discussion about what they can do to prevent motor vehicle crashes. (The program was modified several years ago to use peer-to-peer content and social media.) Some of these questions are included in an online follow-up survey that's designed to gauge what behaviors they've changed since attending the program. Shirk noted that they ask participants about seat belt use, speeding, texting, running red lights, and driving after consuming alcohol and drugs. "While the teen's responses are self-reported, we are seeing a change in behavior."

What is particularly surprising to the PSHMC staff is the number of teens who say they're distracted by GPS. "Many use GPS on their phones," explained Shirk. "Helping them recognize this is a dangerous distraction is essential."

Equally surprising is how attentive and compassionate the teens are to the families who speak, Shirk added. "The last person to address the teens is a family member who talks about a teen involved in a crash. Sometimes it's the mother of a 16-year-old football player

who was killed in a crash. Or it's a mother who talks about her daughter who sustained a severe brain injury and is now confined to a wheel chair and needs a feeding tube. The stories are real and they resonate with the teens because the victim could be them."

The program is offered four times a year and teens pay a \$50 fee. The money is used to offset program expenses such as the purchase of snacks and gift cards (the latter are used to bolster completion of the online survey). Every teen also leaves with a "Drive to Stay Alive" first aid kit for their glove compartment – a reminder of their participation in the program.

The Hershey Medical Center has also partnered with CBS21 and CW15 to launch [No TXT Zone](#). The initiative, which calls upon all drivers to say no to texting and driving, includes a focus on high school and college students, the age group most likely to drive distracted. Since launching 12 months ago, said PSHMC's Community Outreach Coordinator Judy Dillon, they've conducted peer-to-peer outreach events at three area high schools and one college, with several more on tap.

Working with an adult advisor at the school, teens are selected to help convey the No TXT Zone message through a lunchtime pledge drive. During lunch, teens are invited to participate in an activity that demonstrates their inability to multitask. "We provide the teens everything they need to run the program," noted Dillon, "from giveaways and morning announcements to pledge forms and activity materials."

PSHMC's goal since launching the campaign is to collect a total of 5,000 pledges. To date, they've collected over 6,200 pledges. CBS21 has been filming and airing the school activities as well as announcing the number of pledges per school to promote competition and encourage more districts to get involved.

While Dillon is pleased with the response, she stressed that not all teens are ready to take the pledge. "It's a habit that like smoking, can be hard to break. For some teens they just haven't come to the realization yet that it is serious," she said. "They think it's not going to happen to me." For that reason, it's important to enlist the support of teens that are confident and able to handle peer pressure, she added. ●



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Survive UR Drive

Central Bucks Family YMCA



WHEN THE LOCAL FRED BEANS AUTO dealership approached the Central Bucks Family YMCA about partnering on a fundraiser involving members test driving new cars, the Y politely declined. But after several horrific teen car crashes rocked the community, the non-profit and business joined forces to develop and implement the Survive UR Drive program in April 2012.

The program was created by the Y's Teen Leaders, a group of approximately 50 middle and high school students, who meet once a week. With guidance from adult staff members, the teens discussed how best to reach their peers so that they refrain from engaging in risky behaviors behind the wheel. The result is a 3-hour program that's delivered by community volunteers including police officers, EMTs, lawyers, and parents who, according to the Y's Rachel Mauer, don't "sugar coat" the message. They talk not only about how to get a license, but what to do if they're stopped by a police officer or involved in a crash. The adults facilitate the discussion to promote a dialogue among the teens.

"The focus is on getting teens to stop and think before they act, so that they

recognize the potential consequences associated with their actions," said Mauer. "The video from Wales that dramatically depicts what happens when a female teen driver texts is also shown. While it's graphic, the teen leaders recommended its use." That's followed by a local parent, who talks about losing his teen in a car crash. "It's impactful," said Mauer. "The teens, who often don't want to be there, realize this could be me."

To drive home the dangers of distracted and impaired driving, the participants wrap up the program by driving golf carts while attempting to text. Fatal vision or drunk goggles supplied by the Bucks County Community Traffic Safety Project are also used to simulate the effects of alcohol at various blood alcohol levels. The golf carts and the space to hold the program are donated by Fred Beans, which hosts the event twice a year on a Sunday afternoon at the dealership. Teens are required to have a permit or license to participate. Parents are also encouraged to attend and many, according to Mauer, do.

She also indicated that teens are contacted six months after participating in the program to assess its impact. "The

feedback is positive and we believe the program is leading to a change in behavior," said Mauer. That, along with the fact that so many in the community are donating their time to the program, is gratifying to Mauer, who is "floored by their generosity." ●



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Teen Driver Resources

Center for Injury Research & Prevention at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

IN 2010, THE CENTER FOR INJURY RESEARCH & Prevention (CIRP) at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) launched the comprehensive website, www.teendriversource.org, to provide educators, policymakers, parents, teens, and researchers access to the latest evidence-based information and tools to help prevent teen driver crashes. The award-winning site is updated regularly and easy to navigate thanks to audience specific buttons for teens, parents, those that support and educate them, as well as policymakers and researchers. All of the materials are free and downloadable. Plus, there's an option to subscribe to the [Research in Action Blog](#) to learn when new resources and research become available.

For parents of new drivers, the website explains how inexperience and brain development impact teen crash risk and what they can do to help their teens. There's also information about how to handle teen resistance, particularly when it comes to setting rules and enforcing the proven provisions of Graduated Driver Licensing. What to look for in a vehicle (the latest safety features are a must), along with driving with

special needs are also addressed. Fact sheets, a driving lesson timeline and log and more are available for download.

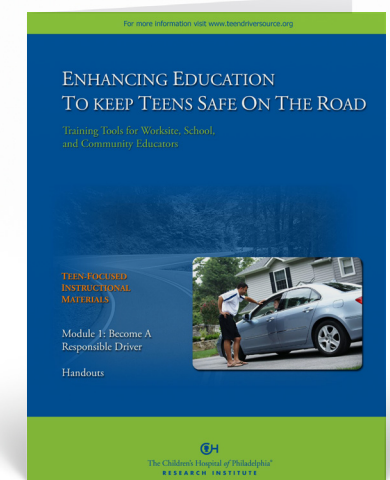
Instructional Materials for Educators

Health educators, human resources or programming coordinators, and community leaders will find a variety of research-based tools on the website that are designed to help them address the leading public health threat to teens – car crashes. Both teen and parent-focused instructional materials called, *Enhancing Education to Keep Teens Safe on the Road*, meet National Health Education Standards and the U.S. Department of health and Human Services' Healthy People 2020 objectives related to teen driving are available for use in work, school or community settings.

The parent-focused materials include five modules that can be used individually or presented in one sitting. They focus on driving laws (particularly graduated driver licensing), factors that influence teen crashes, techniques for talking to your teen, encouraging safe

driving decisions, and navigating the first years of driving. The teen version is a four module curricula ideal for use in schools. Each module builds upon the other as teens learn about becoming responsible drivers, communicating to avoid risky situations, the link between decision-making and driving, and the importance of setting driving goals. A facilitator guide, PowerPoint slides and handouts are provided for each module associated with both the parent and teen programs.

There are numerous fact sheets on the website developed to help advocates and community members put the research conducted by CIRP into action. Two of the newest fact sheets address boosting GDL laws by extending the age requirement to all novice drivers under 21 and adding a decal requirement. The latter is required in New Jersey and, according to CIRP @ CHOP researchers, associated with a sustained two-year decline in crash rates among intermediate teen drivers. These downloadable, printable resources are meant to be shared with stakeholders and legislators and ideal for jumpstarting the conversation.





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National Teen Driver Safety Week

The website also features information about [National Teen Driver Safety Week \(NTDWS\)](#). First launched in 2007 after a series of fatal crashes involving Pennsylvania high school students, NTDSW is conducted annually during the third week of October in states, communities and schools nationwide. The theme changes annually and is typically linked to new research and/or initiatives. For example, the 2014 campaign – Supporting Older Novice Drivers: Building Awareness of the Trend in Delayed Licensure – called attention to the fact that many teens delay getting a driver license until after age 18. They wait not to avoid GDL requirements, but mainly for economic reasons. That prompted CHOP and its partners to call for support for these older drivers who still have a high crash risk.

Evaluated Peer-led Campaign

CHOP also developed the *Ride Like a Friend. Drive Like You Care* (RLAF) school-based campaign that encourages safe teen passenger and driver

behavior. Built with input from teens and teen driver safety experts, RLAF features activities that focus on safe in-car behaviors such as buckling up and respecting the driver. The relationship between teens drivers and their teen passengers, however, is at the heart of RLAF. The program's goal is to build awareness about the crash risk for teen drivers when passengers are in the vehicle, and establish teen driver and passenger beliefs and behaviors that promote safe driving.

The program doesn't preach, however. Instead, it encourages teens to take the lead in implementing a campaign that empowers them to be responsible drivers and passengers. To do that, teen leaders work with their peers, teachers and administrators (the adults coach and guide rather than lead) to plan and conduct in-school activities that span three to five school days.

All the details and materials needed to conduct an RLAF campaign are available online (www.ridelikeafriend.com) and they're free. Student leaders choose safe driving and riding messages and share them through the prepared activities and materials they download. Since

RLAF is customizable for each school and community, teens can make the campaign their own. The program, which was piloted and evaluated in schools in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, at its most basic, includes the following:

- 1. A peer to peer poll about driver and passenger behavior.**
- 2. At least one poll follow-up activity such as announcements over the intercom or posters describing the results.**
- 3. At least one other pre-prepared activity from the RLAF list of suggestions such as awareness building at a school sporting or arts event.**
- 4. Distribution of at least one pre-prepared piece from the RLAF designed material such as posters or postcards.**

The RLAF material also includes tips for getting press coverage – the key to spreading the message community-wide. Also, while it's not required, many teens conduct their RLAF

campaigns during National Teen Driver Safety Week, a great way to commemorate the annual observance and call attention to the fact that teens are involved in fatal crashes at four times the rate of adult drivers. ●





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Fatal Awareness and YIELD Conferences & Lebanon County Teen Driver Safety Symposium

Allegheny Pre-Trial Services & Partners, Center for Traffic Safety

TODAY'S TEENS ARE MORE LIKELY THAN their parents to refrain from driving after drinking alcohol. But consumption of alcohol by a minor is not only unlawful, but can prompt other unsafe behaviors. Ensuring that teens recognize and refrain from this danger is the focus of the **Fatal Awareness Conference**. Founded and funded by Allegheny Pretrial Services using a portion of the funds collected from motorists convicted of driving under the Influence (DUI), the annual conference is now in its 13th year and draws the support of organizations ranging from AAA, local police and the University of Pittsburgh, to the Pittsburgh Penguins, Pirates and Steeler Clear Channel Network.

Fatal Awareness, according to Pretrial Services' Pam Wahal, brings together more than 300 students from 14 school districts across the county. The conference agenda features guest speakers, who address a variety of topics such as dealing with peer pressure, and new drugs and their dangerous side-effects. Teens also hear from juvenile offenders who speak candidly about their individual experiences and how abusing drugs and alcohol affected their lives.

"These peer-to-peer testimonials are impactful," said Wahal. "As one teen noted, it really makes you stop and think about how just one bad decision can affect the rest of your life."

Allegheny County also has a Youth Traffic Safety Council, which is made-up of a cross-section of traffic safety and public health organizations and several high schools. As a group, they joined forces to launch **YIELD – Youth Involved in Educating Legal Drivers**. First held in 2012, the YIELD Conference is planned by teen leaders (typically Students Against Destructive Decision members) with guidance from an adult planning group made up of representatives from Pretrial Services, AAA, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, the Traffic Injury Prevention Project, PA DUI Association, Allegheny County Health Department, and PennDOT District 11. The teens come up with the ideas for the agenda and speakers, and work with the adults to bring the event to fruition.

All 38 Allegheny County high schools are invited to send teams of up to 20 students per school to the conference. The focus is on helping teens learn about critical traffic safety issues such

as the importance of always buckling up even when in the passenger seat, and refraining from driving distracted or impaired. They kick-off the day with insights from a high-energy safety expert, than participate in a series of topical workshops followed by lunch before coming together one final time to hear from a motivational speaker. The endgame is for the teens to take back what they learned at the conference to their respective high schools and put it into action through peer-to-peer outreach campaigns and/or activities.

Like their Western Pennsylvania counterparts, students attending Lebanon County's eight public and parochial high schools will have the opportunity to convene this spring to learn about traffic safety. Sponsored by the Center for Traffic Safety with funding from State Farm, the **Lebanon County Teen Driver Safety Symposium** is making a return after a three-year hiatus. The event was prompted by a rash of serious and fatal injury crashes involving teens from several local high schools.

At the 2015 symposium, the focus will be on helping teens learn how inexperi-

ence and brain development contribute to their increased crash risk, which is exacerbated when they engage in risky behaviors such as speeding, failing to wear a seat belt or driving impaired or distracted. They'll participate in indoor and outdoor workshops and breakout sessions that prompt interaction, discussion and physical activity. Every participant will also be asked to complete a pre- and post-survey to determine if their knowledge of teen safe driving and traffic safety issues increased as a result of their participation in the daylong event.

"The symposium gives us the opportunity to provide a hands-on learning experience for teens that builds upon what they learn in driver's ed and other settings," said Barbara Zortman, the Center's Traffic Safety Specialist. "That's important since the information they're receiving is delivered by people in authority who can reinforce what their teachers and parents are telling them about driving safely."

Zortman pointed out that while schools will select which students to send to the symposium, they'll be encouraged to identify teen leaders who can convey what they learned to their peers. ●



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Community Traffic Safety Programs



WHEN COMMUNITIES TAKE OWNERSHIP of their traffic safety problems, its members are in the best position to make a difference. That's the premise behind Pennsylvania's [Community Traffic Safety Programs \(CTSPs\)](#), multi-disciplinary entities who leverage the four E's of traffic safety – engineering, education, enforcement, and emergency services – to improve safety for all roadway users. Armed with carefully developed missions, goals and objectives, the regional-based CTSPs undertake projects and activities and serve as a resource to reduce the incidence of motor vehicle crashes and prevent injuries and save lives.

Funded by PennDOT, Pennsylvania's CTSPs are working in every county of the state to address teen driving. In some regions, the CTSP is a stand-alone organization, while in others it resides in a public health or government agency that includes traffic safety in its mission.

All either provide programs and/or partner with other organizations to make materials, initiatives and/or resources available to the public. Some of the CTSPs, for example, work with local high schools to bolster teen seat belt usage

through annual challenges. Observational surveys are conducted in school parking lots to gauge belt use and then schools are invited to participate in a week or month-long campaign to educate students, faculty and the administration about the lifesaving importance of buckling up every trip. A second observational survey is then conducted following the campaign to determine if belt use increased.

"We find that 95% of the time, the usage increases," said Wayne Harper, Director of the Center for Traffic Safety in York, the CTSP serving Adams, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York Counties. Harper noted that competition helps spur student enthusiasm for the annual event. "We give prizes such as a free photo booth for the prom or alcohol-free graduation event to the schools with the highest belt usage rate and largest increase in belt use."

Many of the CTSPs also partner with the Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association (PMTA) to sponsor and host the annual safe driving competition for high school students. Schools are invited to select their best student drivers who compete individually and as a team at the regional level. Teens take written

and perceptual tests and demonstrate their behind the wheel prowess on a driving range. Points are awarded and the top scorers receive cash, continuing education scholarships and other prizes. The top two students from each of the regions then compete for scholarships in the state competition held in the spring in Harrisburg.

"This is the super bowl for student drivers," said PMTA's Kevin Stewart. "It's a great day and a lot of fun not only for the teens, but all of the adults who work on the competition year-round. I encourage all schools to get involved."

Driving simulators are also a tool used by some CTSPs to help teens build skill and learn how distraction, impairment and other unsafe behaviors impact their ability to drive safely. The Northeast Highway Safety Program, which serves Luzerne, Susquehanna, Wayne, and Wyoming Counties, for instance, partners with the Lehigh Valley Health Network to bring their state-of-the-art driving simulator to teens at local high schools.

In addition to these initiatives, the CTSPs also work with local law enforcement officials to present two powerful programs to high school students.

[Survival 101: A Student's Guide to Staying Alive](#), is designed to engage middle and high school students in a discussion about critical traffic safety topics including seat belt use and impaired, distracted and drowsy driving. The curriculum provides a step-by-step guide that allows officers to draw from their personal experiences which often include dealing with teen crashes and fatalities. Multi-media tools are also incorporated into the program making for a dynamic, hard-hitting presentation.

The other program, [Sixteen Minutes of Your Life](#) or [16 Minutes](#) for short, involves a one-on-one or small group meeting between a police officer and a student(s) who is turning 16 and soon to be driving. The discussion, which lasts 16 minutes, focuses on the consequences of unsafe behaviors and provides an opportunity for the teen to speak with a police officer in a non-threatening setting.

The impact of both programs is evaluated through the distribution of pre- and post-surveys. Materials are also left behind to promote further discussion among teens and their families. ●



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Students Against Destructive Decisions

Students Against Destructive Decisions

PA DUI Association

HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE SAY "NO" TO drinking and driving is the reason why Students Against Destructive Decisions or SADD was founded more than three decades ago. Today, SADD not only remains true to its original mission but has expanded it to include empowering teens to successfully confront the many risks and pressures that challenge them on a daily basis. From underage drinking and drug use, to impaired and risky driving, teen violence and suicide, SADD is working with student-led chapters in schools and communities across the nation to foster a sense of belonging and promote resiliency, leadership and advocacy skills so that young people make positive decisions.

SADD has been going strong in Pennsylvania since 1989 thanks to the support and leadership of the PA DUI Association. Now at 500 chapters, PA SADD hosts two statewide conferences annually drawing more than 800 students from across the state, provides ongoing technical assistance to local chapters as well as a monthly electronic newsletter, hosts the annual Pennsylvania Student of the Year Award, and has had a student selected to serve on the SADD National Student Leadership Council annually since 2003.

Pennsylvania SADD students have also been chosen through a highly competitive process to participate in SADD SPEAKS, a youth advocacy institute. High school students receive online training in transportation policy, basic advocacy skills and the legislative process as it impacts teen traffic safety. In 2014, the training culminated with a 6-day trip to Washington, DC, where the teens had the opportunity to interact and learn from representatives of national organizations working in youth traffic safety and Congressional staff focused on transportation policy.

Teens who participate in PA SADD develop and implement peer-to-peer initiatives that address the issues that are tripping up novice drivers. They work to engage and encourage their classmates to think about how their actions impact themselves and others with a focus on making positive decisions that advance their health and safety. The PA DUI Association encourages all student organizations focusing on helping teens refrain from engaging in risky behaviors to take advantage of SADD's resources (www.padui.org/SADD). ●

