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Throughout 2015, the Safe States Alliance embodied the core values of collaboration, optimism, respect, and excellence thanks to the tireless dedication of leadership, members, staff, and partners. We hope you enjoy learning of the collective successes achieved over this past year, and we invite you to add your passion for injury and violence prevention to our efforts in 2016.
At the end of 2015, the Safe States had a total of 513 members from a variety of organizational backgrounds.

STAT
Safe States conducted its thirty-eighth State Technical Assessment Team (STAT) visit in 2015, returning to the Florida Department of Health - Injury Prevention Section for a follow-up visit. Team members included representatives from state and local injury and violence prevention programs, as well as representation from national agencies.

NVDRS
The National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) is a unique surveillance system that links data from vital statistics, medical examiners and coroners, law enforcement, crime labs, and other sources to provide a more complete understanding of violent deaths in the United States. Safe State supported the NVDRS in 2015 through:
- Planning and convening the NVDRS Reverse Site Visit with CDC;
- Facilitating the implementation of the NVDRS Surveillance Academy;
- Supporting the NVDRS SIG; and
- Leading a series of NVDRS-related activities at the 2015 Safe States Annual Meeting, including a roundtable for unfunded states, a dinner event sponsored by the Joyce Foundation, and a capacity-building session.

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)
SIGs are forums for Safe States Alliance members sharing similar interests or specialties in the field of injury and violence prevention to exchange ideas and stay informed about current developments. In 2015, 42 percent of members participated in at least one of the following SIGs:
- New! Active Transportation/Built Environment
- Disaster Epidemiology
- Hospital Injury Prevention
- Local Injury Prevention
- National Violent Death Reporting System
- Partner and Sexual Violence Prevention
- State Designated Representatives

Injury Surveillance Workgroup
Safe States convened its eighth Injury Surveillance Workgroup: Surveillance of Pedestrian Risks and Injuries. National experts developed consensus recommendations which will be published in 2016. Funding support provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Evaluation
Safe States completed the fourth year of a five-year cooperative agreement with CDC to assess the merit, value, and worth of the Core VIPP program. The Safe States Evaluation Team developed six major evaluation reports, including one for each Core VIPP component, a technical assistance summary report, and a technical assistance plan for year five.

Safe States partnered with the American Public Health Association to host the 2015 Injury & Violence Prevention Program and Policy Evaluation Institute. Seven multi-sector teams from six states were selected to participate. The teams designed and began implementing evaluations related a variety of injury and violence prevention topics.
Education & Advocacy

2015 Annual Meeting

Throughout the year, Safe States offered 17 webinars to enhance workforce proficiency in all Core Competencies for Injury and Violence Prevention. Among 1134 registrations, the most popular webinars of 2015 were:

- Taking Steps to Prevent Pedestrian Injuries
- Connecting the Dots: Understanding and Addressing the Links between Multiple Forms of Violence
- MV PICCS: CDC's New Tool to Help States Reduce Motor Vehicle Injuries & Deaths

Safe States produced a new self-study for individuals to access entitled, “Systems Thinking for Injury and Violence Prevention.”

Awards

To honor members for their contributions to Safe States and the field of injury and violence prevention, the Safe States Alliance recognized the following individuals:

- **Community Prevention Initiative Award**: Dwayne Smith, Children’s Hospital of Colorado
- **Ellen R. Schmidt Award**: Dr. Michael Gittelman, Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
- **Innovative Initiative Award**: The Hope Squad of Carbon and Emery Counties
- **Partner of the Year Award**: Sara Patterson, CDC’s National Center for Injury Prevention and Control
- **President’s Award**: Michael Bauer, New York State Department of Health
- **Rising Star Award**: Lisa Shields, Oregon Public Health Division
- **Alex Kelter Vision Award**: Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan, Florida Injury Prevention Section

Sponsors

The Joyce Foundation

The National Center for the Review & Prevention of Child Deaths

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Safe States is committed to responsible financial management. The Safe States Executive Committee and staff work together to ensure all financial matters are addressed with care, and financial decisions are handled with integrity and are made in the best interests of the organization.

The Safe States accounting policies, adopted by the Executive Committee, focus on:
- Safeguarding Safe States' assets;
- Ensuring accurate record-keeping and maintenance of Safe States' financial activities;
- Providing a framework of operating standards and behavioral expectations; and
- Ensuring compliance with federal, state, and local legal and reporting requirements.

For 2015, revenues amounted to $1,354,808 and net assets at year-end totaled $293,074. Safe States received an unqualified opinion from its independent auditors, Brooks, McGinnis & Company, LLC, indicating that the organization’s financial statements comply with accepted accounting procedures. Safe States continues to focus on expanding its reserves, while also balancing a commitment to membership services and funding requirements.
STAFF

Amber Williams, Executive Director
Paul Bonta, Director of Government Relations
Sharon Gilmartin, Director of Membership Engagement and Communications
Jamila Porter, Director of Programs and Evaluation
Michelle Wynn, Director of Finance and Operations
Ina Allicott, Evaluation and Technical Assistance Coordinator
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