**Southeast Coalition for Roadway Safety Meeting Notes**

**1. Welcome!**

* All meeting documents can be found here:   
  <https://www.savemolives.com/mcrs/scrs-meeting-files>

**2. Fatality Review**

* Preliminary year end 2023: SE District- 134, down 7%, 990 Statewide, down 6%
* SE District
  + Less than age 21 - 6
  + Ages 21-64 - 99
  + Ages 65 older -27
  + Unknown - 2
  + Counties with an increase in fatalities- Douglas, Dunklin, Ozark, Ripley
  + Counties with a decrease in fatalities- Iron, Scott, St. Francois
* MoDOT crash reduction signs have been added on Highway 63 near the Arkansas border

**3. Legislative Agenda**

* 2024 Legislative session, not many changes compared to 2023
* Met with legislatures and reviewed [SAFER Document](https://www.modot.org/sites/default/files/documents/2023%20SAFER%20legislative%20document.pdf) with them at the end of 2023
* Legislations introduced includes:
  + HB 1524- endangerment of highway worker
  + Rep Butz introduced a bill that would no longer allow open container in a car while being operated
  + SB 1334 Senator Bill Eigler introduced a bill that would prohibit license plate readers
  + HB 1476 introduced by Rep Sharp- provisions on interlock device
  + HB 1500 introduced by Rep Banger- requires both drivers and all passengers to wear seatbelts
  + HB 1528- modify child safety seat provisions, which would require children age 2 & under to be in rear facing child seat
  + HB 1529 introduced by Rep Sydney Buchheit- modifies offense of endangering welfare of a child in the second degree

**4. Coalition Activities and Grants**  
 Car Seat Grant

* Had 10 agencies apply for car seat grants. Requests totaled over $20,000. Awarded just under $8,000 worth of car seats, 111 total.
* Event held in September went over well. Had 10 locations spread across the district. Big thank you to Emily at Cape Safe Communities for her help with securing funding to purchase car seats and materials for the event. The Board voted to hold this event again.

Community Outreach Grant

* Have about $10,000 in funding left for this grant. If you’re new with us, the Community Outreach Grant is funding that’s set aside to help with covering the cost that an agency needs to promote traffic safety in their community. Funding is awarded on a case by case basis throughout the year. Grant requests must address at least one of the emphasis areas highlighted in the Show Me Zero strategic plan. These include distracted driving, impaired driving, occupant protection and speed and aggressive driving. Some examples of what we’ve awarded in the past include: impairment simulation activities, safety gear for Fire Departments such as rain jackets, traffic cones & road flares and bulk promotional items. Grant applications are due for this fiscal year by May 1. Apply at <https://www.savemolives.com/mcrs/community-outreach-grant-application>

Funded Programs

* The Coalition has funding available to have the Arrive Alive Tour come to high schools and the Hooked on Science presentation come to any grade level school. All program information can be found in our Youth Program guide.

Project Prom/Graduation Grant

* This grant is available to high schools that hold a lock-in event after prom or graduation. In order to qualify, schools must also include a traffic safety education component within their night’s agenda. The education piece can also be done the week of the event to reach more students. Qualified schools will receive $200 to be put towards the cost of the event. We’ve had 26 schools apply for the grant. Applicants include: Arcadia Valley, Bismarck, Campbell, Caruthersville, Charleston, Dexter, Doniphan, East Carter, Greenville, Jackson, Kelly, Leopold, Liberty, Lutie, Mansfield, Naylor, Notre Dame, Norwood, Perryville, Richland, Risco, Summersville, Twin Rivers, Van Buren, West Plains and Willow Springs.

**5. AAA Buckle Up Phone Down Showdown**

* Started to compliment legislative push to stop distracted driving
* Contest geared to get high school students engaged in raising awareness of getting public to buckle up and phone down
* Last year over 70 schools participated. This year over 110 schools participated.
* Started on BUPD day and ended December 31. Got over 15,000 pledges.
* Link to news story about previous Showdown: <https://www.kshb.com/news/local-news/odessa-high-school-wins-1-000-in-statewide-distracted-driving-contest>
* Results of High School BUPD showdown: 15,824 pledges. Winning schools: King City HS., Vienna HS, Bernie HS, Mt Vernon HS, Windsor HS & Jackson HS
* Have started a new Showdown targeted to businesses. Last year over 35 businesses participated. Businesses were required to adopt safe driving policies and then employees were required to watch training video and take pledge.
* New app for this year’s Business Showdown called Show Me Your Score through Cambridge Telematics. This will track data to verify who the best the best drivers in the state that are. Employees of businesses that sign up will be eligible for cash prizes and employers will be eligible for prizes as well. Businesses have to have MEM for workman’s comp to participate. Showdown begins in April to goes through June for 10 weeks. Will send out more information closer to start date.

**6. TRACTION Update**

* Peer to peer youth safety conference, held in Cape Girardeau and Columbia
* Up to 12 students and 2 advisors per school may attend
* One advisor needs to work for the school
* Cost is $15 per attendee. TRACTION pays for everything else. Schools/students are responsible for transportation to and from the conference.
* Coalition has funding available to pay the $15 fee for students if schools need assistance.
* Conference teaches students how to have a voice and how to use it to be influencers for teens and roadway safety
* Reunion is March 25 & 26 in Columbia. Schools may still register for this.

**7. Highway Safety Office Update**

* Highway Safety applications are open now thru March 1st which is funded by Federal Funding. $25-$26 million in funds available. Kacey Wilson or Mike Stapp can assist.
* B.R.A.K.E.S (Be Responsible And Keep Everyone Safe)- driver’s education program.
* 4 programs scheduled: April 12-13, St. Louis; April 27-28, Kansas City; June 22-23, St. Louis; June 29-30, Jefferson City. $99 deposit fee that is refunded once student participates.
* The Road Wise safe driving book has been updated. Online ordering system for free brochures and publications: <https://www6.modot.mo.gov/OrderSystem/pub/displayOrder.do>
* Safety Friends Comic Book is a hit with elementary age children. Contact Ashley to request these.
* Jackson students TRACTION Program are starting their own Highway Safety Coalition in Jackson. Students would love any support from anyone safety minded interested in assisting.
* Looking to partner with underserved community organizations such as adoption agencies or foster care programs. If you know of any in your community, please email [Kacey.wilson@modot.mo.gov](mailto:Kacey.wilson@modot.mo.gov)
* New program in Missouri called Keys to Independence. Keys to Independence creates opportunities and removes barriers to driving by financially supporting the cost of driving lessons for youth in out-of-home care. See flyer for details. If you have any specific questions about this program please reach out to Lisa Padua- [info@keystoindependencemo.com](mailto:info@keystoindependencemo.com)

**8.** **Law Enforcement Liaison Update**

* See 2024 mobilization dates document
* Do not have any agencies involved from SE District in State DWI Unit
* DWI/DRE Conference will be held in May in Independence
* Encourage agencies to look at State Prosecutor’s website for trainings available
* LETSAC Conference is July 22-26 in Columbia
* LETSAC regional contacts
  + Region E
    - Officer Scott Ellison, Kennett Police Department
    - [sellison@kennettpd.org](mailto:sellison@kennettpd.org)
  + Region G
    - Samuel Barnhouse, Willow Springs Police Department
    - [jbarnhouse@willowspringsmo.com](mailto:jbarnhouse@willowspringsmo.com)

**9. Roundtable Discussion**

* CPS Tech Classes: March 18-21 in Poplar Bluff (1 spot left), June 10-13 in Farmington (8 spots left) and July 8-11 in Perryville (9 spots left). Funding is available for recertification and new Techs. Agencies are required to have at least 1 Tech in order to receive free child safety seats.
* Upcoming NHTSA & MoDOT Campaigns:
  + Feb 11- Super Bowl
  + March 4-10- Vehicle Safety Recalls Week
  + March 15- April 19- Spring Impaired Driving Enforcement Campaign
  + March 17- St. Patrick’s Day
  + Month of April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month
  + April 1-15- Youth Seat Belt Enforcement Campaign
  + May 20- June 2- Click It or Ticket Campaign
* Chris Luebbert- Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
  + Mission is to reduce traffic fatalities, CMV focused
  + Past was regulatory for trucking and bus companies
  + More than half of CMV accidents are caused by a non-commercial vehicle
  + Wanting investigators to be knowledgeable and expand their partnerships to include coalition specific causes

**Next Meetings:**

**April 16, 10:00 am, MoDOT Southeast District Office, Sikeston**

**April 17, 10:00 am, MSHP Troop G Headquarters, Willow Springs**