

501 © 3 nonprofit organization

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The SPOTLIGHT

SKATE Program: Prevention Education



In an effort to help educate children and their parents, the LRC offers organizations our free SKATE Program (Safe Kids Are Taught Early). This is a 45-minute safety program on lures and abduction prevention. This is a non-threatening, fast-paced, entertaining, and educational program for students in K – 5th grades.

As of 2008, the SKATE program has been presented to over 160,000 children in the Houston Area.

September Activities

- 3 SKATE Program (2 sessions), First Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX
- 4 Adult Education, Technip USA, Houston, TX
- 10 SKATE Program (3 sessions), Sam Houston Elem., Houston, TX
- 11 Presentation at CPS for foster parents, Pasadena, TX
- 12 SKATE program (2 sessions), Franz Elem., Katy, TX
- 16 Presentation, Young Elem. School PTA, Pasadena, TX
- 17 SKATE Program (2 sessions), Bruce Elem., Houston, TX
- 18 SKATE Program, Jones Elem., Missouri City, TX
- 19 SKATE Program, Valley Ranch Elem., Porter, TX
- 20 Safety Fair, Premier Chiropractic, Pearland, TX
- 25 Law Enforcement Presentation, Rocky Mountain Women in LE, Colorado Springs, CO
- 27 Safety Fair, Alvin Fire Dept., Alvin, TX
- 29-30 AMECO Conference, Greenville, SC

Back to School Safety

My son wants to ride his bike to school. Should I let him?

Instruct your child to always GO WITH A FRIEND when walking or riding his bike to and from school. Walk and ride in well-lit areas, and never take shortcuts. When walking and biking, stay aware of your surroundings and observe all traffic rules.

Should I let my young daughter walk to school?

Even though there is safety in numbers, it is still not safe for young children to walk to and from school especially if they must take isolated routes before or during daylight. Always provide supervision for your young children to help ensure their safe arrival to and from school.

Tell your older children who may walk to school that if anyone follows them on foot to get away from him or her as quickly as possible. If anyone follows them in a vehicle, they should turn around, go in the opposite direction, and try to quickly get to a spot where a trusted adult may help them. Advise them to be sure to TELL you or another trusted adult what happened.

What is my role in keeping my child safe at school?

You can do your part in helping schools prepare for emergencies by keeping your personal contact information updated and current in the school office. This includes address, phone numbers (home, work, cell), and email address. Also, you must update the information for your other emergency contacts. Provide the school with any custody or legal papers they may need. Children should be taught to never leave school without getting permission. Know the school's procedure for releasing a child to someone other than a parent.

Parents also need to know the school policy regarding a missing student. If a child is not in school, how much time passes before parents are notified of a student's absence? If your child did not make it to school, the alert needs to be raised quickly. If your child is missing or *(continued in next column)*

was abducted, you are in a race against time, and waiting 6 to 8 hours is too long!

Do not put your child's name on the outside of anything including lunch boxes, backpacks, shirts, and car windows or bumpers.

Also, check the Texas Sex Offender Database website for registered sex offenders living in your zip code. This should be checked monthly. There is a link to this database through our website.

New Poster Program

Kelly Jolkowski, Team Hope Volunteer and President and Founder of Project Jason, is launching a new poster program in late August. All missing person cases in which the family members of the missing person have submitted a Project Jason registration form (granting permission to disseminate information about a missing loved one) will be included in this awareness program. If you have a missing loved one and have not done so prior, please register your missing loved one with Project Jason at <http://www.projectjason.org/report.html>. In the area where it asks how you heard about the program, please enter "Laura Recovery Center". If you have a missing loved one, you may want to consider this opportunity for additional exposure for your loved one.

SAVE THE DATE

**Laura Recovery Center for
Missing Children
Lighting the Way Home Gala
Friday, Oct. 3, 2008
Space Center Houston**

Information: 281-482-5723 or www.lrcf.org

Contributor Recognition

- Cheryl C., Missouri City, TX
- Lakes of Brightwater Subdivision, Missouri City, TX
- Jerry B., Pearland, TX
- Pasadena – Bay Area Junior Forum, Pasadena, TX
- Jennifer H., Cypress, TX
- Jane G., Friendswood, TX

**Thank You August
Volunteers!**

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Revae Poole
Janice Liggett

Brenda Rogers
Sandy Williams