

ThinkFirst:
Leading injury
prevention
through
education,
research
and policy.

Founded by the
American Association
of Neurological
Surgeons and
the Congress of
Neurological Surgeons

ThinkFirst National Injury
Prevention Foundation
1801 N. Mill Street
Suite F
Naperville, IL 60563
Phone: 1-630-961-1400
Phone: 1-800-THINK56
www.thinkfirst.org

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As long as traumatic injury remains the #1 cause of death and disability among children, teens and young adults, the ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation will work diligently on their behalf. The past year has been an exciting, productive year, as we continue to provide outstanding injury prevention programs to as many schools and communities as possible.

This past June, the ThinkFirst Foundation took advantage of the current market by relocating to an office in Naperville, Illinois. The city's mayor, chamber of commerce, businesses and friends welcomed us with a festive ribbon cutting, which was televised locally. We can now comfortably accommodate visitors and volunteers who assist with fundraising, office work and IT needs.

Businesses and organizations are recognizing our ability to add purpose to their own annual events. JLow Racing, Siemens Gigaset, Enviro Packaging Solutions and a local church clothing sale all directed portions of their fundraising proceeds to the ThinkFirst Foundation, to help reduce childhood injuries. This type of partnership is especially helpful to nonprofit organizations such as ours, allowing us to devote our time and resources to program development.

Medical companies supported our Chapter Training Fund that will help facilitate the training we require and provide to chapters. This will assure chapter success and program consistency.

The number of individual donors increased, as most people either know someone who has been seriously or fatally injured, and want to prevent their family from being affected in this way. The value of prevention in healthcare savings has also been an influence. For some, contributing meant joining the ThinkFirst marathon team. Runners from Illinois, Wisconsin and our ThinkFirst Navajo chapter in New Mexico joined us at this year's Chicago Marathon. Thank you to all who supported their efforts. We are already forming the 2011 team; please join us!

And last, but hardly least, I want to acknowledge the nurses, therapists, health educators, VIP peer-educators and physicians supported by hospitals, medical universities and medical practices. You are the foundation of our 130 national and 36 international chapters, providing powerful, yet sensitive presentations that resonate with teens and children in schools everywhere. You are helping us shift the culture toward one of safer attitudes and actions—helping the norms shift in many ways, such as buckling up, putting phones away while driving, playing sports responsibly and avoiding violence. We owe you a debt of gratitude and applaud your commitment to community education.

ThinkFirst chapters provide more than 7,000 presentations a year in the U.S. alone. They rely on the ThinkFirst Foundation for training and educational materials, such as the *Think About Your Choices* DVD that was subtitled in Spanish, French and English this year. As you can see by our balance sheet, our budget is tight for all we are accomplishing. We rely heavily on donations, especially in these economic times. Please help us continue to serve the chapters in your communities.

2011 marks our 25th year of keeping kids safe. We'd like to add your name to next year's Commemorative Annual Report, at any level. Exact amounts are confidential, and the last category is always shown as "\$99 and below," as we ask you to be a proud contributor in any way you comfortably can. *Thank you* for your consideration and support.

Wishing you a safe and joyful holiday season,



Debby Gerhardstein, RN, MA
Executive Director

Our Valued ThinkFirst Contributors:

July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010

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Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation
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We regret any errors or omissions.

