

Safe Routes to School National Partnership



About the Safe Routes for School National Partnership

Founded in 2005, the Safe Routes to School National Partnership improves the quality of life for kids and communities by promoting active, healthy lifestyles and safe infrastructure that supports bicycling and walking. We advance policy change; catalyze support for safe, active and healthy communities with a network of more than 700 partner organizations; and share our deep expertise at national, state and local levels with those who are helping propel our mission forward.

The Safe Routes to School National Partnership's mission is to advance safe walking and bicycling to and from schools, and in daily life, to improve the health and well-being of America's children and to foster the creation of livable, sustainable communities.

Our work in schools & communities

Since 2005, the Safe Routes to School National Partnership has been making it safer and easier for children and families in urban, suburban and rural communities to walk and bicycle to school and in daily life.

We do this by:

- Improving the quality of life and health of kids, families and communities.
- Advancing policy change.
- Catalyzing support for safe, active and healthy communities with partners and leaders at all levels.
- Sharing our deep expertise, including best practices and knowledge to help advocates across the U.S. make headway in their states, regions and communities.

A startling 25 million children in the United States have been diagnosed as overweight, obese, or at risk for obesity-related chronic disease, and this is linked to physical inactivity. Likewise, the U.S. has seen an astonishing 74 percent increase in cases of asthma over the past 25 years, with traffic pollution being a contributing factor. And of all traffic deaths of children ages 0 - 14, 30 percent occur while bicycling or walking. Low-income communities are particularly affected as children in these neighborhoods are twice as likely to be hit by a car while walking, and they experience more personal safety concerns on the streets.

The Safe Routes to School National Partnership is actively working to turn these statistics around. The Safe Routes to School movement offers many ways for individuals, organizations, public agencies, schools and companies to get involved and make a difference at the local, state and even national levels. And Safe Routes to School programs aren't just for parents, teachers and students. All community members – from health organizations and bicycle and pedestrian advocates to local police officers and business owners – can contribute to the success of a Safe Routes to School program.



Fire Up Your Feet: Inspiring kids, families and schools to get moving



For schools and families that are interested in taking steps to increasing walking and bicycling to school along with other forms of physical activity, the Fire Up Your Feet program offers a great way to get involved and build support for Safe Routes to School in a school or community.

Fire Up Your Feet is a national school-based program that encourages families, students and schools to work together to create healthy lifestyles that inspire children to be physically active. Students, parents and school staff at K-8 schools track their physical activity to help their school earn challenge awards that can be used to support physical activity and wellness programs. Fire Up Your Feet is a core program of the Safe Routes to School National Partnership in collaboration with Kaiser Permanente and with support from the National PTA.

Fire Up Your Feet offers:

- Free resources, toolkits and webinars to increase physical activity before, during and after school.
- An online activity tracker and school fundraising program centered around increasing physical activity for parents, students and school staff.
- Families, students, staff, and teachers in elementary and middle schools the opportunity to become champions for physical activity.
- Activity Challenges offered in certain states/regions where schools can earn awards for the most participation and activity tracked.
- Healthy fundraising, an easy option for your next school fundraiser centered around physical activity.



In certain states and regions, the Fire Up Your Feet Activity Challenge offers awards to competing K-8 schools. Challenge Awards range from \$100 to \$5,000 and are offered in California, Colorado, Hawaii, New Hampshire, Oregon, SW Washington, Virginia, Wisconsin, Metro Atlanta, Maryland and Greater Washington, DC. You can learn more about the Fire Up Your Feet Activity Challenge at fireupyourfeet.org.

Fire Up Your Next School Fundraiser with a Healthy Fundraising Option

Any school in the country can take advantage of Fire Up Your Feet Healthy Fundraising to raise more money during school fundraisers. Our online fundraising platform provides a safe and secure system for any PTA or school group that establishes a team so that you can start raising money for your school immediately. This robust system is similar to those used by large events such as Relay for Life, Jump Rope for Heart and others. We provide everything you will need to successfully raise funds for health and wellness initiatives at any public or private school in the country. Learn more at fireupyourfeet.org/healthy-fundraising.