Missouri FCCLA & Missouri Department of Transportation: A Unified Mission for Safer Roads

The Missouri Family Career and Community Leaders of America® (FCCLA), in partnership with the Missouri Department of Transportation partnered to increase participation of Missouri youth in peer to peer traffic education through the FCCLA Families Acting for Community Traffic Safety (FACTS) initiative. This groundbreaking effort aims to educate and engage students in promoting traffic safety within their communities, leveraging the enthusiasm and commitment of over 300 Missouri FCCLA Chapters.

Empowering Students Through Education and Action

The FCCLA FACTS program empowers students to:

- **Educate** on safe driving practices, targeting both peers and adults.
- **Advocate** for adherence to local traffic laws and regulations.
- **Inspire** lifelong traffic safety attitudes through creative, community-focused projects.

Key Areas of Focus:

- **People:** Emphasizing the responsibility of individuals as drivers and passengers.
- **Vehicles:** Understanding the critical role of vehicle safety.
- **Roads:** Promoting awareness and safety on the road, including hazard recognition and response.

Engaging Communities, Shaping Futures

Missouri FCCLA Chapters were encouraged to identify and implement traffic safety projects that resonate with their local communities' needs, ranging from combating impaired driving to promoting seat belt usage. These projects not only allow chapters to contribute significantly to their communities but also offer them a platform to showcase their achievements at the national level. Two examples are noted below:





Northeast Vernon County (NEVC) FCCLA - "Look Every Way Every Day"
NEVC FCCLA Members took action to enhance student safety by painting a sidewalk, designating a loading zone at the high school, and installing signs to alert drivers to the school zone. They also produced a safety video instructing students on how to navigate the crosswalk properly.





King City FCCLA - "Mind on the Drive"
The King City FCCLA Members, with support from the Student Council and FACTS Committee, the Buckle Up, Phone Down Campaign achieved a remarkable 469.5% above their pledge rate goal for safe driving among high school students. Their success came from educational activities, social media engagement, and a focused assembly promoting attentive driving and seatbelt use.

Recognition and Rewards: The most impactful project receives special recognition, including an opportunity to present at the Governors Highway Safety Association Annual Meeting and attend the FCCLA National Leadership Conference in Seattle, WA, to share about their project and its impact on their community.

Get Involved: Missouri FCCLA is driving change and fostering safer communities through the power of student leadership and initiative! For more information or to engage with your local FCCLA Chapter, contact Blake Reed at (816) 489-7500 or breed@bsd124.org.