

## LETTER-WRITING CAMPAIGN GUIDELINES

Gaining the support of your local, state and national representatives can add a great deal of momentum to the campaign. Here are some suggestions for your letter writing efforts.

Coordinate a school-wide campaign where all students and staff write their own individual letters to their representatives. This can serve as a useful writing exercise. Be sure that a teacher or responsible adult reads the letters before they are mailed.

In your letters, be sure to cover the following points:

- Who is participating in the campaign (National SAVE, The Guidance Channel, all of the sponsors, and your local coalition)
- What your legislator can do to support the initiative (officially recognizing the event, talking about it to the media, etc.)
- When the event is (April 3-7 in 2006)
- Where you will be holding your events (include the address where your in-school conference will be and invite them to attend)
- Why you are participating in the campaign (include statistics and information on the problem of youth violence)
- How they can find out more about the campaign (include a local coalition phone number and/or refer them to the campaign website)

You may want to include the sample proclamation included in this appendix so they can use it as a template. Also be sure to be respectful and thank them for their consideration!