

SPECIAL RELEASE TO SELECTED MEDIA

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LEADERS INVITED TO RIDE WITH P.R.I.D.E. LUNCHEON

One more teen death from a traffic accident is one death too many. More than 200 teens are killed in crashes each year, making it the leading cause of death for teens.

“The statistics are sobering, frightening and, since many of the deaths are preventable, totally unacceptable,” says Steve Davis, director of the University of Georgia’s Georgia Traffic Injury Prevention Institute.

That’s why Davis is calling on key leaders in Carroll, Coweta, Douglas, Haralson, Harris, Heard, Meriwether, Paulding and Troup counties to join together for a luncheon on June 26 at Central High School in Carrollton to learn how they can play a personal role in lessening the impact of teen driver crashes and the pain it brings to families in communities dealing with these senseless losses. GTIPI has developed a new statewide program, Georgia Teens Ride with P.R.I.D.E. (Parents Reducing Incidents of Driver Error) to address the growing problem of motor vehicle crashes involving teen drivers.

Leaders in government, public safety, education, health care, businesses, faith communities and civic organizations are invited to attend the luncheon to be updated about the problem and how to make a difference.

GTIPI is seeking volunteers from the west Georgia area who want to prevent this problem to attend a Train the Trainer session for the P.R.I.D.E. teen driving program from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in conjunction with the luncheon at Central High School. Attendees completing the course will become certified instructors for the new program.

“These leaders will learn about the impact of traffic crashes and what they, in partnership with others in the community, can do to make a difference,” Davis says. At the conclusion of the program, leaders will be encouraged to establish and support local partnerships to implement the Georgia Teens Ride with P.R.I.D.E. program with the new trainers in their area.

To register to attend the luncheon, Train the Trainer, or for more information, please contact Andrew Turnage at the Georgia Traffic Injury Prevention Institute at 678-413-4281, toll free at 1-800-342-9819, or email: gtipi@uga.edu.