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Contact: Joanna McNally, 678-589-6101, Joanna.McNally@allstate.com

**The Allstate Foundation Awards \$50,000 Grant to South Carolina National Safety Council for Youth Driver Education Program**

*Grant to Provide Scholarships, Program Support for "Alive at 25"*

ATLANTA (April 18, 2007) – The Allstate Foundation in the Southeast Region has awarded a \$50,000 grant to the South Carolina Chapter of the National Safety Council (SCNSC) in support of its "Alive at 25" youth driver education program. The Allstate Foundation grant will provide scholarships for South Carolina young adults to take the "Alive at 25" course, as well as fund additional program support throughout the state.

"Allstate believes it is very important for corporations to take an active interest in the communities in which they serve," said Cliff Butler, field vice president for Allstate. "Allstate is proud to support such a worthwhile cause through the Allstate Foundation, and this \$50,000 grant will provide much-needed support for the work of SCNSC and the 'Alive at 25' driver education program in South Carolina."

The National Safety Council (NSC)'s "Alive at 25" course, offered to drivers ages 15-24, is designed to be an early intervention program to help prevent traffic violations, collisions and fatalities. The focus is to help educate young drivers to adopt safer driving practices, take responsibility for their behavior in various driving situations, and to be aware of many typical driving hazards. The NSC reports that students who complete the "Alive at 25" course are 96 percent less likely to be killed in a car crash than youths that have not taken the course.

The SCNSC is partnering with many school systems throughout the state of South Carolina, including Dutch Fork High School in Irmo. This year, all students who want to park on the Dutch Fork High School campus during the 2007-2008 school year will be required to complete the "Alive at 25" course prior to being issued parking permits.

"This \$50,000 grant from The Allstate Foundation will help thousands of young people in South Carolina learn the importance of safe driving through the 'Alive at 25' program," said Brooke Russell, executive director of the SCNSC. "The Allstate Foundation is a great partner of SCNSC because they are just as passionate about the cause of safe teen driving as we are. It's wonderful to be able to partner with an organization that is working toward the same very important goal - to reduce the number of teen fatalities due to car crashes."

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Motor vehicle crashes are the number one killer of teens in the United States. More than 6,000 teens are killed each year as the result of a motor vehicle crash, and an additional 300,000 are injured. The Allstate Foundation launched a comprehensive teen safe driving program in 2005 that seeks to develop innovative, teen-informed approaches to raise awareness of the issue and ultimately, to help save lives and reduce injuries. In addition to conducting its own programming in the teen safe driving arena on both national and local levels, The Allstate Foundation supports other non-profit organizations' efforts, like that of the SCNSC "Alive at 25" program, to help tackle America's problem of teen driving fatalities.

To learn more about what The Allstate Foundation is doing with teen safe driving, visit [www.ProtectTeenDrivers.org](http://www.ProtectTeenDrivers.org).

## **About The National Safety Council**

The NSC is a non-profit, nongovernmental, international public service organization dedicated to protecting life and promoting health. The NSC is a membership organization, founded in 1913 and chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1953. Members include more than 46,000 businesses, labor organizations, schools, public agencies, private groups and individuals.

## **About The Allstate Foundation**

Established in 1952, The Allstate Foundation is an independent, charitable organization made possible by subsidiaries of The Allstate Corporation. The Allstate Foundation partners with non-profit organizations on community initiatives that promote "safe and vital communities"; "tolerance, inclusion, and diversity"; and "economic empowerment."

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