



NEWS RELEASE

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

RSA Tower 201 Monroe Street, Suite 914 Montgomery, AL 36104

Phone 334-206-5300 Fax 334-206-5534

www.adph.org

Injury in Alabama, A Focus on Prevention--Alabama to announce injury prevention plan March 31

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Melissa Khan
(334) 206-5541

The public is invited to attend a special proclamation ceremony to unveil Alabama's plan to prevent injuries. The ceremony will be held at the State Capitol Auditorium on North Union Street March 31 at 9:30 a.m.

Injury is the leading cause of death for children and young adults 1-34 years of age. Injuries affect everyone, regardless of age, race or economic status, and are a substantial and preventable public health problem. In 2001, there were 3,178 deaths due to injuries such as motor vehicle crashes, falls, fire, suicides and homicides.

The State of Alabama Injury Advisory Council composed of over 30 state agencies, organizations and private entities, all dedicated to preventing injuries in Alabama, has joined together to create and publish "Injury in Alabama, A Focus on Prevention."

The public is invited to join Alabama Gov. Bob Riley, State Health Officer Donald Williamson, members of the Alabama Legislature, the Baldwin Academics and Magnet School Choir, and survivors of unintentional and intentional injuries for this special occasion.

At the ceremony, the many agencies and organizations who work every day to ensure Alabamians are safe will be recognized. A slide show will be shown and copies of the report, "Injury in Alabama, A Focus on Prevention," will be available. State Rep. Quinton Ross and State Sen. Mac Gipson will also speak at the ceremony.

For more information please contact Melissa Khan at (334) 206-5541 or Nancy Wright, Injury Education Branch, Alabama Department of Public Health, at (334) 206-5314.

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