

S.A.V.E. Program

The American Medical Association Alliance initiated “Stop America’s Violence Everywhere (SAVE) in June 1995. Alliances across the country recognized the toll that violence takes in communities. ISMSA and County Medical Alliances have observed SAVE Today on the second Wednesday of October for twenty years. The Illinois State Medical Society and Alliance recognized the violence epidemic and kicked off its Anti-Violence Initiative in September 1993. Illinois physicians and their spouses have developed and implemented many SAVE projects.

Some include:

- a CME course “More Than Words” for physician and the community on how to treat and combat domestic violence;
- showers for domestic violence shelters;
- Hands Are Not for Hitting lessons for pre-school and grade school children;
- domestic violence billboard, poster and education campaigns;
- conflict resolution, self-esteem and anti-bullying programs, and educational materials;
- promotion of the Attorney General’s office’s anti-violence Tip-Line program; and
- Peace Gardens, poetry contests, and internet safety education.

The SAVE Campaigns have made an impact on violence wherever it exists – in homes, in schools, on the community streets and in media – and drawn attention to the devastating effects of violence that rob so many Americans of quality living. This has been an Alliance signature program for twenty one years. We have cause to celebrate our efforts.

We are also offering to share two booklets with schools, libraries, daycares and other programs that deal with bullying and skill building. We will email the booklets for them to put on their webpage or they can link directly to the ISMSA or Parent Help Line webpages. Log onto <http://www.parenthelpline.org> to view SchoolTime: Dealing with Bullies and SkillTime. Both are examples of health literate writing and fulfilled our 2015-16 Health Literacy program goals.