



**State of Illinois**  
Pat Quinn, Governor

**Illinois Department of Transportation**  
Erica J. Borggren, Acting Secretary

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
October 27, 2014

**CONTACT:**  
Paris Ervin 217.782.5025  
Guy Tridgell 312.793.4199

## **IDOT Partners with Teen Safety Advocates to Offer Training Workshops in Illinois**

*“Train the Trainer” Workshops to Offer Proven Techniques to Better Reach Teens; Address Unsafe, Reckless Driving to Eliminate Fatal Crashes*

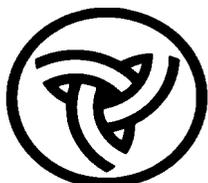
**SPRINGFIELD** - The Illinois Department of Transportation’s Division of Transportation Safety is teaming up with two organizations aimed at saving teen lives, SADD and IMPACT, to provide training workshops in Illinois for educators, first responders, healthcare professionals, law enforcement and community members. The IDOT-sponsored “Train the Trainer” workshops are being held October 27 in Springfield and October 28 in Schaumburg to teach trainers how to best deliver effective, energetic and informative safe-driving presentations that teens will learn from.

The training workshops will complement the existing “Operation Teen Safe Driving” and “Drive for Tomorrow” programs to help further educate teens on the various dangers associated with driving and help save lives.

“IDOT is passionate about saving lives from traffic-related crashes on Illinois roadways, and teens are our most vulnerable roadway users,” said Tonya Loker, Director of IDOT’s Division of Transportation Safety. “We are excited to partner with SADD and IMPACT to help all of our partners to deliver united, safe-driving messages to this impressionable age group while there is still time to instill good driving habits to prevent serious injury and fatal crashes. As our future drivers, we want to do everything we can to ensure they are safe on our roadways and go on to live full, healthy lives.”

“SADD is excited to be partnering with IDOT and IMPACT this year to provide training of an evidence-based program to address the issues of distracted and reckless driving,” said Robyn Block, IL SADD State Coordinator. “What Do You Consider Lethal is a program that uses strategies proven to be effective, and resonates with teens.”

The goal of the IMPACT is to offer “Train the Trainers” workshops, which lead facilitators through the Impact Teen Drivers program. The five-hour workshop provides participants with evidence-based tools to deliver high energy presentations focused on the dangers of reckless and distracted driving. Participants will learn about



**Illinois Department of Transportation**

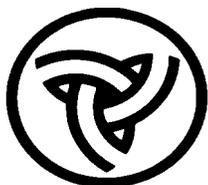
reckless and distracted driving research and statistics, Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) Laws, the “What do YOU Consider Lethal?” campaign, and how to effectively communicate the essentials of safe driving to teens, parents, and member of their communities.

The workshops provide participants with examples of school and community-based programs and presentations, including parent-teen safe driving workshops. Participants will receive informational handouts, guides, and templates for facilitating discussion and preparing presentations about teen safe driving for their own reference and to share with other educators, first responders, health professionals, or community members.

“Impact Teen Drivers is proud to work with the Illinois Department of Transportation to stop the number one killer of teens in America – 100 percent preventable car crashes. It will take all of us, educators, law enforcement, parents, and communities, to change the driving culture to one that is distraction-free,” Impact Teen Drivers Executive Director Dr. Kelly Browning said.

For more information or to find out about additional workshops in your community, contact the Impact Illinois Program Manager, Marianne Hankins, 217-782-4972 or [Marianne.hankins@illinois.gov](mailto:Marianne.hankins@illinois.gov).

###



**Illinois Department of Transportation**