



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

Region 6
Louisiana, Mississippi
New Mexico, Oklahoma
Texas, Indian Nations

819 Taylor Street Room 8A38
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-6177

April 1, 2009

Dear Pastor:

Losing a loved one is never easy, but it is especially difficult when the fatality is a child or teen. Traffic crashes remain the second leading cause of death for African American teenagers, and although African-American male teens drive fewer vehicle miles than their Caucasian counterparts, they are nearly twice as likely to die in a motor vehicle crash. We need your support to reach the youth in your congregation!

You can help by making a commitment to traffic safety, sharing the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Region 6 Safety Clergy Kit of safety messages for April through June with your congregation and community.

In this quarter, the messages emphasize teen seat belt use, as well as information concerning child passenger safety, driving distractions, and a variety of other driving topics. Plus, you'll find a Sunday school activity designed to initiate discussions about unsafe teen driving behaviors.

The Clergy Kit contains:

- Church Bulletin Safety Announcements for April through June 2009
- Pastor Notes for a Traffic Safety Sermon Message
- Weekly Safety Reminders
- Sunday School Activity

If you need additional information or other assistance to help promote traffic safety within your church, please contact Ministers Against Crime Regional Diversity Outreach Liaison Luther Perry at 817-978-0661, or visit www.coremessages.com for downloadable versions. Thank you for your efforts to prevent tragedies in your community!

Sincerely,

Georgia S. Chakiris
Regional Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration