



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 11, 2009

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South Lafourche High School Group Receives National Accolade

Marlborough, Mass. – The South Lafourche High School SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) chapter in Galliano, Louisiana, has been chosen as the second-place winner of the 2009 SADD National Chapter of the Year award. Created five years ago, this SADD chapter has grown to 160 students who do their best every day to live as an example of what they believe in – empowering themselves and their peers to make safe and healthy decisions.

“As one of the most active SADD chapters in the country, this group highly deserves this special recognition,” SADD Executive Director Penny Wells said. “Year after year, youth from South Lafourche have carried out SADD’s mission, empowering their peers to make safe, healthy decisions. These are extraordinary young leaders who make exceptional efforts to accomplish their goals, and they set an example for SADD chapters across the country.”

South Lafourche SADD is one of the most active clubs at the high school and has a long list of accomplishments. Once a month, students have a radio show on KTIB to talk about different SADD-related issues, such as bullying, alcohol, other drugs, and dating violence. They answer questions from callers and encourage others to make a difference in the community. For the third year, the chapter participated in the statewide “U Drink, U Drive, U Walk” campaign to reduce the number of alcohol-related accidents by handing out campaign footballs, magnets, cups, and other items during a football game. South Lafourche SADD also participated in a community health and safety fair to help provide children with information about staying safe. Other activities throughout the past

year include holding community briefings, organizing Red Ribbon Week events, talking to elementary students about healthy decision-making, and assisting with a diabetes walk.

“We are very proud to receive this award. South Lafourche SADD students have really taken the initiative to go beyond the call of duty,” said SADD Advisor Beverly Cheramie. “It’s an honor to see such a dedicated group of students work tirelessly in both the school and the community.”

South Lafourche High School SADD will be formally honored at an awards banquet at the SADD National Conference in Washington, D.C., this July. The chapter will receive a \$250 cash prize. Two additional SADD chapters will also be recognized for their hard work and dedication throughout the past year. Northwestern High School in Springfield, Ohio, was chosen as the first-place winner and will receive a \$500 cash prize. Anoka High School in Anoka, Minnesota, placed third and will receive \$100.

SADD, the nation’s leading peer-to-peer youth education, prevention, and activism organization, is committed to empowering young people to lead initiatives in their schools and communities. Founded in 1981, today SADD has thousands of chapters in middle schools, high schools, and colleges. SADD highlights prevention of many destructive behaviors and attitudes that are harmful to young people, including underage drinking, other drug use, risky and impaired driving, and teen violence and suicide. More information about SADD can be found at **sadd.org**.

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