

For Immediate Release

RESA AWARDED HIGHWAY SAFETY GRANT

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Pioneer Regional Education Service Agency has been awarded a Northeast Georgia Rural Roads Initiative Highway Safety grant in the amount of \$92,000 from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety. The grant will serve the counties of Banks, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union and White. This grant is an extension of a grant funded until September 30, 2011. The objectives of this grant are to build community mobilizations in Region 2 Health District to reduce injuries and fatalities in motor vehicle crashes. Community collaboratives have previously been established consisting of churches, schools, health departments, hospitals, emergency medical services, fire departments, law enforcements, city councils, county commissioners, businesses, local county and city agencies, and civic clubs. In the past year benefits from this grant have contributed education and equipment in the area of child passenger safety. For example, three children were properly protected in three vehicle crashes in Hall, Lumpkin, and White Counties. Crash data is being provided to local communities to determine their highway safety needs. Thirty high school SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) Chapters have been funded through the Governor's Office of Highway Safety for better educating teenagers in reducing risky behavior. This grant will continue to reduce injuries and fatalities through education and cooperation in Northeast Georgia.