

## **ThinkFirst Foundation Receives Grants from General Motors and the Illinois Department of Transportation**

**Naperville, IL, October 4, 2018** -- The ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation (ThinkFirst Foundation) was recently awarded two grants for projects pertaining to traffic safety education for reducing traffic-related injuries and fatalities.

General Motors awarded a one-year grant, beginning September 1, 2018, for ThinkFirst's project 'Expanding Traffic Safety Programs to High Risk Road Users.' This project will expand the use of educational traffic safety-related programs of the ThinkFirst Foundation by training injury prevention professionals and increasing the number of ThinkFirst chapters providing programs throughout the United States, thereby increasing the number of attendees benefitting from them. Educational materials and messaging will also be enhanced through media outlets, social media, and posted curriculum for public use. TF programs teach people of all ages to take responsibility in using vehicle restraints, limiting driver distractions and other safety measures for reducing the road-user's risk for injury.

The Illinois Department of Transportation has awarded a FY2019 Highway Safety Grant for Injury Prevention to the ThinkFirst Foundation, beginning October 1, 2018. This project will enhance and expand the educational traffic safety-related presentation materials used by injury prevention professionals for teens and parents of teen drivers. Programs are intended to improve teen driver compliance of Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) laws and other safety measures for reducing crashes, injuries and deaths among new, inexperienced drivers in Illinois. Programs will be developed for easy modification for use by injury prevention professionals in any state.

### **About ThinkFirst**

The mission of ThinkFirst is to prevent brain, spinal cord and other traumatic injuries through education, research and advocacy. Founded by the American Association of Neurological Surgeons and the Congress of Neurological Surgeons, the ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation, based in the Chicago suburb of Naperville, is a resource for educational program materials, training and support for injury prevention professionals. ThinkFirst chapters, based in hospitals and health centers throughout the United States and internationally, provide more than 7,000 presentations each year to schools and community groups. Programs promote safe behaviors to prevent brain, spinal cord and other traumatic injuries for all age groups, including basic safety, traffic safety and concussion awareness programs for students, falls prevention for older adults, and infant safety for new parents. An independent 501c3 charitable organization, the ThinkFirst Foundation relies on the support of individuals, businesses, associations, corporations, foundations and government agencies. For more information on ThinkFirst visit [www.thinkfirst.org](http://www.thinkfirst.org).

###