



PRESS RELEASE

Aventura City of Excellence School, ACES

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Contact: Leslie Loewenthal
ACES SPECIAL EVENTS/PROJECTS

Phone: 305-466-1499 ext. 4123

ACES STUDENTS STRIVE AND "STRIDE FOR SAFETY" IN SEPTEMBER'S SAFETY MONTH

Aventura City of Excellence School, (ACES) September's Safety Awareness Month educated students on how to prevent injuries, create safer environments and on how to take a proactive approach with safer behavior matters before injuries occur. Safety month also has students and families raising funds for "Strides for Safety," the University of Miami's William Lehman Injury Research Center, which serves as the model for trauma centers throughout the nation.

ACES students spent weeks learning about "Safety" procedures. During Safety Month, the Strides Team of ACES parents Stephanie Ordet and Lisa Levine along with Blake Feder (ACES student) joined the AM TV Show to share daily safety tips and to teach students methods to keep them and their families safe from harm.

On Tuesday September 1st ACES students and families took over a local bowling alley to support the first "Strikes for Safety" Family Bowling Night Fundraiser. It was a huge success. The bowling alley was filled to the brim with parents, grandparents, children of all ages and ACES staff enjoying the bowling and camaraderie of being involved with the event.

ACES Administration, staff and hundreds of students and families also showed up to support and participate in the 2nd Strides for Safety 5K run/walk at the Aventura Mall on Sunday September 13, 2009. Racers followed a course around Turnberry's Golf Course, where roads were blocked off to make it more "race like." Winners received medals from the University of Miami mascot. Students enjoyed The Kids Fun Zone with a bounce house, painting station, and operation games. They also had fun exploring a coast guard boat, an Injury Free Mobile, the EMS trucks and over 20 booths featuring home, fire, and outdoor safety. For a donation of \$5, students were able to get a brand new custom fit helmet.

Principal Julie Alm said, "Our students and families have made such huge "strides" in learning to prevent trauma and in sharing safety tips with each other and the community. The activities have been very productive and students have experienced first-hand that being socially responsible and involved with a worthwhile cause enhances the quality of life for all of us." ACES students raised over \$4,200 for the Strides for Safety Race and the Strikes for Safety Bowling events. On Mon. 10/5, University of Miami Doctor Carl Shulman visited ACES AM TV Show to thank students for their commitment to September's Safety Month and for success with their fundraising efforts on behalf of the University of Miami's Injury

Research Program. 2nd grader Rocky Tinkler won a bicycle and helmet as ACES top fundraiser. Ms. Arrastias's 3rd grade class won a field trip to the Miami Seaquarium for the best participation.



