



PRIDE Insider

The newsletter for Georgia Teens Ride with P.R.I.D.E. (Parents Reducing Incidents of Driver Error) Instructors

December 2008

PRIDE Updates for 2009

The time has come for PRIDE to move to the next level of excellence. As with any move, there undoubtedly will be changes. Although many of these changes will be minor, others will take some time for everyone to adjust. We are confident, however, that these changes will help PRIDE maintain its credibility and award-winning status.

Some of the proposed changes to the PRIDE program for 2009 include, but are not limited to:

- More emphasis on occupant safety, thus changing the name of the program to "Parents Reducing Injuries and Driver Error";
- Standards,

Expectations and Code of Conduct for all instructors;

- Increased program monitoring (unannounced visits) and class observations by GTIPI staff;
- More contact and follow-up (personal and telephone) with instructors;
- Online re-certification to help instructors who are unable to travel;
- New and revised surveys and forms;
- Frequently asked questions (FAQs) for parents and teens; and
- Re-certification, every two years, for instructors in good standing (i.e. taught at least four classes/year with evidence of strong local support for the program).

Changes are scheduled to go into effect on January 2, 2009. Details of all changes will follow soon.

Also, please submit any pictures and local advertisements you have from your PRIDE classes so that they can be included in our PRIDE scrapbook. It is time to make PRIDE "Shine" in 2009. In order to accomplish this, we must all work together.

We welcome your suggestions and concerns. Please feel free to contact Dana Porter at 770-929-4046 or dmp71@uga.edu.

PRIDE Instructor Trainings

December 2	.....New Instructor Certification	.....Conyers
December 3	.....Re-Certification	.....Conyers
January 13	.....New Instructor Certification	.....Conyers
January 14	.....Re-Certification	.....Conyers
January 27	.....New Instructor Certification	.....Warner Robins
January 29	.....Re-Certification Webcast	.....Conyers
February 10	.....New Instructor Certification	.....Albany
February 17	.....New Instructor Certification	.....Conyers
February 18	.....Re-Certification	.....Conyers
March 10	.....New Instructor Certification	.....Conyers
March 11	.....Re-Certification	.....Conyers

Trainings are free, but advance registration is required. Call 800-342-9819 or go to www.ridesafegeorgia.org to register.

New GTIPI Program Coordinator

Dana Porter, who previously worked with Parent Youth Outreach and the PRIDE program from 2004 to 2005, has returned as GTIPI's Program Coordinator. Dana replaces Beth Bartlett. Dana will manage the PRIDE and CarFit programs, as well as other duties related to outreach education.

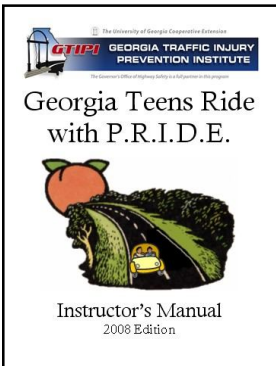
Dana is very familiar with the PRIDE program and is excited about returning to GTIPI. She has already developed new ideas in an effort to make the PRIDE program an even greater success. She is ready to take PRIDE to the next level.

Any questions or concerns that you may have regarding PRIDE or CarFit, feel free to contact Dana at 770-929-4046 or by email at dmp71@uga.edu. She is looking forward to hearing from you and working with all of you again.

Farewell to PYO Assistant

As many of you may already be aware, Katrina Pittman, former GTIPI PYO Assistant, has accepted another position with UGA. Katrina's last day at GTIPI was October 31, 2008.

Katrina decided to continue her employment with the UGA Physical Plant in Athens. This is a great career opportunity for Katrina, and we are confident that she will be an asset to her new department. She will, however, be greatly missed at GTIPI.



The Georgia Traffic Injury Prevention Institute (GTIPI) is part of The University of Georgia College of Family and Consumer Sciences, funded by a grant from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety.



Update on Katrina!

Katrina will continue to maintain her PRIDE, CarFit and CPST certifications and will assist with classes as her schedule permits. Join me and all of us at GTIPI in extending congratulations as she begins her new career path. For those of you wishing to keep in touch with Katrina, her email address will remain the same.

Job Vacancy at GTIPI!

If you know of someone who would be interested in applying for this Katrina's position, please refer them to the GTIPI website www.ridesafegeorgia.org for further details.

Save Time & Money! Re-Certify Online!

As fuel prices rise, GTIPI is continuing to look for ways to make GTIPI trainings as convenient and cost-effective as possible for you. On January 29, GTIPI will offer its first re-certification web-cast training. The training will be a self-paced course. PRIDE instructors will complete mandatory assignments and quizzes as they are updated with the latest PRIDE curriculum and program changes.

The face-to-face re-certification trainings at GTIPI will continue in Conyers for those who prefer the traditional course.

The 8-hour certification course for new instructors will continue to be available in Conyers and regionally throughout the state.

PRIDE Summit 2009

On September 30, GTIPI held its first annual PRIDE Summit in Conyers. The main focus of the summit was to discuss (1) Successes; (2) Challenges; and (3) Opportunities for Improving the PRIDE program. Master Trainers and veteran instructors from around the state were invited to attend.

The summit was a great success. Attendees got a chance to discuss their counties' successes in an open forum, leading the way for new ideas for other counties. Some of the successes discussed included ongoing community collaboration with the Juvenile Court System, local schools and local churches, as well as creative marketing tools.

During a group activity, attendees discussed some of the challenges they encounter with the PRIDE program and how to convert these challenges into opportunities for improvement. Some of these challenges included lack of "dedicated" instructors; lack of statewide program awareness; limited meeting space and a/v equipment; lack of support from local media and participant "no-shows."

Several ideas for improving the PRIDE program surfaced during this discussion, some of which will take place in the upcoming year. Stay tuned for more details.

Certificates of Recognition for Outstanding Service to the PRIDE program were presented to attendees. Next year we hope to be able to invite other instructors to participate in the summit.

Many thanks go out to all of those who continue to make PRIDE a success in their community. Keep up the great job. You **are** making a difference!

Scheduled PRIDE Classes for Parents & Teens	
December 2.... Rockdale County / Conyers	6:30 pm
December 3.... Dougherty County / Albany	6:30 pm
December 6.... DeKalb County / Atlanta.....	11:00 am
December 6.... Gwinnett County / Suwanee	1:00 pm
December 8.... Coweta County / Newnan	6:00 pm
December 28.. Chatham County / Savannah.....	6:15 pm
January 13..... Rockdale County / Conyers	6:30 pm
February 17 Cobb County / Acworth	6:30 pm
February 17 Rockdale County / Conyers	6:30 pm
March 9..... Hall County / Gainesville.....	6:30 pm
March 10..... Rockdale County / Conyers	6:30 pm
Check www.ridesafegeorgia.org for updates. Don't see <i>your</i> PRIDE class listed? Simply complete an R&A Form and fax it to 678-413-4293.	

Top 2008 PRIDE Program Honors

Each year GTIPI recognizes organizations that have made PRIDE a success in their communities. Could your department be recognized this year?

GTIPI will soon announce the 2008 PRIDE Program Honors. Last year the top three agencies recognized for outstanding service by offering PRIDE to a high number of families were Coweta County Sheriff's Office, Dougherty County Police Department and Savannah-Chatham Metro Police Department.

We greatly appreciate the dedication and hard work that all of our instructors have done to make PRIDE a success. Keep up the great job and perhaps your organization will be one of our recipients of this award.

Holiday Wishes from GTIPI

As the holidays approach, many of us will travel to spend time with family and friends reflecting on the events of the past year. This holiday season remember to Buckle Up, Every Trip, Every Passenger, Every Time! **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

