

FEMA Grants Approval for Smoke Alarm Program

MySafe:LA kicks off a program to put smoke alarms in at-risk Los Angeles homes.

(August 20, 2012 -- Los Angeles) - MySafe:LA, the public education partner of the Los Angeles Fire Department, has received a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to conduct a large-scale smoke alarm outreach and education program in L.A. schools. The grant will help facilitate the installation of smoke alarms in at-risk homes in Los Angeles. The program will teach 4th and 5th grade students to inspect their homes for working smoke alarms and other fire dangers.

MySafe:LA research has targeted students and families in at-risk areas of Los Angeles, including South LA and parts of San Fernando Valley. These homes in LAFD Battalion areas 11, 12 and 13 may have multiple risk-factors such as overcrowding and little access to fire safety.

Smoke alarms are the single most important fire safety device in the home. In 2011, there were 21 fire fatalities in the city of Los Angeles. In every deadly fire, there was no working smoke alarm in the residence.

MySafe:LA has been teaching fire and life safety and emergency preparedness in Los Angeles schools since 2009.

"After hundreds of visits to elementary schools in LA, our instructors feel confident that teaching 4th and 5th grade students about home fire inspection and working smoke alarms will reach their parents," said MySafe:LA Executive Officer David Barrett. "The entire purpose of our program is to change people's behavior, and hopefully we'll continue to make inroads with this important program."

This is the second FEMA grant awarded to MySafe:LA, which is a not-for-profit, public-education initiative designed to provide a definitive resource for safety-related information for the greater Los Angeles area.

MySafe:LA is an independent 501-(c)(3) that covers a wide range of issues, including residential fire safety, wildfires, earthquakes, burns, floods, accident and injury prevention, pet/animal safety, carbon monoxide awareness as well as holiday and seasonal safety issues such as Fourth of July Fireworks safety and Christmas tree fires.



MySafe:LA



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