

PROM PROMISE

MOCK CRASH PROGRAM



This dramatic program is geared for teens. Participating agencies including Fire/EMS, Bayflite, the SADD, (Student Against Destructive Decisions), Charlotte County Sheriff Department, Florida Highway Patrol, students, parents, teachers, funeral homes, vehicle towing companies, insurance companies and media representatives work together to create a mock crash. This mock crash, which is preformed on the High School football field, provides students with a visual example of what happens when poor judgment is used and teens decide to use drugs and alcohol while driving and a crash occurs. Students witness their peers heading out for their big night for the prom. Mom and Dad take pictures as their daughter is picked up by her date and head out for a fun night. Half way to the prom, the vehicle driver pulls over to offer a drink to their date. The passenger refuses but the driver indulges and of course a crash occurs. Student's witness their classmate's the collision and the 911 system activated. Firefighters and Paramedics extricate the student from the crash vehicles. Some of the victims have major injuries and one of the students is DOA, dead on arrival. The driver of the vehicle that was hit by the drunken driver is flown out to a trauma center and students are given the opportunity to see the Bayflite helicopter land on the football field to transport our Trauma Alert patient. The innocent, non-drinking, DOA student is placed in a body bag and taken away by a hearse. The student drunken driver is taken away in a sheriff's car under arrest and FHP must now inform the parents of the deceased teen that their child is dead. This program has a tremendous impact on the student audience and a harsh reminder for teens to make safe decisions when it come to drugs, alcohol, and driving.

This program takes months of planning and preparation and has proved to be extremely successful. Prom Promise is preformed every four years at the area high schools. 2002, was the second year for Lemon Bay High School. It was seen by Port Charlotte High School in 1999 and at Charlotte High School in 2000.

In 2004, Desoto County requested CCFire/EMS to come to the local high school to facilitate, train personnel and present this program to students. In 2005 Cooper City Florida made the same request and their presentation will be in 2006.

