

South San Antonio ISD begins pilot program to assist funding for Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.)

South San Antonio ISD is collaborating with the Bexar County **D.A.R.E.** Board of Directors **D.A.R.E.** (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program to pilot a new textile-recycling program designed to aid impoverished people throughout the world, clean up the environment and fund the **D.A.R.E.** Program and law enforcement related training at the same time.



Project D.A.R.E. launches its funding drive at South San Antonio HS.

A brief ceremony was held at South San Antonio High School on November 18, 2011 to seal the partnership as recycle bins designed for gently worn clothing and shoes, toys and kitchen utensils were installed at every South San Antonio ISD campus and the Administration & Support Center, seventeen in all. SSAISD is the first school district in Bexar County to have the recycle bins, which are expected to raise a substantial amount of funding for the **D.A.R.E.** program.

The Bexar County **D.A.R.E.** "**Project Partnership**" program will in turn link up with the World Wear Project LLC, a for-profit shoes and clothing collection company. Items collected will be sold overseas instead of dumped in landfills. A portion of the profits will provide a reliable income stream to train law enforcement officers to teach the **D.A.R.E.** curriculum in schools, including those in the South San Antonio Independent School District. "Bexar County is the role model for **D.A.R.E.** for the entire country," said Scott Birnbaum, president of the World Wear Project. "**D.A.R.E. America** is developing a brand new curriculum for the elementary schools," said George D. Little, secretary of the Bexar County D.A.R.E. Board Partnership. "**D.A.R.E. America** has also updated our middle school curriculum."

SSAISD Board President Connie Prado and trustee Helen Madla dropped in the first items of clothing into the bin, assisted by Superintendent Linda Zeigler and South San Antonio HS principal Sherry Moore. Mrs. Prado is also one of the newest directors on the Bexar County **D.A.R.E.** Board of Directors.

Each bin measure is 72 inches tall, 45 inches wide and 45 inches deep and holds 750 pounds of clothing. Bins will be cleaned out every two weeks, or more often, if necessary.

Several Bexar County constables: Ruben Tejeda PCT#1 and Robert "Mike" Blount PCT#4 one of the oldest "Project Partnership" members were on hand, as well as members of local Moose Lodges, VFW and Masonic lodges to lend their organizations' support for the program.



Recycle bins have been placed at every South San Antonio ISD campus.



Superintendent Zeigler, second from right, is joined by Sherry Moore, Helen Madla and Connie Prado.



World Wear Project president Scott Birnbaum discusses the recycling mission.



Superintendent Linda Zeigler makes one of the first donations to the cause.



More donations equals more D.A.R.E. funding.



Mrs. zeigler, Mr. Birnbaum, Mrs. Prado, Mrs. Madla and Mrs. Moore.



Thumbs up for Project D.A.R.E.!

*Team Work – **T**ogether **E**veryone **A**chieves **M**ore; especially for our youth.*