South Central Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths Regional Strategic Plan

Mission
To move south central Minnesota toward zero deaths on our roads, using education, enforcement, engineering and emergency medical and trauma services.

Goal 1 – Reduce TZD Fatality and Serious Injuries
To continuously decrease traffic related fatalities and serious injuries in south central Minnesota from the past 5-year average (2016-2020*) of 26 fatalities and 108 serious injuries. Note: New injury definitions were introduced in 2016 and may have contributed to a higher reported number of serious injuries.

Objectives

A. To continuously increase regional seat belt use rates.
   The statewide average was **93.4% in 2019** (Note: due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, no statewide observational survey was conducted in 2020). The regional seat belt rate was **87.9% in 2021**. The last survey finding of 88.1%, was in 2020.

B. To examine the characteristics of the unbelted fatalities and serious injuries.
   Calculation of seat belt use in fatal and serious crashes is possible with existing data.

C. To continuously decrease the following:

5-year average (2016-2020*) in South Central Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average Annual number of:</th>
<th>Alcohol</th>
<th>Speed</th>
<th>Distraction</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fatalities</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatal Crashes</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe Injuries</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe Injury Crashes</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data are Preliminary

Note: a crash may have more than one of the above listed or additional contributing factor.
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Total South Central Region – Baseline (Data are Preliminary)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fatalities</th>
<th>Fatal Crashes</th>
<th>Severe Injuries</th>
<th>Severe Injury Crashes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020 Totals</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-2020</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>541</td>
<td>461</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Region Goal 2 – TZD Partnership Goals
To continuously increase TZD awareness and partnerships across south central Minnesota for both the general public and traffic safety professionals

1. Establish the vision of TZD as a priority for all region, county, city (government agencies)
   A. Engage local government involvement in TZD steering committee and workshops
   B. Educate/promote traffic safety awareness of city/county officials
   C. Promote city/county employee education/policies that facilitate the TZD vision

   (Activities: Recruitment of city and county to attend TZD event, giving TZD presentations to boards/councils, mailings/connections to Network of Employers for Traffic Safety (NETS))

2. Create and strengthen partnerships in the region
   A. Engage stakeholders
   B. Develop networking relationships
   C. Recruit membership of the TZD partnership

   (Activities: EMS Conference booth/presentation, regional workshop, web, calendar, statistics, workshop, orientation)

3. Promote and implement effective traffic safety initiatives in the region
   A. Develop and distribute resource materials
   B. Provide enforcement wave support in community
   C. Promote evidence based countermeasures
   D. Collect data and statistics within region
   E. Implement best practices within region

   (Activities: web, brochure, one-pagers, presentations, news advisories, workshop, seatbelt observational survey and omnibus survey, media messaging and media events, news releases re: activities woven into existing messages, worksite education and policy development, parent component to drivers education, sober cab development, youth enforcement and education activities)