

SCIL NEWS



Grantee of the Month Goes to..... Row Cypher!!



The agency of the month for April is none other than Row Cypher Inc. Row Cypher Inc. has partnered with Ulon for the SCIL project and is off to a great start. The dynamite duo consists of two great leaders Ted Weissburg (Row Cphyer Inc.) and Pete “Esaun” Keller (Ulon) and they have done an outstanding job. They were able to deliver a comprehensive SCIL message during an open mic event that took place on April 24, 2014. The winner of the event was Alberto “Che” Guevara who put it down on the mic by addressing the dangers of drinking and driving. The team has also been broadcasting the message through radio and social media. Make sure to attend their next event on May 21, 2014 at 1502 W. Jarvis, Chicago 60626 at 7pm.

2014 SCIL Grantees: Welcome!

Safe Communities for Illinois’s mission is to save lives within Chicago communities with high rates of traffic fatalities by increasing knowledge and use of safe driving practices among African American and Hispanic males ages 18-34. We are excited to partner with 12 organizations within the Chicagoland area to save lives.

- Because I Care
- Black Metropolis Convention & Tourism Council
- Chicago Westside Branch NAACP
- F.O.R.U.M.

- H.O.P.E. Organization
- Inspiring Children of the Incarcerated
- K.L.E.O. Community Family Life Center
- Lester and Rosalie Anixter Center
- The Miracle Center
- Roll Call
- Row Cypher Inc.
- Prevention Partnership Inc.

Welcome to the SCIL Team!

WVON 1690AM: SCIL Team on the GreenPreneur

The SCIL Team and members of Row Cypher made an appearance on WVON 1690AM radio show this past Saturday, May 3. They promoted seatbelt wearing, not to drive and text, and as well as not to drink and drive. They reminded listeners that they can still look cool by wearing their seatbelt and that it literally takes couple seconds to buckle up. They provided our callers with carwashes and one of the callers announced they were giving away free car seats at their church. This is the perfect time to remind everyone on the safety issues while driving so they can see tomorrow.



Listen to the Podcast from the GreenPreneur Show.

<http://bit.ly/1qfEve9>

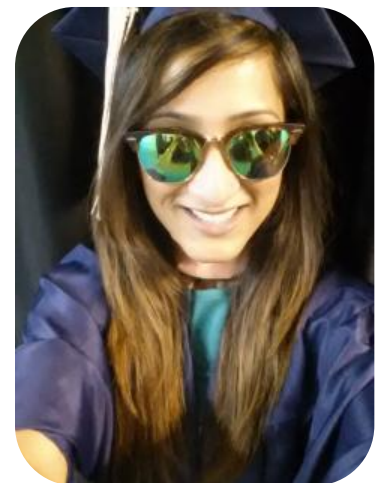
SCIL's Very Own: Masters of Public Health

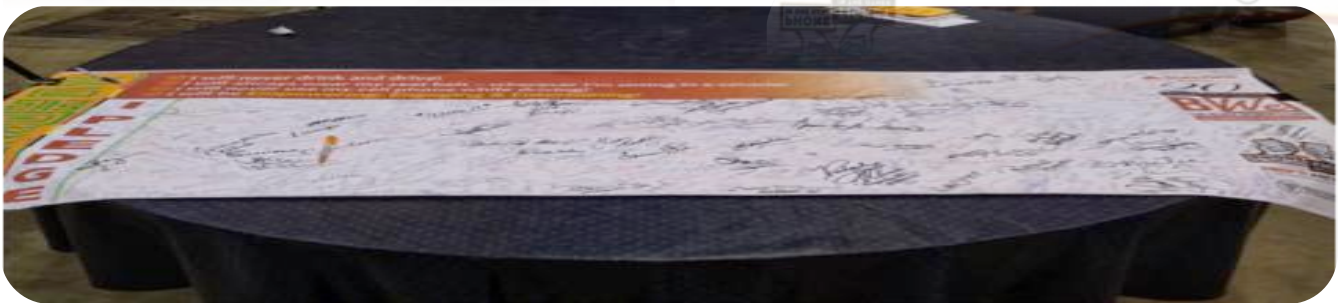
The SCIL team would like to acknowledge two outstanding stars of the UIC School of Public Health Master's program. Melishia Bansa and Melissa Patel received their Masters of Public Health in Health Policy and Administration. Their hard work, determination, and ambition should be recognized. You young women are an inspiration and are invaluable assets to our SCIL team. Congratulations!



Minister Melishia Bansa (pictured to the left) is a beacon of hope for the hopeless. Her kind actions in the community are an extension of the love she shares for family, friends, and people. As a young minister, she has hands on experience networking and working in churches on various community projects that have provided countless resources, given jobs, provided homes to the needy, fed and clothed the poor, and been a voice for the oppressed. With her go-getter type attitude and her transformational leadership skills, we are all excited to see the blessings that are coming her way. Congratulations Melishia Bansa!

Melissa Patel (pictured to the left) is one computer savvy, public health intellectual that gets the job done. She graduated from University of Illinois-Urbana (U of I) with a Bachelor's degree in Community Health with a focus in Health Education. She worked at Rush University Medical Center for 5 years before she decided to go to graduate school. She recently completed an internship at Chicago Department of Public Health in their Health Planning and Policy Department. When she has spare time, she likes to workout, spending time with her family and friends, and be outdoors as much as possible in the summer. Knowing Melissa's work ethics and inner drive for excellence, we are all assured that you will find nothing but success wherever life takes you. Congratulations Melissa Patel!





Black Women's Expo: That's What's Up, Buckle Up!

The 20th Annual Black Women's Expo was held at McCormick Place on March 28-30, 2014. The 3-day event was quite an experience with appearances by Lisa Raye, Robin Roberts, Chef David Blackmon, and Erica Campbell just to name a few. Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) along with Safe Communities for Illinois (SCIL) were there as part of the weekend long fun and activities! The Black Women's Expo attracted approximately 45,000 people and we took the opportunity to educate anyone who walked our way. Every booth had a different mission for being there whether it was to sell beauty and fashion products or promote health and wellness. IDOT's and SCIL's joint mission was to raise public awareness of the dangers of risky behaviors while driving.

What are considered risky behaviors? Texting while driving and drinking while driving, (we referred it to as "drixting"), and not buckling up are some most noted risky behaviors that can cause fatalities. According to the National Highway Transportation Safety

Administration, on any given time of day, about 800,000 people are using hand-held cell phones while driving. Additionally, drivers using hand-held cellphones are four times more likely to cause accidents that result in injuries. These were the kind of messages we educated and delivered to the attendees at the Black Women's Expo. People who stopped by the IDOT/SCIL booth were handed goodies like ear buds, pencils, bumper stickers, brochures, bracelets, and even a picture of themselves reminding them to *click it or ticket* and *phone in one hand, will get you a ticket in the other*.

IDOT/SCIL's mission was to enlighten the public on the importance of wearing a seat belt, not to text, drink AND drive and I believe our mission was accomplished!

Buckle up!

Questions? Contact: Lisa Sparks

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