

# North Metro Program

A Member of the Georgia Psychoeducational Network

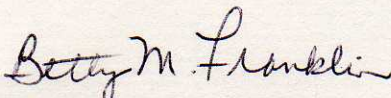
January 8, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

Mr. Bill Richardson again presented the "It Won't Happen to Me" program to our high school students and staff today. He had previously presented the program on April 26, 2005. Once again, I received countless positive comments from students and staff alike who were enlightened by the presentation and found it very thought-provoking. The information shared impacts each of us each day as we drive or ride in vehicles. The presentation by Mr. Richardson affords a personal look into the lives of those students, their families and friends who are featured. Mr. Richardson is able to balance the sensitive nature of the information and respect for the victims while presenting factual information about safety factors such as seat belt usage, excessive speed, drinking and driving, overcorrection when a vehicle leaves the roadway, and inexperience of young drivers. His story-like format captivated the interest of all in attendance. The information increases our awareness of how quickly a tragedy can occur even when we are not at fault. We are grateful to the families of those students featured who were able to let their stories be told so others can become sensitive to the dangers that we all face when we are in a motor vehicle. We clearly recognize that it **can** happen to us. The book entitled "It Won't Happen to Me" is provided to the students and is very nicely composed. The pictures of the youth featured and stories from their families and friends are to be treasured.

Many of our students have special challenges emotionally and behaviorally that make it difficult to focus and attend for periods of time. However, throughout the hour-long presentation, they were a captive audience. Though the information was difficult to hear due to the emotional nature, our students listened intently. They were able to relate to the stories and apply them to their own lives.

I highly recommend this program for youth and adults alike and commend Mr. Richardson for the invaluable community service he provides. It is a presentation that every teen and their parent/caregiver should experience as it could definitely save their life.



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