



## Forget Me Not Foundation

### Announcing an Impaired and Dangerous Driving Public Awareness Guide for Teens

Forget Me Not Foundation has begun a new project to help raise awareness and increase public education concerning the dangers and consequences of impaired and distracted driving. We are building an impaired driving public awareness guide for Alaska's teens. It will be patterned after our first publication, Soul Shaking Grief, but the stories will be *of* teens, *by* teens and *for* teens. We're enlisting the help of students from school districts all over the state to organize groups within their schools and collect the stories and materials for this new publication. Work has already begun in Fairbanks and Wasilla.

We will distribute 5,000 copies of this important book through Alaska's schools as well as through Safeway and Fred Meyer stores across Alaska. These books are our gift to Alaskans, and they will be 100% free to the public!

It is our belief that our young can be more effective than adults at teaching each other about the perils and consequences of impaired and distracted driving. Based on our experience with Soul Shaking Grief, we believe that if we provide the motivation, guidance and direction for this project, Alaska's young will create a valuable resource—one that will give them insight and encourage them to think independently, so that when they find themselves in an impaired or dangerous-driving situation, they can make better decisions, ignore negative peer pressure, speak up and prevent these dangerous situations from turning deadly.

Parents, counselors, teachers, law enforcement, teens, friends of teens—just about anyone—may submit a full story, mini story, stats, facts and/or pictures for this teen book.

Teens, have you ever had this experience? You are in a car, and you know the driver is drunk or impaired by drugs. You're scared. You want to get out of the car, but you're too embarrassed to tell your friends, because you don't want to seem 'uncool'. So, you say nothing and risk losing your life. Please write it down, and tell us about your experiences and feelings. Tell us about the drinking parties you've seen, close calls in

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a vehicle, your thoughts on texting while driving—anything you share could help another teen struggling with underage drinking and dangerous driving problems. To protect your privacy, you may choose to identify yourself with a 'handle' or be listed as an anonymous teen writer in the book.

We need all stories, comments, stats or other submissions no later than October 1, 2011.

If you have any questions, please call us at 978-7809, or email us at [stopdui@forgetmenotmission.com](mailto:stopdui@forgetmenotmission.com). We will gladly help you with your story.