



Children Deserve Safe Routes to School

and Tribal Communities Across the US are Making it Happen

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs use a comprehensive approach to make the route between home and school safer for children to walk and bicycle. Tribal leaders, community organizations, parents and schools are using these programs to better the lives of their children one step at a time.

Success

A successful SRTS program is a sustained community effort that involves bringing together the right mix of people, identifying key issues, and finding ways to improve existing walking and bicycling conditions. Safe Routes to School programs work to:

- Evaluate the safety of walking and bicycling routes between students' homes and their schools;
- Educate students, parents and drivers about an active and safe commute;
- Encourage more walking and bicycling to school through engaging promotions and events;
- Engineer changes such as building sidewalks and trails and improving street crossings; and
- Enforce existing traffic safety laws and community ordinances.

| Issue | Why Safe Routes Works |
|---|--|
| Parents and children are walking and bicycling in unsafe conditions | Safe Routes to School programs make physical changes, like building paths and sidewalks, educate drivers about pedestrians, and teach pedestrian and bicyclist skills to improve the safety of the routes students walk and bicycle to school. |
| More children are becoming less physically active and obese | Walking and bicycling to and from school can help foster a lifelong habit of physical activity. |
| Traffic emissions contribute to air pollution | Leaving the car at home reduces traffic emissions, which is better for the environment, and student health and development. Air pollution from vehicle emissions can reduce lung function, increase respiratory infection and aggravate asthma symptoms. |

Start Now

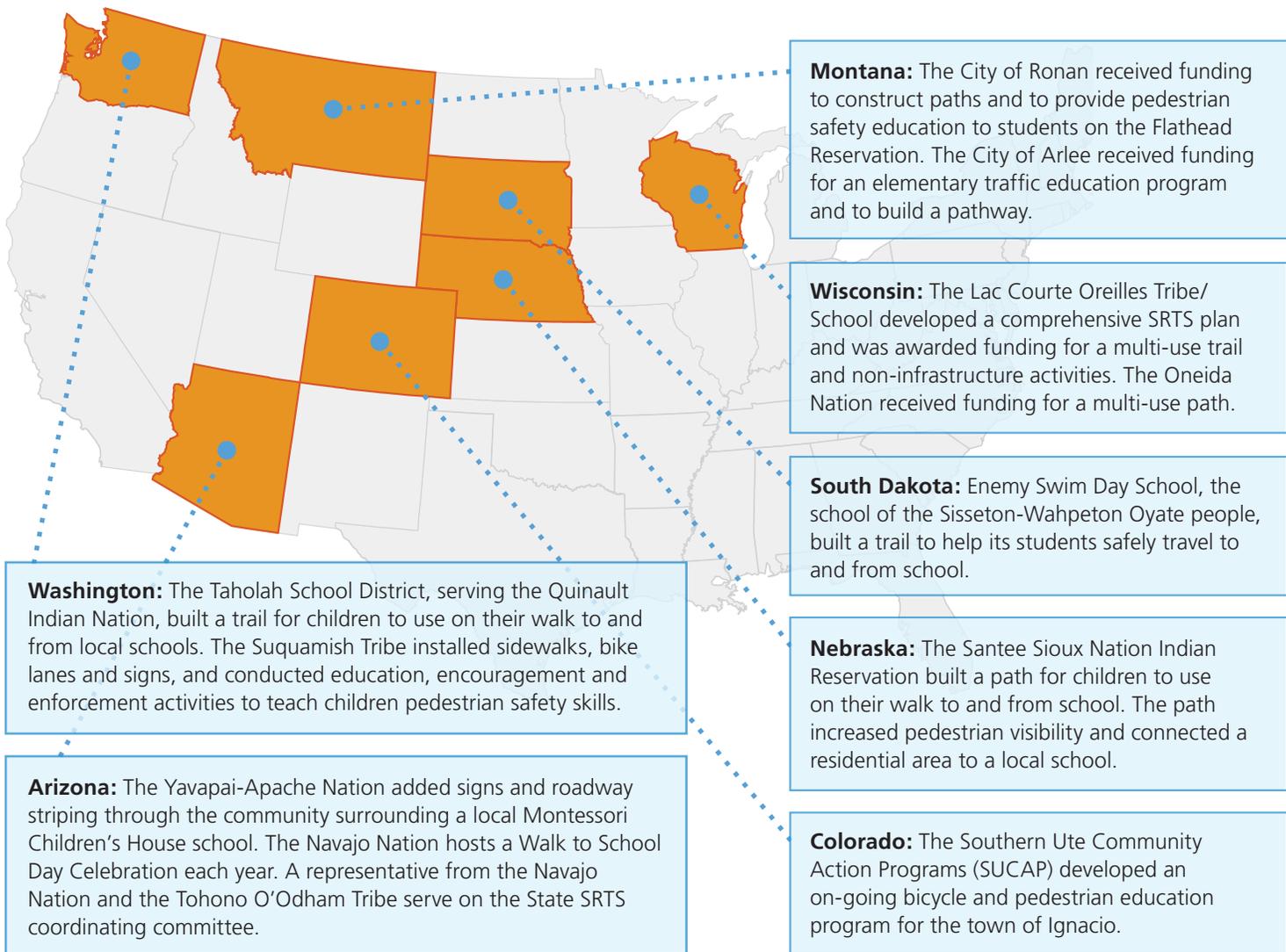
Tribal communities can apply for federal funding to establish a SRTS program. To learn more about starting a SRTS program, visit the National Center for Safe Routes to School's website at www.saferoutesinfo.org. For additional information, each state has a State SRTS Coordinator to assist communities with developing programs. Contact information for each State SRTS Coordinator can be found by accessing www.saferoutesinfo.org/contacts/index.cfm.

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National Center for Safe Routes to School



Promising Examples from Tribal Nations Across the Country



Resources

The National Center for Safe Routes to School offers additional information on its website, www.saferoutesinfo.org. For resources on starting a program, visit:

- A comprehensive guide to SRTS strategies: www.saferoutesinfo.org/guide
- Multimedia materials that explain the value of SRTS and promote walking and bicycling to school: www.saferoutesinfo.org/resources
- Case studies on SRTS programs and activities from across the United States: www.saferoutesinfo.org/case_studies
- Training opportunities, including one-day workshops and webinars: www.saferoutesinfo.org/training
- Data collection forms, processing assistance and information for program planning and evaluation: www.saferoutesinfo.org/data
- Technical assistance by phone 1-866-610-SRTS or e-mail info@saferoutesinfo.org

Additional resources specialized for Tribal nations have been made available by the FHWA Office of Federal Lands Highways and can be accessed here: <http://flh.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/irr/safety/school-zones.htm>

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