

courage, compassion, integrity, and respect for differences of faith and race. By building the mind and character of every child in America, we encourage our children to make the right choices, and we create a future of promise and opportunity for all.

As we promote good character, we must also advance excellence in education and set high standards for all of our students. By raising expectations, insisting on results, and challenging failure, we strengthen our schools and create an environment where every student can succeed.

To help America's young people make the right choices, we need to provide them with good examples. Strong role models help children build confidence, gain knowledge, and develop good character. For the past 20 years, this day has honored Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, the Lubavitcher Rebbe. He helped establish education and outreach centers, offering social service programs and humanitarian aid worldwide. After his death in 1994, the Rebbe received the Congressional Gold Medal for his "outstanding and lasting contributions toward improvements in world education, morality, and acts of charity."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim April 2, 2004, as Education and Sharing Day, U.S.A. I call upon all Americans to strengthen our Nation by teaching our children about the culture of responsibility and citizenship.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this second day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-eighth.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Proclamation 7768 of April 7, 2004

National D.A.R.E. Day, 2004

*By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation*

Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) is one of the most widely recognized substance abuse and violence prevention programs in America. For more than 20 years, D.A.R.E. has brought specially trained police officers into classrooms to teach students about the importance of making healthy choices. These efforts have helped reduce illegal drug use in our country, but there remains work to be done.

Drug abuse costs people their health and robs them of their promise. A critical component of stopping illegal drug use is cutting the demand for drugs, and D.A.R.E. is an important part of expanding these efforts. By introducing students to local police officers and teaching them to become good citizens, D.A.R.E. also strengthens communities.

To help prevent illegal drug use, my National Drug Control Strategy includes the National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign; support for drug-free community coalitions; and \$25 million for student drug testing. Our

hard work is showing results. Youth drug use declined 11 percent between 2001 and 2003, meaning that 400,000 fewer young people used drugs.

As we educate young people about the dangers of illegal drugs, we are also helping to heal those who have fallen into addiction and working to disrupt the market for illegal drugs. The collaborative efforts of concerned citizens and officials at the Federal, State, and local levels are making our neighborhoods safer and our children healthier.

We will continue to work toward a society in which all citizens are free from the devastating influence of drugs. Law enforcement officials, community leaders, faith-based groups, parents, teachers, and programs like D.A.R.E. are all working to achieve this goal.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim April 8, 2004, as National D.A.R.E. Day. I call upon our youth, parents, educators, and all Americans to join in the effort to reduce drug use by expressing appreciation for the health care professionals, law enforcement officials, volunteers, teachers, and all those who help young people avoid the dangers of illegal drugs and violence.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-eighth.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Proclamation 7769 of April 8, 2004

National Donate Life Month, 2004

*By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation*

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the first successful organ transplant in the United States. Since that time, organ and tissue transplantation have significantly increased, and last year, more than 25,000 Americans received an organ transplant. National Donate Life Month provides the opportunity to raise awareness about organ and tissue donation and the importance of sharing your decision to donate with your family.

While medical advances are enabling Americans to receive lifesaving transplants, there are not enough donors to help everyone in need. Last year, close to 6,000 Americans died while waiting for organ transplants. Currently, more than 84,000 of our citizens are on the waiting list for a donation, and approximately 30,000 people will be diagnosed with diseases that a bone marrow transplant could cure.

My Administration is committed to increasing organ and tissue donation. I have included nearly \$25 million in my 2005 budget proposal for organ procurement and transplantation efforts at the Department of Health and Human Services and nearly \$23 million to support a bone marrow donor registry. In addition, we continue to increase donations through the "Gift