OUR MISSION

OUR MISSION is to promote secure and safe openings that enhance life safety through outreach efforts that include awareness and education within the building design, code authority and facility management communities.
OUR WORK

ADVOCACY

• Advocating for the critical role that the door and hardware industry plays in achieving and maintaining the balance between life safety and security in non-residential construction.

• Advocating for the importance of using certified and credentialed door security and safety professionals with the expertise and experience to ensure the critical balance between life safety and security in non-residential buildings.

• Creating awareness about issues that impact the life safety of building occupants, such as temporary door locking devices in school classrooms and annual fire door inspections in healthcare facilities.

EDUCATION

• Provide education and awareness about the basics of door and hardware products and their applications, with an emphasis on code-mandated requirements to better understand the importance of properly maintaining and regularly inspecting fire and egress door assemblies.

• Maintain a network of Education Advocates who are DHI-credentialed Fire and Egress Door Assembly Inspectors (FDAI) and possess considerable knowledge and expertise to conduct these outreach activities into the building construction and healthcare communities, thus ensuring that the critical balance of life safety and security is maintained with the doors and entryways that serve the general public.

• We author publications, create scholarship programs and build resources to support the expertise in the door security and safety community and provide awareness about fire and egress door assemblies and temporary door locking devices in school classrooms.
We engage with all stakeholders in the building construction community to advocate for knowledgeable experts such as DHI-credentialed professionals. Our work is currently focused on healthcare facility maintenance directors, engineers and mechanics for our awareness and education activities surrounding fire door inspection requirements, and on school administrators for our advocacy work about temporary door locking devices.
OPENING THE DOOR TO SCHOOL SAFETY  
PUBLIC SAFETY CAMPAIGN

Door and hardware systems are designed to instantly provide life safety and security regardless of the scenario—fire or threat. Accordingly, all proper door and hardware assembly designs equip the doorway to meet the important *NFPA 80 Standard for Fire Doors* and *NFPA 101 Life Safety Code®*. The Foundation believes that no door locking device that compromises life safety should be approved by any jurisdiction. Yet there are some proponents of temporary door locking devices, or barricade devices, that cite the reduction in school fire deaths or the increased number of school shootings as a reason to relax the egress code requirements, although most in the code enforcement community credit strong codes and enforcement for this success.

Unfortunately, these products not only fall short of the code requirements, they can also lead to unintended consequences. It is critical that these devices are vetted through the formal code process to ensure that the proper balance of life safety and security is met. There are already solutions in place in most schools and experts who can help you confirm if your school safe and secure.

Our public safety campaign, *Opening the Door to School Safety*, is focused on informing school administrators about the unintended safety and security consequences of these devices. We also advocate the use of door security and safety professionals, who are trained to ensure that every entrance meets code and can provide the invaluable balance of life safety and security for schools and classrooms. To produce this campaign, we have partnered with and coordinated our messages through collaborations with The School Superintendents Association, National Association of State Fire Marshals, Builders Hardware Manufacturers Association and Security Industry Association. Watch our video, review our press release and use our online resources by visiting www.doorsecuritysafety.org.
ANNUAL FIRE DOOR INSPECTION EDUCATION

Life safety through proper fire and smoke containment is a critical issue for facility managers in healthcare facilities, and doors and hardware are essential elements demanding their utmost attention. Code compliance and insurance audits aside, properly operating fire and egress doors tops the list of areas requiring constant maintenance and regular inspections.

The Foundation has several presentations outlining the requirements of NFPA 80 and NFPA 101 regarding maintenance and inspections of fire and egress doors. Upon completion of these presentations, facility maintenance personnel will better understand these requirements, as well as how to properly assess and functionally test the condition of fire and egress doors, interpret inspection reports, and perform ongoing maintenance for continued compliance with code requirements.

We maintain a strong working relationship with the Joint Commission (TJC), the nation’s oldest and largest standards setting and accrediting body in healthcare, which is increasing its focus on door inspections in its surveys. With Medicaid and Medicare dollars tied to the results of a Joint Commission survey, there is a fast growing demand for fire door inspections in healthcare. We have provided training to their corps of field surveyors on the critical aspects of door inspections, which have in turn created a grassroots demand for more education from the Foundation.

We have also worked closely with the American Society for Healthcare Engineering (ASHE) to provide awareness and education to ASHE’s state and local chapters and touch thousands of members with presentations delivered by the Foundation.

Life safety is of utmost importance to the fire marshal and building inspector communities, and the role that doors and hardware plays is of equal significance. The Foundation offers presentations outlining the requirements of NFPA 80 and 101 regarding inspections of fire and egress doors to provide
a basic understanding of these inspection requirements, as well as the basic operation and features of fire and egress doors, to verify inspection reports for compliance with code requirements.

EDUCATION ADVOCATES
DHI’s credentialed Fire and Egress Door Assembly Inspectors, or FDAIs, are recognized and respected as a premier credential by industry organizations such as Intertek, National Fire Protection Association, American Society for Healthcare Engineers and The Joint Commission. FDAIs are the only ones who currently qualify to become Education Advocates for the Foundation. We use a North American network of over 400 FDAIs to support the advocacy of our fire door inspection initiatives and our Education Advocates to deliver the Foundation’s education to facility personnel, AHJs and other stakeholders. You can locate an FDAI in your area on our website at www.doorsecuritysafety.org.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT
The Foundation operates primarily on contributions from door security and safety professionals. If you are interested in contributing, you can do so online at www.doorsecuritysafety.org. We thank you in advance for your contribution.