



Media release

Don't Dial And Drive

A teenager whose sister was nearly killed by a driver using his phone behind the wheel is campaigning for change.

Cassy Del Busso, 14, from Hinckley, still remembers the day her older sister Becky was seriously injured in a car accident.

The teenager has teamed up with Fixers, a national charity giving young people a voice, to deliver a strong message to drivers tempted to make a call.

View Cassy's film [here](#).

'I don't think drivers realise the dangers of what could happen,' Cassy said. 'A life is more important than a phone call or text message.'

Cassy's sister Becky had been driving to work in March 2016 when a van driver, who had been using his phone, swerved into oncoming traffic. Becky, who was 26 at the time of the accident, attempted to dodge the van, but hit the curb and smashed into another car before ending up in the ditch.

Her car was so badly damaged Becky had to be cut free at the scene by firefighters.

She was rushed to the University Hospital Coventry, where doctors found she had a ruptured spleen, broken pelvis, fractured ribs and a broken arm. She stayed in hospital for nine days before discharging herself.

'I remember coming home from school and my parents were really upset,' Cassy explained. 'When I asked what was wrong they explained my sister had been in an accident and was in hospital. I was so shocked. It was my big sister, who I looked up to, lying strapped to a bed; I was panicking and worried and crying a lot.'

The van driver was subsequently charged with driving without due care and received three points on his licence and a fine.

Cassy and Becky's mum, Yvonne, said the accident has knocked Becky's confidence and even now, two years on, she will not drive anywhere new. Her message to anyone thinking of using their phone while driving is simple: 'A phone call is not worth a life or prison sentence and the upset and long term problems you cause someone else.'

Cassy's project is supported by the Road Safety Trust.

For more information or to make a donation to fund more Fixer projects, visit www.fixers.org.uk

Pictures attached: Cassy Del Busso.

For more images, interviews or information, please contact Lucy Tatchell on lucytatchell@fixers.org.uk or call 01962 790045

Notes to editors

The accident was covered in the Hinckley Times

<http://www.hinckleytimes.net/news/local-news/gallery-a447-closed-near-bull-11110966>

About Fixers:

- Fixers works with young people aged 16-25 across the UK by providing them with professional resources to help them campaign on issues they feel strongly about.
- Since 2008 more than 23,000 young people have become Fixers and created over 2,500 projects. With a £7.2 million grant from the Big Lottery Fund, Fixers extended from England into Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland as well in 2013.
- There are lots more stories about young people doing great things on the Fixers website, Twitter and Facebook pages:
www.fixers.org.uk
www.twitter.com/FixersUK
www.facebook.com/FixersUK