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MISSION STATEMENT:
“Working Together to Reduce Unintentional Preventable Injury and Death in Oregon’s Children Ages 0 – 14.”

VISION
"Injury Prevention as Every Oregonian's Approach to Life."

March 2011

Safe Kids Oregon

News From Around the State

Water Safety

**Safe Kids Columbia Gorge** has partnered with Oregon State Parks, the Army Core of Engineers and Cameron Mulroney’s Dufur High School shop class to build life jacket kiosks throughout the Columbia River Gorge. The colorful boards explain how to properly wear a life jacket and hold several loaner jackets. SK Columbia Gorge has also partnered with a high school in Goldendale, Washington to build additional kiosks.

Big thanks go to Sky’s Collision Repair (they also recycle car seats), the Oregon State Marine Board, and the Army Core of Engineers. They have all made generous donations of life jackets to the kiosks!

Motor Vehicle Occupant Safety

During February, the **Safe Kids Columbia County** steering committee reviewed statistics for each of their car seat clinic locations. Based on the data, they are changing where and when clinics will be held in order to increase access to their target population and decrease overall costs to the program. We look forward to seeing their changes!

**Safe Kids Willamette Valley**, in partnership with Salem Hospital, holds monthly car seat clinics throughout Marion and Polk counties. They are the primary distribution source of reduced cost car seats to qualifying low income families in the area.

Through parent evaluations at car seat clinics, SK Willamette Valley has found that this service is appreciated by parents who attend the events. Safe Kids Willamette Valley is very proud to be involved in providing this service to their communities and would like to recognize and thank all of the dedicated techs and volunteers from various agencies and organizations who make these clinics possible.

**SK Oregon and ACTS Oregon** thank SK Oregon and ACTS Oregon for their continued support, as well as the wonderful techs who serve at their clinics. Appreciation also goes to the fire and police districts and to the Columbia County Transit Division for hosting SK Columbia County events.

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Hi, everyone! My name is Cathy Murphey and I am co-coordinator of the Safe Kids Central Oregon Coalition. I have worked at St. Charles Medical Center in Bend for 5 years and have been involved with Safe Kids for most of that time. I have a BSN & MS in Nursing, and am currently working on completing my nurse practitioner certificate.

I enjoy working in the community with Safe Kids partners. Our coalition has gotten stronger in the last couple of years because of our work with them. The Central Oregon car seat program has grown and we continue to increase our membership.

I get great satisfaction in working with hospitalized families, promoting education for child passenger safety, and helping families get access to the proper car seat equipment and training upon discharge. I am looking forward to the upcoming special needs training in Central Oregon that will help me with these activities.

Central Oregon is a wonderful place to live, as there is a great deal of community support and has a very active lifestyle. My favorite things to do include riding bikes, reading, playing games, and being with friends and family. Few people would know that, deep down, I love my trauma registry and love doing trauma charts!

News From Around the State - Continued from page 1...

Sports Safety

This past year, Safe Kids Harney County and Harney County Safe Communities held a total of 4 clinics on sports safety. During one of the clinics, school staff, parents and students were educated on the ImPACT concussion screening program, which is used to prevent Second Impact Syndrome in athletes.

Since the clinic outreach has started, the Crane school district has adopted and implemented the ImPACT program for their athletes and the Burns-Hines school district is currently considering the ImPACT program for its high school and middle school age athletes.

With funding from the Safe Sports Initiative Grant, Harney Safe Communities and SK Harney County have sponsored a portion of the first year’s cost (software licensing) of the screening program in schools. They have also used the grant funds to purchase sports medicine supplies for coaches at Crane Union and Burns High Schools.

The possibility of sponsoring another series of sports safety clinics for spring/summer of 2011 is currently under review. Special thanks go to all of the great series presenters who have made these clinics possible!
Since 1997, Safe Kids USA has enjoyed a successful partnership with the General Motors Foundation in providing the Safe Kids Buckle Up program, the most comprehensive child passenger safety program in the country. Since the program’s inception, more than 21 million people have been exposed to Safe Kids Buckle Up events and community outreach efforts.

The Countdown2Drive program, the newest component of Safe Kids Buckle Up, is targeted for parents and teens, ages 13-14. It is aimed at teaching teens to be safe passengers today and good drivers tomorrow. Local Safe Kids coalitions can walk families through the steps of discussing key safety issues their teens will face as a passenger or preparing to drive.

A key component of the Countdown2Drive program is a parent-teen Passenger Agreement, which is accessible at http://countdown2drive.org/. The agreement focuses on the teen’s immediate safety as a passenger in a motor vehicle and in the future as a driver.

To find out more about the Countdown2Drive program, contact your local Safe Kids Coalition or visit http://www.safekids.org/in-your-area/coalitions. For more information about the General Motors Foundation, visit their website at www.gm.com/corporate/responsibility/community.

In the U.S., more than 4,000 children fall from windows every year with 70% falling from second or third story windows. In Oregon, between 40 and 50 children are entered into the trauma system from a fall from a second-story window.

Recently, Safe Kids Oregon, The Children’s Hospital at Legacy Emanuel, and 23 other partner organizations created a Task Force to address this issue. “The Campaign to Stop Window Falls,” has been launched! For more information about the campaign, visit www.stopat4.com.

Safe Kids Oregon urges you to install stops on all windows above the first floor in order to keep windows from opening more than four inches, or, install a window guard. Join us in celebrating National Window Safety Week and kicking off the campaign April 4-10.

**Window Falls Safety Tips:**

* Keep play away from windows.
* Install window stops and/or guards that only allow windows to be open no more than four inches and that can be removed by an adult in an emergency.
* Lock windows when not in use.
* When possible, open windows from the top and use a window stop for the bottom.
* Prevent climbing: keep furniture and anything a child can climb on away from windows.
* Don’t rely on screens to prevent falls. Screens are made to keep bugs out, but not strong enough to keep children in.
National Public Health Week: April 4-10, 2011

National Public Health Week is a campaign to educate the public, policy-makers and public health professionals about issues important to improving the public’s health. During this week in Oregon, a speaker series will present innovative talks regarding Public Health issues free of charge. Many of these talks will be available via teleconference.

Other events during the week include:
1. A photo contest for Oregon students ages 13-18 years-old to digitally capture images about what makes a healthy community through their eyes,
2. Physical activity events held from 12-1 PM every day at the Portland state office building, and
3. A Safe Kids Oregon fundraiser on April 4th, 6th, and 7th where the public can buy flameless candles, safety-themed stuffed animals, and new bicycle/multi-use sports helmets.

For more information about the week, visit http://www.oregonpublichealth.org/phweek
To post a local event for the week on the Oregon Public Health Authority’s website, go to: http://www.oregonpublichealth.org/