



Safe Kids NEWZ



Director's Farewell

Spring 2010

As I begin my retirement, I am reflecting on the people I've met, the growth of Safe Kids Pennsylvania and its success as a premier coalition. The past 18 years have been phenomenal in the best job in the world.

Yes, it has been rewarding to see Safe Kids grow from a collection of eight coalitions in 1991 to the 44 active affiliates of 2010. Incredible work has been done in the distribution of bike helmets, the education of parents and caregivers on the importance of correct use of child safety seats, the distribution of poison prevention tips and water safety information to families, and the installation of smoke alarms to protect the youngest citizens in the commonwealth. It has been exciting and sometimes frustrating to work with legislators to pass laws to keep families safe. The booster seat law, the adoption of statewide building codes, which include provisions for smoke alarms and fencing for swimming pools, the bike helmet law, and the requirement of personal flotation devices for children are the result of hard work at both the local and state levels. That is how the real work of injury prevention gets done.

Thinking about these accomplishments, I come back to the people who are involved in Safe Kids. We all are passionate about keeping kids safe. And we give up weekends and time with our own families to get injury prevention messages and proven interventions out to our communities. I have been privileged to join you in this important task. I am honored to have known you. And I thank you for your dedication, your willingness to share your great ideas and your continued efforts for the safety of children across Pennsylvania. I have been so lucky to have known you and have benefited from your growing expertise.

Thank you. Thank you. Good luck in your future endeavors to prevent injuries to children.

Anne

Safe Kids Week 2010 - Youth Sports Safety Initiative - April 24-May 1



Safety first in youth sports. More than 30 million children participate in sports each year, and over 3.5 million receive medical treatment due to sports injuries. Safe Kids Week 2010 will focus on educating and equipping parents and coaches with the necessary knowledge and tools to reduce their athletes' risk of injury. Safe Kids USA is encouraging local Safe Kids chapters and coalitions to work together with the National Athletic Trainer's Association to develop sports injury prevention clinics in their community.



Pennsylvania Injury Prevention Symposium: From Planning to Implementation

April 8-9, 2010 • Holiday Inn Harrisburg-Hershey • Grantville, PA

This statewide conference will focus on key elements of injury prevention—Adolescent Youth Safety; Child Passenger Safety; Data on Violent Injuries; Early Childhood Youth Safety; Falls of the Elderly; Farm Safety; Safe Communities; Motor Vehicles; Prescription Drug Poisonings; Sports Injuries; Violence against Women; Mental Health Substance Abuse; as well as provide additional information on awareness and prevention.

Participants will learn about development, implementation, and sustainability of injury prevention and injury awareness programs. Policymakers, healthcare providers, statewide agencies, law enforcement and school faculty and administrators are encouraged to attend.

Carolyn Cumpsty-Fowler, PhD, Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health and School of Nursing; Director, Injury Prevention Program, Baltimore County DOH will provide the keynote address.

Online registration is available at www.pasafekids.org • No registration fee





Safe Kids Mini-grants

Safe Kids Pennsylvania provided a mini-grant opportunity this year to Safe Kids affiliates. The Smoke Alarm mini-grant provided 50 smoke alarms for home installation. The mini-grant was awarded based on a competitive review system. We thank all agencies who applied this year and encourage all affiliates to apply for future opportunities.

Smoke Alarm Grantees

- Safe Kids Carbon County
- Safe Kids Clinton County
- Safe Kids Fulton County
- Safe Kids Lycoming County
- Safe Kids McKean County
- Safe Kids Mercer County
- Safe Kids Perry County
- Safe Kids Southeastern PA
- Safe Kids Venango County



Bicycle Safety Mini-grants

The purpose of the bicycle safety mini-grant project is to increase bicycle safety and reduce bicycle-related injuries. The primary target audience is children and youth ages five to 18 with a secondary focus on adults.

Factors that increase the risk of bicycle injuries include: lack of helmet use, poor visibility, age and experience, lack of an understanding of the rules of the road for bicyclists, and sharing-the-road ability of adult drivers.

Grantees will provide educational workshops to children about safe bicycling in addition to designing an obstacle course focused on increasing knowledge of safe bicycling skills.

2009-10 bicycle safety mini-grants were awarded to nine organizations. Congratulations to all!

Bicycle Safety Grantees

- Allentown Optimist Club
- Lower Paxton Township Police Department
- Memorial Medical Center
- Safe Kids Butler County
- Safe Kids Clinton County
- Safe Kids Erie Area
- Safe Kids Huntingdon County
- Safe Kids McKean County
- Watsonstown Police Department



National Playground Safety Week - April 26-30, 2010

National Playground Safety Week is a time to focus on children's outdoor play environments; a time to pledge to use good judgment when playing, and a time for gratitude for all the adults who work tirelessly on maintaining our playgrounds.

What You Can Do:

Playgrounds need people like you to make sure they are safe for all to use. Here are some suggestions:

Distribute surveys to discover favorite and least favorite equipment, as well as recurring playground problems and injuries.

Create and hang posters in schools and community areas outlining playground safety.

Complete playground equipment safety checks and evaluations. If there is hard surfacing, such as asphalt, concrete, dirt or grass underneath play equipment, call the owner and politely voice your concern. Ask if there is anything you can do to help.

Challenge your school to an injury-free week on the playground.

Write to the editor of your hometown newspaper commenting on any playground safety issues in your local community. Give credit to those facilities with safe playgrounds.

With children, make a maximum of five playground rules that they can remember and follow.

Source: National Program for Playground Safety





AFFILIATE HIGHLIGHTS

Safe Kids Bucks County

Safe Kids Bucks County hosted a PEP (Prevent Injury, Enhance Performance) training in February. The program was a coordinated project with the Middletown Parks and Recreation Department. A certified athletic trainer was contracted to train the coaches on how to implement the PEP program. Over 35 coaches from community youth sports organizations and local high schools attended.

PEP is a warm up program utilized to address deficits in strength and coordination specific to all injuries in females. The program consists of stretching, strengthening, plyometrics and agility exercises that help stabilize the knee joint.



"Prevent Injury, Enhance Performance" Training

Safe Kids Venango County

Safe Kids Venango County has been extremely fortunate in our partnership with our local hospital, UPMC Northwest and the Hospital Auxiliary. Our meetings and trainings are held at a hospital facility, and our membership includes hospital employees who are active in our initiatives. They have sent representatives to our Child Passenger Safety Technician classes and they now have seven trained technicians on staff. In addition to assisting with car seat checks throughout the county and installing seats for their clients, the Auxiliary has also implemented a car seat loaner program for new parents that ensures a child has access to the correct seat from birth through the booster seat years.

The hospital and the Auxiliary's impact on our fund raising efforts has been tremendous and ongoing. We have held numerous bake sales and a yard sale on the premises. The Auxiliary provided funding for Safe Kids bears with a Buckle Up message that are sold in the hospital Gift Shop, along with other Safe Kids items, such as handmade cards.

We were also invited to be part of the hospital's "Blankets for Babies" program, which provides the first newborn on a designated monthly date with numerous gifts, including a newborn car seat, a Safe Kids bear and Safe Kids literature for the parents.

Our partnership with this dedicated group of people has been a key part of the ongoing success of Safe Kids Venango County.



Jill Williams, UPMC Northwest Auxiliary Coordinator



Barb Davis, UPMC NW Auxiliary President, Mary LaKari, TIPP, and Mr. David Gibbons, President, UPMC Northwest





PA Child Safety Legislation

HB 1445 - An Act providing standards for carbon monoxide alarms and for powers and duties of the Department of Labor and Industry; and imposing penalties. *Would require that new and existing single- and multi-family homes have at least one carbon monoxide alarm.*

HB 67 - An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, defining "interactive wireless communications device"; further providing for junior driver's license and for suspension of operating privilege; prohibiting interactive wireless communications devices; and further providing for accident report forms, for department to compile, tabulate and analyze accident reports, for television equipment, for general requirements for other vehicles transporting school children and for restraint systems. *Would make booster seat violations a primary offense.*

SAFETY OBSERVANCES

Visit the safety calendar at www.imsafe.com

PRODUCT RECALLS

Visit U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission for current product recalls:

www.cpsc.gov



This publication is supported by the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant.

CONFERENCES & TRAININGS

Child Passenger Safety Certification Classes

Various Dates and Locations

Visit www.cpsboard.org for more information

Pennsylvania Injury Prevention Symposium

April 8-9, 2010; Grantville, PA

Lifesavers Conference

April 10-13, 2010; Philadelphia, PA

Cribs for Kids Conference

April 20-23, 2010; Pittsburgh, PA

ATS - PA Division, Annual Conference

April 21-22, 2010; Hershey, PA

Go to www.pasafekids.org for more information

SAFE KIDS PENNSYLVANIA STAFF

Allyson Fulton
afulton@csc.csiu.org

Carmen Gonzalez
cgonzalez@csc.csiu.org

1-800-683-5100

717-763-1890

Fax 717-763-2083

275 Grandview Ave., Suite 200

Camp Hill, PA 17011

www.pasafekids.org

Safe Kids Pennsylvania
275 Grandview Avenue
Suite 200
Camp Hill, PA 17011

