



Jackson County Health Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Public Health Press Release

2018 Child Passenger Safety Week September 23-29

National Seat Check Saturday September 29

News Release From: **Jackson County Health Department-Car Seat Safety Program**
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Jackson, Michigan 49202

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Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician
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The Car Seat Safety Program Urges Parents and Caregivers to Have Their Child's Car Seat Inspected during Child Passenger Safety Week

JACKSON COUNTY, Mich. -The Car Seat Safety Program at the Jackson County Health Department urges parents and caregivers to have their child's car seat checked, for proper use and installation, during Child Passenger Safety Week- September 23-29. The Car Seat Safety Program is a part-time program providing car seat safety inspections, low cost car seats and car seat safety education by appointment. Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians are available to inspect car seats for proper use and installation and provide hands-on car seat safety education.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for children ages 0 to 13. Every 33 seconds, one child under 13 is involved in a crash. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC), report that car seats reduce the risk of fatal injury in a crash by 71% for infants and 54% for toddlers ages 1 to 4. Booster seats reduce the risk for serious injury by 45% for children ages 4 to 8 years. Unfortunately, many parents install their child seats incorrectly. Among children under 5, car seats saved an estimated 328 lives in 2016 alone. An additional 370 more

children could have survived if they had been properly restrained in a car seat or booster seat. “The Car Seat Safety Program wants to help parents and caregivers do all they can to best protect their child when traveling in a vehicle, when it comes to the safety of your child, there is no room for mistakes,” said **Kellie Underwood, Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician and Coordinator of the Car Seat Safety Program.**

The following sheet provides the most current **Car Seat Recommendations for Children** from NHTSA. They emphasize how important it is to keep children in each restraint type for as long as possible before moving them to the next type. Every step results in a decrease in protection, so these transitions should be put off until the last moment possible

Remember: All children younger than 13 should ride in the back seat and be restrained for optimal protection. .

Michigan Law requires all children to ride in a booster seat until they are age 8 or 4’9” tall.

For more information, please contact Kellie Underwood, Car Seat Safety Program-Jackson County Health Department, (517)768-2181 or visit www.safercar.gov/therightseat or www.safekids.org

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