



COUNTY OF YOLO

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Free Car Seat Checkup Event for Child Passenger Safety Week

(Woodland, CA) – To help celebrate Child Passenger Safety Week, Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency’s Car Seat Safety Program is hosting a car seat checkup event on Thursday, September 19 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Empower Yolo, located at 175 Walnut Street in Woodland.

Child Passenger Safety Week, which runs from September 15-21, is dedicated to helping parents and caregivers make sure their children ride as safely as possible every trip, every time. This event hopes to raise awareness to parents and caregivers about the dangers children face when they are not buckled correctly by getting their car seats checked by a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician to make certain they are installed correctly.

Every day in America, millions of parents and caregivers travel with children in their vehicles. While some children are buckled in properly in the correct car seats for their ages and sizes – most are not. According to the United States Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 46 percent of car seats are misused. In addition, motor vehicle crashes are a leading killer of children and car seats, booster seats and seat belts can make all the difference. In 2017, 312 children ages 0-5 were saved because they were in a car seat.

“Every 32 seconds in 2017, a child under 13 was involved in a passenger vehicle crash,” said Yolo County Supervisor Duane Chamberlain. “Using car seats that are age- and size- appropriate is the best way to keep your children safe.”

The safest place for all kids under 13 is always in the back. NHTSA recommends keeping children rear-facing as long as possible, up to the top height and weight allowed by their particular seats. Once a child outgrows the rear-facing “infant” car seat, he/she should travel in a rear-facing “convertible,” or all-in-one car seat. Once a child outgrows the rear-facing size limits, the child is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether. After outgrowing the forward-facing car seat with harness, children should be placed in booster seats until they are the right size to use seat belts safely.

For this event, car seat checks will be on a first come, first served basis or by appointment. To learn more or make an appointment, contact the Yolo County Child Passenger Safety Program at (530) 406-4410 or yolo.carseats@yolocounty.org. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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