

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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Yolo County Awarded Child Passenger Safety Education Program Grant

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency has been awarded \$190,000 from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS), through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The one-year grant will fund child passenger safety education and training programs aimed at helping parents and caretakers ensure that infants and children are riding safely by correctly installing and properly using child safety seats (car seats).

The grant aims to reduce the risk of injury in Yolo County children, ages 0-8, when traveling in a vehicle. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, a correctly used car seat can reduce fatality risk by 71% for infants and 54% for toddlers in passenger vehicles. Car crashes remain the leading cause of death for children 13 and under. Car seats save lives by reducing the risk of injury or death when correctly used.

Activities funded by this grant will include community education and car seat check events, individual car seat checks (by appointment), a limited number car seats made available to families in need, Child Passenger Safety Technician (CPST) training, surveys on car and booster seat compliance rates, and promotion of safety seat recycling and the importance of discarding used and expired car seats.

"Children should be as safe as possible when traveling in a car," said OTS Director Barbara Rooney. "Funding for child passenger safety education and training allows our partners to make sure children are in the right car seat that is being used correctly."

To learn more about Yolo County's child passenger safety program, please contact Steven Jensen at <u>Steven.Jensen@yolocounty.org</u>.

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