

## **COUNTY OF YOLO**

Office of the County Administrator

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** October 15, 2021 Contact: John Fout, Public Information Officer W: (530) 666-8042 • C: (530) 908-0186

## Yolo County Awarded Grant for Child Passenger Safety Education Program

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency has been awarded a \$175,000 single-year grant. This grant will fund child passenger safety education and training programs targeted at helping parents and caretakers ensure children are riding safely in vehicles.

Yolo County aims to reduce the risk of child injury while traveling in a vehicle and this grant will support local child passenger safety efforts and help ensure that infant and child safety seats (also known as car seats) are installed and used properly. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), a correctly used car seat can reduce fatality risk by 71% for infants and 54% for toddlers in passenger vehicles.

"Like seat belts for teens and adults, correctly installed car seats are the best protection for children while they are traveling," California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) Director Barbara Rooney said. "Car seat programs are an important traffic safety ally."

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the OTS through the NHTSA. Activities funded by this grant will include:

- Community education and car seat check events
- Individual car seat checks (by appointment)
- A limited number of car seats available to families in need
- Child Passenger Safety Technician training
- Promotion of safety seat recycling and the importance of discarding used and expired car seats
- Partnering with local organizations on car seat safety community outreach efforts in underserved communities.

To learn more about Yolo County's child passenger safety program, please contact the program at: Yolo.CarSeats@yolocounty.org. Residents can call Yolo 2-1-1 for resource information. Follow Yolo County on Facebook at: <u>https://www.facebook.com/YoloCounty/</u> or Twitter at: <u>https://twitter.com/YoloCountyCA</u>.