



Safe Kids – Maryland State Meeting Minutes: September 8, 2009

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Jacqueline Richter, Tracy Whitman, Vickie Quimby, Pamela Homiak, Bill Bernard, Cyndy Wright-Johnson, Teresa Ann Crisman, Lt. Carroll Roles, Linda Lee Cook, Leesa Radja, Jane Edwards, Sheila Johnson, Susan Solo, Beth Rosborough, Stephanie Hancock, Marty Parker, Scott Kaiser, Hugh Bean, Tim Richards, Ben Selassie, William Meyers, L. Thompson, Sharon New-Bauckman, Angel Bivens, Maggie Rauser, Linda Smith

9:30 am – During the pre-meeting time materials for Safe Kids “2009 Walk This Way” were available for review and the Safe Kids USA and International Walk to School Day websites were shared with those in attendance. Also available was a display of the materials used at the Raising Safe Kids – One Stage at a Time from the Ocean City MSFA Convention in June of 2009.

Welcome & self introductions around the room: Cyndy Wright Johnson, Coalition Chair, called meeting to order and reminded everyone to sign in on sign-in sheet and to include their email for meeting notices.

Cyndy Johnson gave a summary of “Walk This Way 2009” noting that the SafeKidsMD.org website has been updated with current links for **Walk This Way Resources:**

- [2009 International Walk To School Tips for Teaching Maryland](#)
- [All Signs for Walk This Way Campaign](#)
- [Walk This Way Color Page for Children](#)
- [Walk This Way Poster](#)
- [Safe Kids Walk This Way Program](#)
- [Safe Routes to School](#)

Cyndy solicited desires for formatting, language availability of materials for the website which is scheduled for conversion to content management this fall. The new format will allow information to be seen on the first screen of the website with resources and links listed in boxed areas. The SafeKids.org national website has addition information on pedestrian safety research and work that is going on across the country. Information is also available on national website regarding distracted drivers in school zones.

Halloween Safety resources on the www.safekidsmd.org website include:

- [2009 Halloween Reminders for Safe Kids Maryland](#)
- [Checklist for Halloween \(English\)](#)
- [Maze for Halloween \(English\)](#)
- [Halloween Poster](#)
- [Halloween Tips \(English\)](#)
- [Halloween s \(Spanish\)](#)



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Local Safe Kids Coalitions Update & Fall Plans

Baltimore City – Karen Hardingham sent an update through email. Their coalition will be doing a Seat Belt Saturday event at Harbor Hospital on 9/12/09; schools have been chosen for Walk This Way event with Fed Ex on October 7th; CPS Seat Checks are schedule and the list of dates is on their website at: http://www.umm.edu/safekids/safety_seat_checks.htm

Carroll County – Maggie Rauser reported that the September 16 – 19 2009 Standardized CPS Class has openings available and will occur at Wakefield Fire Department in Sykesville. The seat check is schedule at Jeff Barnes Ford on 9/19/09 and there is an additional seat check scheduled for 10/4/09. They have applied for Walk Your Child to School grant from SKUSA in the same format as previous years. Carroll County does not allow children to walk to school – they must be bussed, so on 9/20/09 they will have a School Bus safety event. The event includes greeting the buses, walking safely into school and an assembly in school. Halloween Event will be at a local “Y” and Christian camp. Due to budgeting, etc, they have re-vamped their process to include all who request but there will be a fee.

Frederick County – The coalition has a meeting scheduled for Thursday. Ongoing CPS Seat checks are scheduled in the county. The CPS Class in September is in conjunction with Carroll County.

Howard County – The coalition has continued Bike Safety events & rodeos throughout the summer with 8 rodeos in July with county Parks & Recreation. Seat check is scheduled at Lisbon Fire Co. on September 14, and two will be at Lisbon and in Clarksville for October.

Lower Shore – The coalition has a seat check scheduled for national Seat Check Saturday a Sam’s Club in Salisbury. Walk This Way event planning is underway.

Montgomery County – Emilie Crown reported the coalition has seat checks schedule throughout September at their usual places. They are hosting “Walk This Way” events in both the upper county and lower county. Beth Anne Nessel is working with Emilie on coalition activities. Brenda Botchway has transferred within the county health department to direct patient care working in field on community safety projects. Emilie brought a poster for everyone to sign that will be presented to Brenda at the next coalition meeting.

Prince George’s County – Teresa Anne Crisman reported that the coalition will be participating in Walk To School Day and has added another school. Halloween Event will be done at Cactus Willie’s as an after school party and fund-raiser. County Fair this week (week of 9/7/09) and the life safety trailers will be onsite with additional prevention information. Risk Watch events are planned for September, October & November dates. There are now four schools participating



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with the addition of an additional new program at Tanglewood Elementary. If interested, contact Marie Warner after September 21, 2009 at 301-474-1485.

Washington County – There was no update available from Amanda. The coalition has signed up for both Seat Check Saturday in September and the October “Walk This Way”.

Queen Anne’s County Chapter- Vicky Quimby will be coordinating activities in Queen Anne’s County as a chapter of Safe Kids Maryland. Vicky will be coordinating the Safe Kids Maryland – Seat Check Saturday event in Queen Anne’s County.

Garrett County Chapter – Diane Lee will be coordinating the activities in Garrett County as a chapter with seat checks held in conjunction with other health promotion activities in the county. Friday is actually their day for Seat Check Day in September.

St Mary’s County Chapter - Jackie Beckman will be coordinating activities in St. Mary’s County and has a CPS Class scheduled for fall 2009.

Update from Safe Kid USA & World Wide

Currently the Fed Ex Walk This Way and Halloween projects are the only nationally funded program – most of the funding is going to primarily materials for events. The national office will be converting most of their handouts - to website format. The national office is trying to streamline the resources – re-writing and re-formatting them for easier use by local coalitions. There was a recent mailing of **Fire Safety materials** with new handouts that include an animal to eliminate gender, ethnicity, etc.; hopefully will be able to post the tips included on the website.

Coalition members raised concerns about using materials and toys for injury prevention training this season with the rise of seasonal flue & H1N1. Cyndy showed on the internet the information available on NAEYC (National Association for Education of Young Children) website on how to clean toys properly.

The Safe Kids USA website also has the following information online:

1. National Report: Distracted Driver & School Zones – Deadly Combination

Within the report there is information on reaction times with and without cell phones. There were some concerns raised by law enforcement about research reference cited that have not been validated. The entire report is online and available. Comments should be sent to the Research department at Safe Kids WWW.

In Maryland - October 1, the new law goes into effect regarding texting and driving. Questions were posed about differences between texting/e-mailing, reading versus answering and the challenges for enforcement.



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Upcoming national Injury Prevention events and observances:

August 28th – September 20th “Great Trade-in” event at Babies “R” Us

September 12, 2009 – Seat Check Saturday – to be discussed under Child Passenger Safety

September 20 – 26, 2009 – National Farm Safety & Health Week – State Farm for Kids

October 4 – 10, 2009 – Stay Fire Smart – Don’t Get Burned – October theme. NFPA has great deal of information available. www.nfpa.org under safety information.

October 7th, 2009 – Walk This Way – previously discussed.

October 31st, 2009 – Halloween Safety – previously discussed.

11:00: Injury Prevention Topic Focus: Fire & Burn Safety – Novelty Lighters & Children - High Risks & Call for Action

Teresa Anne Crisman and Janie Edwards provided an over view of the Fire & Burn materials that are available within the state and online. The materials available from Burn Center at CNMC that were distributed in June were circulated. Chapel Forge Risk Watch special needs centers developed ‘O’ It’s Hot” rings which can be placed around the hot water faucet to remind children that they should not touch the faucet. These were handed out at the Ocean City Convention. It was noted that more recent faucets do not have separate hot & cold handles. Water heaters factory set at lower temperature but this can be re-set by consumer. Water heater temperatures are set by the manufacturer at 120 degrees.

Data from all three Maryland burn centers will be included in the MIEMSS annual report that will be available within two weeks on line at www.miemss.org. Scald is leading reason for hospitalizations. Jane Edwards reviewed Maryland deaths from fire compared to last year - 56 year to date (up from last year’s historic low of 43.)

Novelty lighters – State Fire Marshall is working with Maryland Fire Service organizations for support of a state-wide ban due to the dangers for children (and adults). Teresa Ann Crisman & Jane Edwards discussed the information that is available from Safe Kids USA and other state’s experiences. Highlights:

- Novelty lighters appear like toys. Being foreign made they do not have child safety devices (e.g., safety latch or flame control) on them or are required to meet any safety standards. They often include other features that attract children’s attention and curiosity. (e.g., laser, sound effects).
- Currently there are four national groups supporting legislation: The Congressional Fire Services Institute, the National Fire Assoc. of Fire Marshals, The Lighter Assoc., and Safe Kids USA. Federal



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legislation has been attempted (July 2008) and is still in process. Teresa reviewed states and locations that have or are attempting to pass legislation regarding novelty lighters. The City of Laurel has banned novelty lighters. There is a \$250 fine for selling novelty lighters. Currently legislation exists in or is under consideration the following states: Arkansas, Louisiana, Maine, Nevada, North Carolina, Oregon, Tennessee, Virginia and Washington. The coalition discussed some concern over getting such a bill passed because there have not been any deaths associated with them yet in Maryland. Jane pointed out that while there have been no injuries in Maryland prevention is important. She called for any organizations willing to back this legislation to contact her. US Consumer Product Safety Commission has not weighed in on the novelty lighters issue.

- Website from the Idea Bank – public service announcement regarding novelty lighters www.theideabank.com/psa/noveltylighters.html
- Fire Marshall Bill Benard shared with the coalition the work that has been done to date on the novelty lighter issue. Sen. Glassman & Del. Malone are working on language to introduce legislation regarding novelty lighters in January of 2010. Other co-sponsors are being approached. OSFM will keep the coalition informed about legislative committee(s) to contact.

Other Fire Safety Initiatives were shared:

- January 1, 2009 – state compliance laws regarding fire safe cigarettes legislation will go into effect in Virginia, North Carolina & South Carolina – should begin to impact Maryland (i.e., purchase of non-fire safe cigarettes in low tax states and bringing them into Maryland.)
- Fire sprinklers – Maryland is ahead of other part of the country on the installation of sprinklers in residential construction. This has been a requirement for several years. 9 counties in Maryland have requirements in construction in 1 & 2 family dwellings. There will be a national meeting in Baltimore for 2012 edition for building codes this evening (9/8). The fire prevention community is looking to be sure sprinklers are included in the 2012 codes. A map of those jurisdictions with sprinkler ordinances is available on the OSFM website.

Updates on Injury Risk Areas

Child Passenger Safety:

- Stephanie Hancock, from the NHTSA Regional Office provided an update on the new NHTSA regulation - – “Keeping It Safe Inside & Out” that will provide for tracking non-traffic related deaths in children. This regulation is brand new, June 2009, and more details are available on the on NHTSA website www.nhtsa.gov. NHTSA now in charge of database collection of children under 14 that are non traffic related deaths. The numbers are probably underestimated (have not historically collected this information.) Currently in “Not In Traffic” crashes – there were 262 deaths reported nationwide and of those 218 “non-traffic crash” did not occurring on a public road (e.g., a driveway,



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parking lot, private road). This includes front or backing incidents. Majority are front view (driver can see) – child being run over and the balance are rear view (driver can't see) – child is being backed over. There is technology available to address these issues (NTSA regulates automobile industry):

- Power windows issues are being addressed in newer vehicles – stopping device so that if a child is caught in a window that is moving – it stops. Similar to garage door devices. Express up will require an auto reverse function (senses something blocking the window). Question was raised about whether similar technology will be available for auto closing van doors as well. Stephanie not aware of such technology for this issue. Nationwide 52,000 injuries due to closing car door were reported. Everyone echoed the concern that for a long time we will still have cars on the road that do NOT have the safety measures. There were reportedly 5 deaths last year due to power windows
- BTSI – Brake Transmission Safety Interlock – prevents rollaway (to prevent roll-overs)
- Rear visibility – available in newer cars. Final rule scheduled for 2010 – currently in developmental stage. Large number of deaths related to this problem, especially in the case of SUV's.
- Other types of non traffic, non crash fatalities that occur in cars and will be tracked by NHTSA in the future include hyperthermia - there were 44 deaths due to hyperthermia last year (left in a hot car)
- Very large number of injuries (versus fatalities) – 105,000 – occur in car (e.g., getting caught in auto closing door.)

Stephanie suggests focusing on issues such as backing over children and injuries where time and funding is limited. Database is a resource for prevalence of various types of injuries related to cars. This will help focus local efforts. Cyndy pointed out that injuries are harder to identify than deaths. First responders maybe better able to identify potential cause on the scene. Two website have additional information on these topics: NITS (Not In Traffic Surveillance) website: ovetransport.com Another website: kidsandcars.org

Child Passenger Safety – KISS Program: Tracy Whitman, Claire Myers, DuJuan Artis provided a KISS Update. The nationwide CPS week is September 12th -18th with Seat Check Saturday being on the 12th. KISS has been asked to coordinate a Disney train tour next month from 10/2-4 at B&O Railroad which will promote child seat safety. The event is free of charge – from 9 to 7 Friday & Saturday, 9 to 4 on Sunday. KISS is looking for technicians to volunteer for staffing NTSA's booth with doll displays.

The long awaited Safe Kids Maryland CPS Display board has arrived and is in back for review – available for use by coalitions across the state. Due to the size and weight it cannot be shipped. KISS has reservation forms available and educational handouts available. They also have car seat displays also available.



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CPS & OP Healthcare Project Update: Pam Homiak provided a written handout and reviewed these highlights:

- Lunch time conference call series is finished for the year. The topics were: February – rear facing longer; June - hyperthermia when children are left in cars; August 13: higher weight harness options (CPS Board CEU eligible). All three are available on website and the audio portions will be integrated by September 18 , 2009
- Posters available for distribution. Pam is sending pediatrician’s offices information about the posters and conference calls for distribution to parents & care givers. The newest poster highlights rear-facing seats.
- The project also has SECURE poster for emergency care providers that focus on safety inside the ambulance.

Poison Safety Update – Angel Bivens, Maryland Poison Center, provided an update. Their annual report is available on website – www.mdpoison.com along with fact sheets and county data. Contact Angel if you need something more customized. Poison Week Prevention: March 21 – 27, 2010 (3rd full week of March). The 2010 Poster contest will be done with Safe Kids Washington County. The Poison Center is also working on Safe Communities project in Washington County. There is a pilot program in Frederick County to train pharmacists to visit local schools and present the program. Snag with home survey completion that are not getting completed or returned.

- Poison Prevention Press available online.
- Online store up and running on home page – survey required to place order. Helps to track information for Maryland Poison Control.
- Poison Prevention Press is still being done with varying topic focuses. New one due out in September.

Water Safety Update – Julie Brown, Maryland Department Natural Resources was not available for an update available.

12:10 pm – Old Business – Upcoming dates:

- Mid Atlantic Life Safety Conference - **September. 22**, at Johns Hopkins APL in Laurel – Jane Edwards announced



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- **Nov. 4, 2009** – 1:00 pm at MIEMSS – EMSC & Partnership for Safer Maryland: Injury Prevention Forum: “Investing for Success – the importance of critical problem analysis to strengthen your injury prevention strategies.”
- Dates for 2010 Meetings are still pending from MHSO – please forward to Cyndy and Tim any important dates to include in planning that would pose any potential conflicts for update.
- Possible conference call capabilities are being explored with this new facility.

12:15 pm New Business – Suggestions for **Topic for next meetings – to be given to Cyndy.**

12:16 pm Meeting adjourned by Cyndy Johnson – Networking Lunch