

Heatstroke to Children Left in Cars

Outdoor Stand-Up Temperature Display

Available for Use for Maryland Community Events

On average each year, 37 children die from heatstroke when left alone in cars. In 2025, **31** children died this way, including two from Maryland. Awareness and behavior modification among caregivers are key to preventing the majority of these tragic deaths. The Outdoor Stand-Up Temperature Display is an excellent tool to create awareness of how a vehicle can quickly heat up in the sun to where the inside temperatures would kill a child. This display features:

- A tall metal (78") **or** tripod free-standing display with two LCD temperature monitors attached at the top: one for the in-vehicle temperature and one for outside/ambient temperature.
- Cable connectors with thermometers to place in and outside the car.
- Signs to place on display car to convey message.
- Safe Kids display sign for the middle of the frame.
- 100 foot extension cord.
- How to use display video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=CBFh3M4Kp74 ; tripod version: <https://youtu.be/zGPB8fYatDU>
- Handouts and posters for the public.



**ZERO
DEATHS
MARYLAND**

**SAFE
KIDS
MARYLAND**



To Reserve one of the display: click on this QR code:



Display kits are available for pick up in Baltimore, Hagerstown, Prince Georges County, and Salisbury. Or contact Susanne Ogaitis-Jones, MIEMSS' CPS & OP Healthcare Project at cps@miemss.org

Guidelines for Use

- Arrange for pick up/return of large and heavy display.
- Return the display and signs within 2 business days to the pre-arranged location.
- Arrange for a safe outdoor location for a parked vehicle and the temperature monitor/stand.
- Access to electricity is recommended; a 100 foot extension cord is included with the display. Or a battery pack may be available. Contact cps@miemss.org
- Do not expose the display to rain, and always have staff nearby.
- Allow 15-30 minutes for set up, with one–two people needed.
- If any damages occur, you are responsible for repairs or replacement.
- If any questions or concerns, call Susanne at 410-706-8647, or (outside business hours) c: 410-491-7803.

Additional Activities to Accompany Display

- Place a doll or stuffed animal that doesn't look real strapped into a car seat inside the hot car. Use a car without dark windows to allow the car seat to be seen.
- Ask local car dealers to loan the vehicle, as a public service.
- Have supplemental materials available: handouts, posters to give away, or incentive items with campaign messages.
- Invite local media to cover the campaign and film the temperature changes.
- Cover the campaign on social media, with frequent updates of temperature changes and what that would mean to a child occupant of the car.
- Simultaneously conduct an inside display on the same subject by borrowing one of the 6' tall stand up posters ("Cars can overheat rapidly..." or "Take action..."). Contact cps@miemss.org to arrange this.

Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC)

Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS)

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