



# Child Passenger Safety & Occupant Protection Healthcare Project

*Funded by Maryland Highway Safety Office/NHTSA*

- 2013 project year included turning excerpts from the Proper Occupant Protection DVD into short educational messages on CPS, creating another PSA (on the role of male providers in CPS), and making several train-the-provider videos. These videos are for hospitals for their in-house television systems, to better educate patients and providers. The University of Maryland Rehabilitation Hospital (Kernan) began a car seat loaning program for children with special needs. The Tween OP program was featured in a poster presentation at Lifesavers national conference and more pilot testing was conducted.
- 2012 year project included the creation of a new educational intervention to increase seat belt use and safety behaviors in cars for tweens (youth ages 10-15 years). A pilot curriculum was developed and promoted to emergency nurses. Nine nurses or safety advocates were trained to teach this and they began to pilot-test the program. To continue to educate the public about the updated Maryland CPS law, we conducted a large mailing to state AAP pediatricians and placed two ads on CPS in parenting magazines. We also developed a PSA on booster seat use, to distribute to hospitals and media outlets.
- 2011 year project surveyed healthcare providers and CPSTs to ascertain continuing education needs and then offered four conference calls with Powerpoint presentations. Other identified needs included CPS materials for patient waiting rooms, so a stand-up display poster with pocket was developed and distributed across the state. To promote the upcoming changes to the Maryland CPS law we held a press conference in September; 3 television stations covered the MIEMSS has coordinated a special Child Passenger Safety & Occupant Protection Healthcare Project, funded by the Maryland Highway Safety Office/NHTSA, that focuses on the promotion of "best practice" child passenger safety (CPS) education, discharge policies for Maryland hospitals, and Occupant Protection (OP) best practices for health care professionals. The project maintains a website with information specific to hospitals and EMS providers.
- 2010 current project year rolled out the educational "Infant Car Seat Challenge" DVD for perinatal healthcare providers. Accompanying the DVD rollout, Project staff is presenting the DVD at a number of hospitals across the state to NICU, Labor & Delivery, and Postpartum staff. The project continues to provide education on securing providers and patients correctly in EMS response and transport vehicles.
- 2009 project worked to educate MD's CPS advocates in healthcare settings through a series of lunchtime conference calls on CPS "hot topics" – extended rear-facing for toddlers, the dangers of vehicular hyperthermia, and advances in higher-weight harnesses in child restraints. November 2009 Click It or Ticket campaign included Seat Belts Save Lives – Buckle Up messages outside Fire and Rescue stations and the development of a new poster and display. 2008 project focused on outreach with CPS messages to ED nurses and dissemination of information on 2008's new CPS law that went into effect in MD on June 30, 2008 expanding the Booster Seat age to protect more children from injury.
- 2007 current project year will expand the focus to Emergency Departments and Safe Transport of Children in Ambulances. February CPS Conference Call featured the "Spot the Tot" program.
- 2006 project had a special focus on the addition of Spanish Language resources and continued the February CPS Conference Call.
- 2005 project involved follow up surveys to Maryland hospitals, CPS technician liaisons, and health care newsletters to determine which types of educational resources were most helpful and held the first February CPS Conference Call focused on Booster Seats.
- 2004 project worked to ensure education materials were distributed to all the hospitals in Maryland, along with the launch of the CPS Project webpage, and the development of a DVD/VHS for training - "Proper Occupant Protection".
- 2003 project focused on the development of CPS Resource Kit for hospitals with current and accurate safety information. Additionally regional Special Needs CPS training courses were held in collaboration with KISS and MHSO.
- The projects 2002 first year provided the baseline information on the CPS resources and practices in hospitals through a survey to all 48 Maryland hospitals that treat young children. Certified CPS technicians in each county were invited to serve as technical resources for hospitals.