

Child Passenger Safety Facts

Motor Vehicle Crashes are the #1 killer of children in the United States. This is a preventable health issue that can be addressed through Extension programming.

Child restraints are arguably the best safety device to reduce injuries & deaths of children. Between 1975-2011, 11,606 lives were saved by child restraints.

Low education, low income, and limited English proficiency households are more prone to use car safety seats incorrectly.

More than 600 children, ages 12 or younger, are killed annually and over 91,000 are treated in emergency rooms for injuries suffered as passengers in motor vehicles.



Child Passenger Safety: A Significant Health Problem

To address this critical health issue in Hale County:

- **124 Car Safety Seat Inspections**, *educating 153 parents, caregivers, and extended family members*
- **3 Community Car Seat Checkup Events**
- **14 social media posts**, *promoting car safety seat checks and installation tips (over 21 shares)*
- **2 Interpretation Events**, *reaching 57 people & resulting in \$2000 donation from Kiwanis*
- **3 Newspaper Articles**, *resulting in new clientele and widespread car passenger safety education to six surrounding communities*
- **5 New Community Partners**, *including Covenant Hospital Plainview, Plainview Crisis Center, Hale County LAB, Plainview Chamber of Commerce, & Wal Mart Distribution Center*

References for this Impact Statement are available upon request.

*For more information, contact: Shawnte Clawson, CEA-FCH, Hale County
shawnte.clawson@ag.tamu.edu or 806-291-5267*

IMPACTS

**Prior to Inspection
Correctly Restrained**

5%

Children arrived either incorrectly restrained or unrestrained.

**After Inspection
Correctly Restrained**

100%

Children left riding safely restrained in appropriate CSS.

KNOWLEDGE GAINED

100%

surveyed rated their knowledge and skills improved as part of the car safety seat inspection

83%

surveyed indicated they knew how long their child should use a child safety seat

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Proper use of safety seats reduces the risk of injury and death, leading to reduced medical costs, avoidance of lost future earnings, and improved quality of life. Economic benefits are an estimated:

\$2441 per child age 0-4

\$2921 per child age 4 - 7

\$695 per child for seat misuse

corrected with 75% continued use.

Based on this formula, the total economic impact for the 124 inspections is \$169,624.



124

Car safety seat inspections performed.



86

New car safety seats distributed.



59

Expired and/or unsafe car safety seats retrieved & destroyed.

ECONOMIC IMPACT HALE COUNTY

\$169,624

DOLLARS

For More information or questions regarding child passenger safety, please contact Shawnte Clawson, CEA-FCH --Hale 806-291-5267 *shawnte.clawson@ag.tamu.edu