

News Release

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Community Car Seat Check Event

Knox County Head Start's Family Day on Wednesday, April 18th will feature more than its usual student art show. This year, the Knox County Health Department (KCHD) is partnering with Head Start to offer a Community Car Seat Check Event at the school's site, 11700 Upper Gilchrist Road in Mount Vernon. The car seat event will be held from 11:45am - 1:00pm and is open to the public.

KCHD is the local Safe Kids agency with two car seat techs on staff. Alayna Anderson, Knox County's Safe Kids Coordinator, wants caretakers to take this opportunity to have car seat installations double checked to ensure their little passengers' safety. Also to note, a caretaker doesn't have to be a parent; anyone who travels with children - whether that be a babysitter, grandparent, or older sibling - should know how to properly install and harness a child's car seat. Injuries due to transportation are the leading cause of death for children - many of which could be preventable.

Nearly 95% of all car seat installs by caretakers are incorrect - many of them misusing the lower anchors, not properly locking the seat belt, or even not buckling in their little one tight enough. To help find and resolve these critical errors, health department car seat techs will be available to check - and if need be, to re-install - car seats in the Head Start Mount Vernon parking lot on April 18, 2018 from 11:45 am - 1 pm. This is also a great time for parents-to-be to have their car seat installed and questions answered before baby's arrival.

"No pre-registration is required but parents and caregivers should allot a half hour to an hour for our car seat techs to thoroughly check and properly install the car seat(s)," states Anderson. "We want to make sure your precious cargo is safely secured in their seat, every trip and every time. A safe child is a happy child, and that is the goal of Child Passenger Safety Technicians worldwide. "

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