
Good Samaritan Hospital

Kearney, Nebraska

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News Release

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2008 AAA Strollerthon Educates Parents, Experts about Child Passenger Safety

KEARNEY— Parents, caregivers, and child safety advocates from across the state are invited to Hilltop Mall on April 29 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. for the 2008 AAA Strollerthon.

Participants are invited to walk to five stations inside the mall to learn how to keep children safe in and around cars. The five stations are:

Spot the Tot. Because of their small stature, kids can be invisible to a driver, particularly when backing up. This station explains how to protect children from backovers and other dangers around a car.

Boosters 4 Big Kids. Learn the five-step test to determine if your child is ready to move from a booster seat to the adult lap and shoulder seat belt system.

Trunks are for Elephants, Not for Kids. Children can become trapped inside a car's trunk. Help your kids learn how to escape if they do become trapped, and why it's important to never play inside a trunk.

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Forward Facing vs. Rear Facing. Nebraska law says that a child can be turned to forward facing at a minimum of 20 pounds and 1 year, but is minimum the safest? Learn what the American Academy of Pediatric and child passenger safety experts say.

Rollover Simulator. This simulator, provided by the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety and AAA, will show what happens in a rollover accident.

“Anyone who would like to learn how to keep a child safe in and around cars should visit the Strollerthon. Parents will learn about child passenger safety, and kids will enjoy some of the displays as well,” said Karen Triplett, coordinator for Platte Valley Safe Kids. “Certified child passenger safety technicians will be providing demonstrations and instruction. Everyone can learn something and have some fun!” Triplett said.

“Making the complete loop of the Strollerthon won’t take very long,” she continued. “We hope a lot of parents, grandparents, caregivers and kids come and visit the displays.”

The AAA Strollerthon is an annual statewide event; this is the first year it has been held outside Lincoln and Omaha. The AAA Strollerthon is also part of an educational event for those who specialize in keeping kids safe. Child passenger safety technicians from across the state will be in Kearney April 29 and 30 for their annual training update.

All participants will be able to designate a Safe Kids coalition or chapter in Nebraska and that group will receive a \$25 donation for each participant. The money is donated through a grant provided by AAA Nebraska and the Cornhusker Motor Club Foundation. The Safe Kids coalitions and chapters will also be eligible for additional matching funds from the grant. The foundation donates a total of \$10,000 for this matching fund grant. Safe Kids coalitions and chapters will use the grant monies to purchase car seats for low-income and at risk families living in their local communities.

For more information about the 2008 AAA Strollerthon, contact Karen Triplett at 308-440-9130.