

NEWS RELEASE

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Dawson County Health Department Awarded Car Seat Mini Grant

Buckle Up Right, Every Trip, Every Time

Dawsonville, GA – Dawson County Health Department was awarded the 2024 Car Seat Mini-Grant by the Georgia Department of Public Health, Injury Prevention Program. Through the Mini-Grant, **Dawson County Health Department** provides car seats and education to financially eligible families in **Dawson County**. This program is funded by the Governor’s Office of Highway Safety to help ensure Georgia’s children are safe while riding in motor vehicles.

And it works! Since 2007, the education, car seats and booster seats provided through the Mini Grant prevented serious injury or death and saved over 437 of Georgia’s children who were involved in crashes. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, car seats reduce fatal injuries by 71 percent among infants and by 54 percent among children ages 1 to 4 years in passenger cars. Car seats offer the best protection for children in the event of a crash, and they are most effective when installed and used correctly. Nearly three out of every four car seats are not used properly, placing children at unnecessary risk.

“It’s our responsibility to keep our children safe,” said **Amy Jusak**. “The Car Seat Mini-Grant is a great opportunity to help our community and help protect our children from serious injuries or death in motor vehicle crashes.”

In **Dawson County**, the Dawson County Health Department educates parents and caregivers in English or Spanish on how to properly install and use car seats, offers car seat inspections and provides car seats and booster seats to financially eligible families. Through the Car Seat Mini-Grant, agencies supporting more than 113 counties are working to keep Georgia’s children safe. These programs help families get their children buckled up right, every trip, every time.

For more information about the **Dawson County Health Department** car seat program, contact Amy Jusak at **706-265-2611**. If you would like information regarding other

counties involved in the program, please contact the Georgia Department of Public Health's Child Occupant Safety Project via email at injury@dph.ga.gov.