

# Child Passenger Safety Update

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

CPS Board Position	1
MN CPS Liaison Grant	2
TZD Highlights	2
Winter Jacket Dangers	3
CPS Star Award	3
2017 Safety Conferences	3
Training Seats Available	4
Ultimate Car Seat Guide	4

## Minnesota CPS Board Position Open

The Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety is currently seeking a CPS advocate to serve on the Minnesota CPS Advisory Board.

This group of CPS stakeholders includes representatives from health care systems, law enforcement agencies, public health, education, ambulance services and government agencies. The mission of the board is to improve guidance to the Minnesota Department of Safety/Office of Traffic Safety regarding the safe transportation of children and to act as a liaison between CPST's, CPSI's and the MN Office of Traffic Safety.

There is one open member position for the MN Child Passenger Safety Advisory Board. Special considerations will be made for applicants who have experience working with diverse populations, or those working in rural Minnesota communities. A commitment to remain on the board for at least two consecutive years will be sought.

If you are Interested, please submit a letter of interest and resume. The resume should well document your CPS related experience.



Submit your letter of interest and resume to Heather Darby at the Office of Traffic Safety via U.S. post mail, email or fax:

Heather Darby  
445 Minnesota Street, Suite 150  
St. Paul, MN 55101-5150

651-297-4844 (FAX)  
651-201-7068 (Phone)  
heather.darby@state.mn.us

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## CPS Advisory Board: Vision /Mission /Values

**Vision:** the elimination of childhood injury and death related to improper use or non-use of child passenger safety restraints.

**Mission:** to improve guidance to the Minnesota Department of Safety/Office of Traffic Safety regarding the safe transportation of children and to act as a liaison between CPST's, CPSI's and the MN Office of Traffic Safety.

**Values:** Children are the future

## Grant Opportunity: Southern MN CPS Liaison

The Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS), through its Office of Traffic Safety (OTS), is providing a grant opportunity for a Southern Child Passenger Safety Liaison. The Liaison is an experienced child passenger safety instructor and/or technician that will encourage, assist, and foster relationships with law enforcement personnel, public health workers, the general public and other Child Passenger Safety advocates to increase CPS presence and education in the southern half of Minnesota. This position is known as the Southern CPS Liaison.

The Liaison's function is to increase the compliance and correct use of child passenger safety seats. This is accomplished by serving as a link for the OTS to promote participation in child passenger safety programs promoted by

the OTS and increase CPS activities in Southern Minnesota. The grant cycle for this year will run from January, 15, 2017 through September 30, 2017. Future one-year grants may be available from October 1 – September 30, following the federal fiscal year.

For more information or to receive the full RFP, contact Heather Darby [Heather.darby@state.mn.us](mailto:Heather.darby@state.mn.us) or 651-201-7068

To apply, go to <https://app.dps.mn.gov/egrants>, and click "new user" if you have not applied for grant previously using this system.

Applications must be submitted to the OTS via E-Grants by 5 p.m. on Saturday, January 14, 2017.

### CPS Track Feedback

*"Meet the Manufacturers is always the best session and has the most useful information."*

*"It felt like a safe place to ask questions, great job."*

*"Very insightful and informative."*

*"Great to learn new things and to also re-learn things from the past."*

## MN 2016 TZD Conference – CPS Highlights

The 2016 Toward Zero Deaths Conference was held November 16-17 in Duluth, MN. This was the 13<sup>th</sup> annual statewide conference for traffic safety stakeholders working towards the goal of zero preventable deaths on Minnesota roads. This conference offers a CPS track, providing CPS professionals an opportunity to garner education and earn CPS CEU's.

The conference kicked-off with the pre-conference training: Installing Child Safety Restraint Systems on School Buses. Several CPS Techs and Instructors participated in this day-long training.

The general CPS Sessions included the following topics and presenters:

1. *Fact or Fiction: Dispelling Child Passenger Safety Myths*, with Kim Herrmann from Safe Kids Worldwide
2. *Meet the Manufactures*: Highlighted new product features from the following manufacturers: Britax, UPPA Baby, Graco, Recaro, and Evenflo.

3. *Meet the Crash Dummies*: Participants learned how test dummies are used when certifying car seats. Speaker: Sarah Tilton, Britax Child Safety Inc.
4. *Communicating CPS across Cultures*: This session explored ways to reach and connect with underserved populations. Presenters: Joel Glaser and Phavanna Nina Scheller with Ampers Diverse Radio for Minnesota's Communities; KaRee Lockling, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.
5. *Why Can't We Just Do This?* Offered insight to the scope of car seat development and the manufacturing process. Speaker: Sarah Haverstick, Evenflo Company Inc.

Over 100 CPS advocates attended the MN TZD/CPS Track. We'd love to hear your recommendations for 2017 CPS track sessions and speakers. Send your ideas to Kim at [lombard.kimberly@mayo.edu](mailto:lombard.kimberly@mayo.edu).

The 2017 MN TZD Conference is October 26-27 in St. Paul, MN. Hope to see you there!

## Winter Jackets and Car Seats Dangers

Bulky winter jackets and snowsuits can cause harness straps/seatbelts to be too loose which can limit the effectiveness of a child restraint or seat-belt. Extra slack in a harness can be very dangerous and can result in a child passing through the harness, or becoming ejected from the restraint. As the temperatures drop, many people have concerns about keeping

children safe from the cold AND safe in the car. Here are some recommendations:

- Demonstrate extra harness slack with a bulky jacket compared to lightweight clothing
- Warm up the car before the trip
- Dress in thin, lightweight layers (fleece works great)
- Secure a child in their seat without a coat and place the coat on the child backwards to cover their arms and body
- Place blankets over the child and straps
- Use infant carrier covers that don't interfere with the harness



## Child Passenger Safety Star Award Recipient

The Toward Zero Death Child Passenger Safety Star Award is given each year to recognize an individual who demonstrates excellence in child passenger safety. The 2016 CPS Star Award acknowledges Laura Owens, an Administrative Information Specialist with the Duluth Fire Department. Laura has been a CPST since 2002 and a CPSI since 2006.

She has trained more than 325 technicians and 120 practitioners, and certified hundreds of daycare and foster care providers. Laura demonstrates her passion for CPS by creating monthly child safety checks and clinics, leading the fire department's annual CPS class, providing multiple child care/foster care classes, and training firefighters with the

practitioner program.

Congratulations to Laura for her commitment and dedication to child passenger safety!



## Mark your Calendars – 2017 Conference Dates

<b>Conference</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>2017 Dates</b>
Lifesavers	Charlotte, NC	March 26-28
PrevCon Safe Kids Conference	Baltimore, MD	July 26-29
KIM Conference	Denver, CO	Aug. 30-Sept. 2
MN Childhood Injury Prevention Summit	Vadnais Heights, MN	September 14
MN TZD Conference	St. Paul, MN	October 26-27

### Web-resources:

MN Dept. of Safety:  
[www.dps.state.mn.us](http://www.dps.state.mn.us)

[MN Office of Traffic Safety – CPS Site](#)

National Child Passenger Safety Board:  
<http://cpsboard.org/>

NHTSA:  
<https://www.safercar.gov/>

Safe Kids:  
[www.safekids.org](http://www.safekids.org)

[Recall list:](#)

## CPS Advisory Board

**Allison Nicolson**  
Essentia Health Duluth

**Dex Tuttle**  
Children's Hospital Minneapolis

**Diana Van Wormer**  
Regions Hospital

**Esther G. DeLaCruz**  
Child Passenger Safety Assoc. Inc.

**Heather Darby**  
State Coordinator

**Jennifer Booge**  
Mahube Community Council Inc.

**Jill Lundquist**  
Sartell Police Department

**Josh Duda**  
North Memorial Ambulance Service

**Kim Lombard**  
Mayo Clinic

**LeeAnn Mortensen**  
North Memorial Health Care

**Nichole Korth**  
New Hope Police Department

**Tammy Seifert**  
Sherburne County Health & Human Services

## Are you in Need of Training Seats?

MN CPS Board Members are here to help by loaning child safety restraints for trainings and educational activities. If you are in need of demo seats, contact a board member in your region.

Region	Contact Name	Contact E-mail
Metro	Dex Tuttle	dex.tuttle@childrensmn.org
Metro	Nicole Korth	nkorth@ci.new-hope.mn.us
Metro	Heather Darby	heather.darby@state.mn.us
Metro/East	Diana VanWormer	Diana.L.VanWormer@healthpartners.com
Metro/West	LeeAnn Mortensen	Leeann.mortensen@northmemorial.com
Northern (Duluth/Cloquet)	Allison Nicolson	Allison.nicolson@essentiahealth.org
Northern	Jennifer Booge	buckleupforlife@gmail.com
Southeast	Kim Lombard	Lombard.kimberly@mayo.edu
Central (Brainerd)	Josh Duda	lakesareacps@aol.com
East Central	Tammy Seifert	Tammy.seifert@co.sherburne.mn.us

## Safe Kids Ultimate Car Seat Guide

Safe Kids Worldwide produced The Ultimate Car Seat Guide, an interactive guide that delivers both general and personalized tips to make sure your child is using the correct car seat. The guide has tips on buying car seats, installing car seats, finding the right fit, and when to change car seats.



[Check out The Ultimate Car Seat Guide from Safe Kids Worldwide](#)