

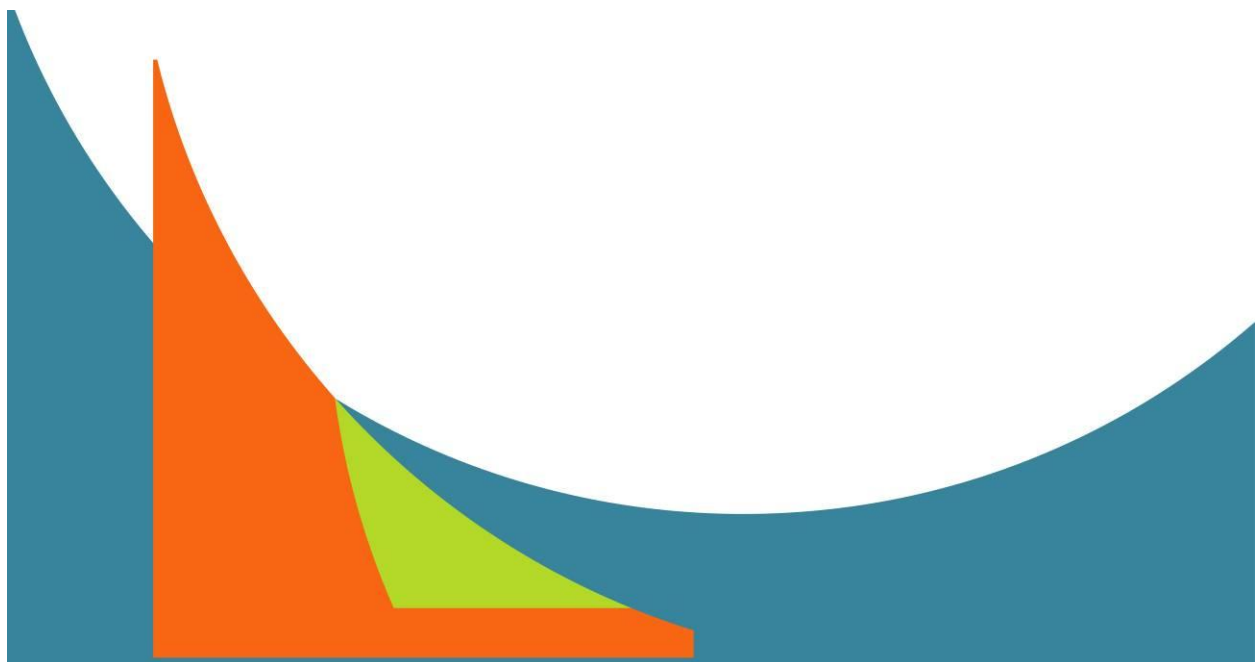


# 2010

*Annual Report*

**Safe Kids Sandhills**

**Ogallala, Nebraska**



# Safe Kids Sandhills 2010 Annual Report

Safe Kids Sandhills was formed in February of 2004 when members of the Ogallala area community came together to form a community coalition dedicated to preventing the number one cause of death for children under age 14: accidental injury.

Safe Kids Sandhills is a chapter of Safe Kids Nebraska.

## Partners:

The Sandhills District Health Department, which serves Keith, Arthur, Grant, Hooker, and Thomas Counties, serves as the lead agency for Safe Kids Sandhills.

A group of committee members meets quarterly to guide the chapter. Scott Eveland is chair of the committee.

Our main partners include the Boating Safety Section of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, the Ogallala Police Department and Banner Health—Ogallala Community Hospital. Committee members also represent the Ogallala/Keith County Chamber of Commerce, Goodall Public Library, Mid Nebraska Community Action/Head Start, and Heartland Counseling.

## Web site:

Our web site is located at the Safe Kids Nebraska site, [www.SafeKidsNebraska.org](http://www.SafeKidsNebraska.org). The central site provides information on all Safe Kids Coalitions and Chapters in the state. The Sandhills District Health Department site links to our location. Our chapter president created and maintains the state site under contract with Safe Kids Nebraska.



## Target areas:

Child passenger safety and water safety continued to be our primary areas of focus.

## **Projects and Events:**

### Safe Kids Buckle Up Car Seat Checks:

#### *Car Seat Numbers:*

Total number of seats assessed: 49  
Number of seats distributed to the community: 21  
Approx. retail value of seats distributed: \$1,050

#### *April 17 at Sidney*

Seats checked: 26

Seats Correct: 1

Seats distributed: 9

Held in partnership with Memorial Health Center and Sidney Police Department

Local funding provided by MHC and a grant from Safe Kids Nebraska

#### *May 1 at Grant*

Seats checked: 7

Seats correct: 0

Seats distributed: 4

Held in partnership with Perkins County Hospital at their annual health fair.

#### *August 27 at Dundy County Hospital, Benkelman*

Seats checked: 9

Seats correct: 0

Seats distributed: 3

Local funding provided by DCH via a Safe Kids Nebraska grant.

#### *September 18 at Alco in Ogallala*

Seats checked: 1

Seats distributed: 1

Persistent rain during the event put a damper on attendance.

Six car seat checks were provided on an individual basis via outside referrals (Women's Resource Center, hospital, PD, etc.) with four seats distributed. These do not meet SKBU reporting guidelines, but are included in our stats for the year.

## Child Passenger Safety Week 2010

During Child Passenger Safety Week we again did the Smarties project, promoting seat belt use by passing out Smarties candies at area elementary school along with a flyer promoting restraint use and an upcoming car seat check.

## Child Passenger Safety Technician Certification Course

Safe Kids Sandhills helped to co-sponsor the course held in Scottsbluff in April with Safe Kids Scotts Bluff County. Nobody from our service area took the class.

## Banner Health Fair/National Night Out

We were unable to participate in either the Banner Health Fair or National Night Out this year due to a lack of volunteers.



## T-Shirt Reward Program

For the seventh year, we purchased t-shirts to be distributed at Lake McConaughy to kids “caught” wearing their life jacket. Game and Parks staff in both the Parks and Boating Safety divisions gave out the shirts throughout the summer.

## Masonic Lodge CHIP Program

Volunteers from the Ogallala Police Department distributed some of our left over bike and multi-sport helmets at the CHIP program sponsored by the Masonic Lodge. Just over 80 helmets were distributed and \$175 in donations received!

## **Funding:**

We received a \$250 matching grant from the Cornhusker Motor Club Foundation. The match was for any donations received for child seats in 2010.

## **Media:**

The Keith County News and KOGA/KMCX radio have been excellent partners, continuing to provide press coverage of every event and program we implemented this year.

## **Summary:**

Our small group is still doing big things for our community! However, volunteerism remains our biggest challenge. We need to recruit more volunteers to help serve on the committee, attend events, and even become certified as CPS Technicians.