

Fostering Strong Car Seat Inspection Stations

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Outline

- How our program started
- Our program today
- Community partners
- Strengths
- Improvements needed
- Advice for beginners

In the Beginning

- Started in 2000
- Four FT staff
- Seat checks done twice a week
- 1 large open seat check a month
- 6-8 certification classes a year
- Hotline number

Changes

- Added website information
- Added inspection station locations
- Increased appointments
- Added partners
- Safe Kids Mobile Inspection Station Van
- Staff decreased!

Changes continued

- Grants
- Online scheduling program
- Outreach Loaner Program
- Increased supplies
- Donations
- More technicians

More Changes

- Increased emphasis on retention
- Additional classes
- More outreach
- Phone help!

Current Program Overview

- Montgomery County Fire Rescue is the Lead Agency, with many partners
- Number of techs and instructors
- Seats inspected and distributed
- Trainings
- Loaner program
- Community outreach

Our Major Partners

- Auto Dealerships
- Retail stores
- Kiwanis
- Montgomery County Police
- Hospitals
- Health and Human Services

Strengths

- Dedicated technicians
- Great locations for inspection stations
- Partners
- Well stocked supplies
- Techs and Senior Checkers know expectations
- High volume, so we keep current

Improvements needed:

- More volunteer technicians
- More partners
- Increased funding
- Efficiency reviews
- Respond to survey suggestions
- Increase media releases
- Bilingual technicians needed

Advice for Beginners

- Start small
- Make inspections by appointment only
- Distribute survey to determine strengths and weaknesses
- Quality vs. quantity
- Focus on technician retention
- Brag about accomplishments

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