

Giving Indiana's Kids a Boost

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New Booster Seat Initiatives
March 30,2009
Lifesavers 2009
Nashville TN

Acknowledgements

- Dawn M. Daniels, DNS, RN, PHCNS-BC
- Judith L. Talty
- Marilyn J. Bull, MD
- Traffic Safety Division of the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute

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Objectives

Share a Hoosier perspective on how we

- Used data to asses problems
- Developed interventions
- Assured the interventions works

Booster seat use in Indiana 2001

- Only 16% of children 4y to 8y and weighing 41 to 80 lbs. were in belt-positioning booster seats (Automotive Safety Program, 2002)
- During 2001, 34 children ages 4 through 7y died or were injured in motor vehicle crashes (FARS, 2009)

Why Kids were not in booster seats

- Knowledge—lack of knowledge of usefulness and safety benefit
- Attitudes—Once out of a standard car seat a seat belt was good enough
- Access—belt-positioning booster seats were not widely available or popular

What Programs work

- Community Guide has a listing of the type of programs and their evidence for success
— <http://www.thecommunityguide.org/mvoi/default.htm>

Community Guide for evidence based programs

- Use of Child Safety Seats
 - Child safety seat laws—recommend
 - Community-wide information & enhanced enforcement—recommend
 - Distribution and education campaigns—recommend
 - Incentive & education programs—recommend
 - Education only programs—insufficient evidence

Cochrane review

- Interventions for promoting booster seat use in four to eight year olds traveling in motor vehicles. [Systematic Review] Cochrane Injuries Group Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews. 4, 2008. (Ehiri, JE. et. al., 2008)
 - Interventions do work
 - Distribution or incentive programs with education
 - legislation

Indiana programs

- Public education campaign
 - Pediatrician's offices
 - Permanent fitting stations
 - National campaigns
 - Boost America
- Indianapolis program in nine daycares and preschools
 - Distribution and education: 30% increase
 - Incentive and education: 7% increase
 - Program expanded to faith-based community groups

Legislation efforts

- First booster seat bill was brought to the Indiana General Assembly in 2002 and failed in committee
- Second attempt 2003 passed out of committee but failed to pass out of the Indiana House of Representatives
- 2004 Success! Enacted in 2005
 - One year period to allow parents and retailers time to prepare for new law

Effects of legislation

Year	% children in booster seats	Injured	Killed	Total
2001	16	21	13	34
2003	12	23	7	30
2005	46	21	11	32
2007	66	18	6	24

Safety belt misuse among children in belt positioning booster seats

- Observational study of seat belt use and misuse among children in belt-positioning booster seats (BPBS) during 2006 and 2007
 - 25 convenience sites in Indiana
 - 564 children in BPBS
 - 64.8% had at least one seat belt misuse
 - Shoulder belt misuses
 - Over the arm rest—35.8%
 - Not mid-shoulder—28.5%
 - Under arm—10.0%
 - Behind back—9.1%
 - Seat belt too loose—24.5%

What we learned

- Data is critical
- Needed to use evidence-based programs
- Need to track progress and make adjustments as needed
- Keep the faith!


