



Maternal and Child Health Coalition of Greater Kansas City

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
January 22, 2008

LOCAL INJURY PREVENTION HEROES RECOGNIZED

Kansas City, MO- Safe Kids Metro KC will present its Injury Prevention Awards at their Membership Meeting on January 24, 2008 at the Kansas City Missouri Health Department, Community Room (2400 Troost Ave, Kansas City) from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. The following organizations and individuals will be recognized for leadership in keeping children and others free from injuries:

The Kearney (MO) Fire Department and **Bonner Springs (KS) EMS** will receive the 2007 'Service in Action' awards for their permanent child safety seat fitting stations, providing families and caregivers with education about the need for and installing car seats.

Unified Government Public Health is being honored with the 'Best Practices' award for the forward-thinking ways they help Kansas City, Kansas residents prevent injuries to children through their permanent fitting station and the Drive Wisely Wyandotte Coalition aimed at reducing vehicle accidents because of unsafe behaviors.

KSHB-TV Action News is being recognized for their efforts following the tragic preventable death to an area child from a falling bookcase. Providing 2,500 furniture safety brackets to viewers earned them the 'Taking Safety to the People' award.

The **Brain Injury Association of Kansas and Greater Kansas City** will receive the 'Give Them What They Need' award for their distribution of bike helmets and their direct education about the need to prevent serious head injuries.

The goal of Safe Kids Metro KC, a program of Maternal and Child Health Coalition, is to protect children under 15 living in the greater Kansas City area from their number one killer -- unintentional injury. For more information about these injury prevention awards or Safe Kids Metro KC activities please contact Angha Childress (816) 283-6242, ext. 249 or Deb Bumgardner at ext. 244.

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Maternal and Child Health Coalition promotes the health of mothers and children through community planning, education, advocacy and collaboration with organizations addressing infant mortality, immunization, childhood obesity, maternal health and child safety. Interviews are available upon request.