

# CAR SEAT SAFETY

Keeping kids safe has been and always will be a priority of your Fulton County Health Department (FCHD). One way to keep kids safe is by making sure kids are riding in vehicles as safely as possible. There have been great improvements in the design and manufacturing of car seats and a large amount of money and research has gone into making them as safe & comfortable as possible. Not too many years ago, it was normal for parents or grandparents to just hold a child on their lap or put an arm out to stop them from moving around too much in the vehicle. Due to the hard work and dedication by many as well as the laws put into place, there has truly been a culture change. Parents and caregivers are making car travel safer for their infants & children. FCHD has always promoted the use of car seats and for the last ten years, two certified car seat technicians have been available to assist parents in putting their car seat into the vehicle correctly.



**\*952 seats have been distributed/checked here at the Fulton County Health Department since 2005.**

## Ohio Buckles Buckeyes Program

In order to receive an OBB seat, income eligible families\* must attend an educational class provided by trained local CPS staff. In this session, the parent/caregiver(s) receives important education on how to properly use the car seat for their child, and they are instructed on how to correctly install the seat in their vehicle.

\*Income must be within WIC guidelines although recipient does not need to be enrolled in the WIC Program.

## Program Funding

The OBB Program is funded by child restraint fines deposited into the Child Highway Safety Fund. Funding for the Regional CPS Coordinators comes from the Ohio Traffic Safety Office at the Ohio Department of Public Safety who receives funding from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

FCHD participates in the Ohio Buckles Buckeyes (OBB) program sponsored by the Ohio Department of Health. The Ohio Department of Health's child passenger safety (CPS) program, Ohio Buckles Buckeyes (OBB), provides child safety seats and booster seats to eligible low income families in all Ohio counties. The overall goal of this program is to increase the availability of child safety seats for families who could not otherwise afford them and to increase correct installation and proper use of child safety seats.

Through the coordinated efforts of a network of local and regional CPS coordinators, the OBB Program distributes child safety seats and booster seats and provides CPS education. The OBB Program has distributed more than 17,000 child safety seats and booster seats to low income families in Ohio over the past five years.

**In 2017: 36 OBB seats given to families for a donation and 11 car seat checks.**

**If you are in need of a car seat or want to make sure yours is in the vehicle correctly please call 419-337-0915 to set an appointment!**