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**Safe Kids Maricopa County Hosts 21<sup>st</sup> Annual FREE Car Seat Event at 4 Locations**

(PHOENIX)— From Goodyear to Mesa, certified child passenger safety technicians will work one-on-one with families to educate and offer peace of mind during the Safe Kids Maricopa County (SKMC) 21<sup>st</sup> annual Car Seat Event on Feb. 27th.

According to the Maricopa County Department of Public Health, car seats are used incorrectly up to 90 percent of the time. According to the Arizona Department of Transportation, children 14 and younger accounted for 44 fatalities and 3,631 injuries in motor vehicle crashes in 2012.

While car crashes remain one of the leading causes of death for children, a study released by Safe Kids Worldwide reveals some alarming information, including:

- 25 percent of parents say they've driven with their children unrestrained. Men are slightly more likely to skip installing or using child restraints than women.
- 34 percent of parents with household incomes of \$100,000 or more say it's okay to leave kids unrestrained for short trips compared to 15 percent of parents making less than \$35,000.
- 23 percent of parents under the age of 30 say it's okay to ride with an unrestrained child while traveling overnight compared to 13 percent of parents over the age of 30.

**WHO:** Safe Kids Maricopa County (SKMC)

**WHAT:** 21st Annual Safe Kids Maricopa Car Seat Safety Check. Certified child passenger safety technicians will provide FREE car seat inspections and installation to families.

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 27th from 8 a.m. to Noon

**WHERE:** 4 Valley locations

**North –Target at Desert Ridge Marketplace**

21001 N Tatum Blvd Phoenix, AZ 85050 (Loop 101 and SR51)

**South – Maricopa Integrated Health Systems (County Hospital)**

2525 E Roosevelt St, Phoenix, AZ 85008 (24<sup>th</sup> St & Roosevelt)

**East – Mesa Community College**

1833 W Southern Ave Mesa, AZ 85202 (US 60 and Dobson)

**West- Abrazo West Campus**

13677 W McDowell Rd. Goodyear, AZ 85395 (136<sup>th</sup> Ave & McDowell)

In addition to certified technicians examining seats, experts from Neighborhood Auto Repair Professionals (NARPRO) will provide free general vehicle safety checks.

Safe Kids Maricopa County (SKMC) aims to prevent unintentional childhood injuries by offering educational resources through coalition members in the various cities of Maricopa County. Part of Safe Kids Worldwide, the Maricopa County coalition was established as a non-profit organization in 1994 and comprises members from fire departments, police departments, hospitals, health departments and other agencies throughout the county. Learn more at <http://safekidsmaricopaaz.org>.

**NARPRO (Neighborhood Auto Repair Professionals):** The Neighborhood Auto Repair Professionals (NARPRO) helps car owners find skilled and honest car repair shops. NARPRO only recommends independent, family-owned, full-service auto repair shops that have passed 26 rigorous tests. Visit [www.NARPRO.com](http://www.NARPRO.com) or call [602.257.0033](tel:602.257.0033) to find recommended shops near work or home. NARPRO is the easiest way to find an honest mechanic in the Valley.

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