

Child Passenger Safety Education: The DO's, DO NOT's and the WHY



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BACKGROUND

From 2015 to 2019, Nevada saw 319 deadly crashes where the people involved were not properly restrained. Sadly in 16 of these crashes, children were the victims. In most cases they were improperly restrained, but a shocking 25 percent had no restraints at all (Kimley-Horn and Associates, 2021). The use of a child restraint system that is appropriate for the child's age and size can save his or her life (Enriquez, 2021). According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), car seat distribution and education for caregivers with young passengers can ensure proper seat installation, while simultaneously reducing the risk of injury and death for children (CDC, 2020).

PURPOSE

With motor vehicle crashes being the leading cause of death for children under the age of 13 and increasing reports of car seat misuse, the Healthy Living Institute (HLI) will serve as an educational hub to provide skills and knowledge of proper car seat safety for caregivers, community health partners, law enforcement agencies and the State of Nevada. The child passenger safety program at HLI provides free instruction to caregivers, medical personnel and community organizations. The purpose is to increase proper use of restraints and decrease the risk of injury or death in children. To accomplish this goal, HLI will host four car seat events, two Certified Passenger Safety Technician (CPST) classes, deliver education at 20 community events and administer 400 car seat checks in 2022.

METHODS

HLI's child passenger safety education will contribute to the decrease in car seat misuse by providing individualized education and installation appointments, group classes, community car seat check events and child passenger safety certification classes. During individual, group, and community events, CPSTs will evaluate the current needs for child restraints depending on each individual child's age, weight, height, developmental level and current seat in use. Each family will be educated on Nevada state law, best practices, and proper car seat installation. HLI will discuss factors that can impact the integrity and safety of the seat. If deemed appropriate HLI will provide a complimentary seat(s) for the family. In addition, HLI supports the certification of future CPST's for the state of Nevada, creating wider accessibility to safety resources and lowering the incidence of injury and death in children.

Do you need a booster seat?

Most children ages 8-12 do.
Seat belts do not usually fit until children are **4'9" tall and between 8-12 years old.**

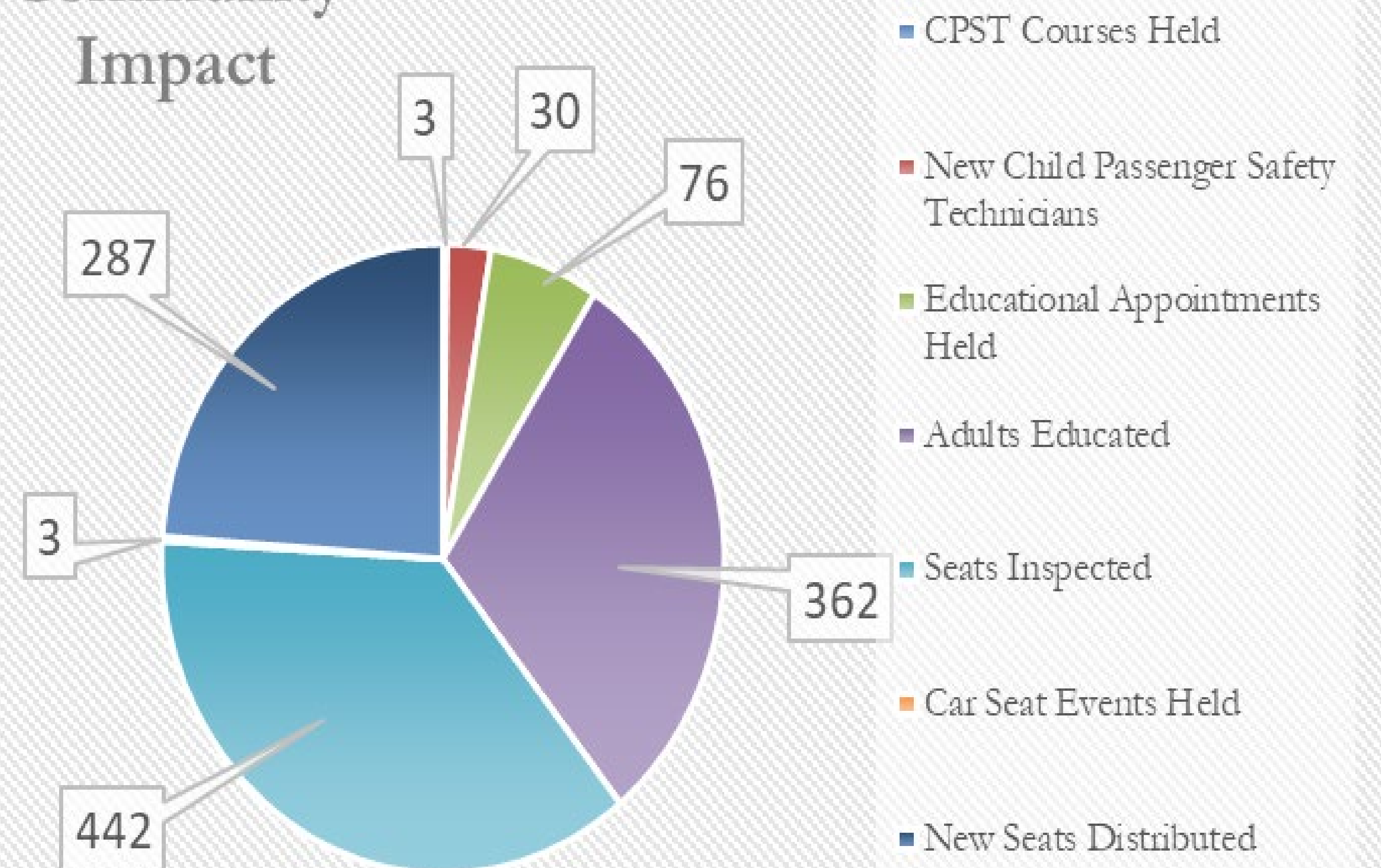
Free Car Seat and Booster Seat Inspections
at the Healthy Living Institute at UMC
Call 702-383-SELF (7353) to schedule



UMC IS THE OFFICIAL HEALTHCARE PROVIDER FOR THE VEGAS GOLDEN KNIGHTS TEAM

RESULTS

Community Impact



CONCLUSIONS

The impact that HLI provides to the Las Vegas community, Clark County, and the state is far reaching with the services that have been provided thus far. With more CPSTs, more car seats replaced and increased education to caregivers and families, the incidence of injury or death can decrease.

REFERENCES

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-CDC (2020). Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System [online]. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2020. Available at <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars>.
- Enriquez, J. (2021). Occupant restraint use in 2020: Results from the NOPUS controlled intersection study (Report No. DOT HS 813 186). National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
- Kimley-Horn and Associates, (2021) Nevada Traffic Safety Crash Facts. Zero Fatalities. https://zerofatalitiesnv.com/app/uploads/2021/10/Nevada-Crash-Facts-2021_04-29-2021.pdf

