

## **Action Team: Occupant Protection**

**Report for Period: 2008- April 2009**

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**Describe activities and accomplishments that occurred for each strategy/objective listed in your action plan and list goals for the upcoming reporting period.**

### **Recommendation #1**

Increase and strengthen the capacity of the CPS network to conduct training.

Training classes that will occur during remainder of FY09 fiscal year:

- Three certification classes,
- Four six-hour CEU training opportunities for technicians
- Four, one-day, re-certification classes for technicians whose certification has expired
- One CPS for Special Needs Transportation Training Class
- Three CPS in buses NHTSA Classes, and
- Three CPS in EMS Classes.

### **Recommendation #2**

Develop and deliver CPS training for law enforcement.

A CPS for law enforcement (LE) awareness curriculum has been developed. The curriculum has been reviewed by NHTSA and a member of the CPS Board. Changes will be implemented and the curriculum finalized by members of the LE committee. Three classes will be held this summer to pilot the curriculum.

### **Recommendation #3**

Increase enforcement of occupant protection laws, not just during campaigns.

Michigan has implemented the Judicial Data Warehouse. In 2008, 80 out of 83 Michigan counties and 235 of the 252 trial courts are submitting data. The data does not include all citations written by law enforcement, but only those in which there was a conviction/sentence for the citation. Below is a table showing annual totals for safety belt and child restraint citations adjudicated:

YEAR	Safety Belt Citations	Child Restraint Citations
2007	98,044	4,690
2008	92,702	4,805*
2009 (to date)	19,515	1,209

\*Note: Michigan passed a booster seat law effective July 1, 2008.

In FY08, grant funded agencies issued 21,402 safety belt and child restraint citations. (From OHSP FY08 Annual Evaluation Report)

### **Recommendation #4**

Assist hospitals with adopting a discharge policy and address liability concerns.

Technical assistance continues to be provided to hospitals requesting information. A statewide hospital meeting is planned for this summer. Hospital contacts will be invited to discuss issues surrounding barriers and successes of implementing discharge policies.

**Recommendation #5**

Develop a stand-alone, centralized, easy to remember, occupant protection/CPS website where the public can access timely, accurate, and consistent information on restraint laws and correct use of restraint systems, technical information and training opportunities, and downloadable educational materials.

In conjunction with the website, coordinate a statewide toll-free telephone number to request educational materials and receive personal assistance.

The Michigan Safe Kids website is being used as the website for this recommendation. Information on Michigan occupant protection laws, correct use, and a calendar of upcoming events are posted on the site.

**Recommendation #6**

Integrate CPS education into local health department programs that will include information on obtaining child restraints for their clients.

An education program for local health departments, DHS and foster care parents is currently being developed. Once the program is developed, Michigan Instructors will implement this program in their communities.

**Recommendation #7**

Conduct annual or biennial observational studies to monitor restraint use of children.

With the passage of the new booster seat law, OHSP has contracted with Wayne State University (WSU) to conduct a survey of booster seat use for the 6-month and 1-year point following the law taking effect on July 1, 2008. The bi-annual child restraint survey (now to include booster seats) will also be conducted in Spring/Summer 2009 by WSU

As of April 2009, the preliminary 6-month post law booster seat usage rate is 37%. The 1-year post law rate and the bi-annual child restraint use/misuse survey will be conducted this Spring/Summer.

**Recommendation #8**

Strengthen CPS legislation.

Michigan implemented a booster seat law on July 1, 2008. Currently legislation has been introduced in the House to remove the nursing mother exemption and to require children under 8 to ride in the backseat.

**Recommendation #9**

Provide community education/awareness.

Refer to recommendation number 6.