Messages from the Governors Highway Safety Association National Conference

Safe Kids Coordinator, Carma Hanson, recently attended the Governors Highway Safety Association's National Conference held in Minneapolis, MN. Here are some key takeaway messages for injury prevention specialists and the general public as well.



About 9 people die each day on our US roadways due to distracted driving. That was 3,208 people in 2024 that are no longer with their families because they, or someone else in a car, felt their text message, video watching, cell phone call, or scrolling the internet was more important than keeping their eyes on the road.

→ Make it your plan to put your phone away while driving your car and encourage loved ones to do the same.

→ Drive defensively. You never know what others on the roadway may be doing in their vehicles that could result in a crash with your car.

Every 24 seconds, someone in the world dies in a traffic safety crash. We can influence this trend by setting good examples for younger drivers on or learning to be a part of our roadways.



We were reminded that "kids" may not always do what we say, but they often mirror what we do.

→ Drive distraction free.
→ Make wearing a seatbelt a must for all people in the car.
→ Don't exhibit aggression toward other drivers on the road.
→ Watch your speed, especially in school zones and other areas where young and vulnerable people are sharing space.
→ Talk to your kids about driving safety and "rules of the road" when in the car together.