

Child Passenger Safety Means More Than In Just Cars

Keeping kids safe in motor vehicles is a topic our Safe Kids team is passionate about. While much of this work takes place in personal vehicles, our team also shares our expertise and passion for keeping kids safe in ambulance and school buses.



The past month, we had the opportunity to provide child passenger safety training to EMS providers from across our two states via a virtual format and in person at the Northeast ND / Northwest MN EMS in-person conference. The presentations focused on the guidelines in place for healthcare providers that are transporting children with the idea that “kids are not little adults”. Their body size and features make them unique in their healthcare needs and transporting them in an ambulance on a cot and with harnesses meant for adult sized bodies is not recommended. If you are interested in learning more about this topic, our team has shared the recording from our CPS in Ambulances Training on the North Dakota EMSC website or you can find it at this link: <https://youtu.be/9q-9YoKKJaI>



While school buses are some of the safest transportation modes on the roadways, there are many recommendations for those given the responsibility of getting students to and from school and other activities via this method. The Grand Forks Public School District and Valley Bus are recognizing the increased complexity of students’ transportation needs and requested a school bus training day for their staff involved in various facets of this process. From picking out the Child Safety Restraint System (CSRS) needed, to doing the installation of the seats, to placing the students in them and monitoring kids while getting to and from school, the needs of the district were discussed and individuals were selected to

attend our training entitled Child Passenger Safety on School Buses. We have many entities to thank for making this day happen and are grateful for the emphasis the Grand Forks School District is placing on student transportation.

Thank you to the following:

- Grand Forks Public School District for sponsoring/funding the class and identifying participants who would benefit from this training
- Century Elementary School for hosting our training at their location
- Valley Bus for providing us with two buses to use for the training
- The following instructors and their agencies for allowing them to teach this course with Tina and Carma from Safe Kids Grand Forks:
 - o Kailyn – Safe Kids Fargo-Moorhead
 - o Katilin – Vision Zero ND
 - o Abby – Grand Forks Police Department
 - o Nevon – North Dakota Highway Patrol

Our hope is that the knowledge about child safety restraint systems that can be used on buses and how to properly install them, will lead to safer transportation for students with medical or behavioral issues or those that are very young and don't properly fit in a school bus seat/seat belt. If you have a child that you feel could benefit from a child safety restraint on a school bus, please reach out to our team and we will gladly provide some insight and recommendations.

