

Unrestrained Vehicle Occupant CHSP Emphasis Area Virtual Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, November 29, 2022, 9-11 a.m.



VISION ZERO
zero deaths - zero serious injuries
**MONTANA DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION**

Attendees:

Alyssa Johnson, Trauma Systems Manager, EMS & Trauma Systems Section, Department of Public Health & Human Services (DPHHS)

Dwight Nelson, Driver Education Director, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Janet Kenny, Emphasis Area Chair & State Highway Traffic Safety Section (SHTSS) Supervisor, Planning Division, MDT

Jennifer Wilson, Occupant Protection Program, SHTSS, Planning Division, MDT

Maureen Ward, Injury Prevention Coordinator, State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) DPHHS

Pam Langve-Davis, Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan Manager, MDT

Sheila Cozzie, Cultural Liaison/SOAR Program/Teen Program, SHTSS, Planning Division, MDT

Megan Brunelle, Cascade County Buckle Up MT Coordinator

Spencer Harris, LE Liaison & EMS Grants, SHTSS, Planning Division, DPHHS

Offier Ryan Ludemann, Missoula Police Department

Steve Schmidt, Drive Safe Missoula, Ci-Co Health Department

Tracie Kiesel, Tri-County Buckle Up (L&C, Broadwater & Jefferson) BUMT Coordinator, MT CPS Training Contact and Coordinator

Wendy Olson Hansen, Flathead County Buckle Up Coordinator, Ci-Co Health Department

John Westerhold, Region 10 Program Manager, NHTSA

Update on Key Elements & Progress on Strategy Implementation

Data- MDTS's Fact Book will be posted to the website in the coming weeks. It contains the approved 2020 data. This data is the data that will be referenced in any formal response. Should anyone plan to reference Montana crash data and especially that which includes behavioral factor please contact Janet Kenny.

Vision Zero messaging- Consultant, Duft-Watterson will be working to develop upcoming safety campaigns.

Strategy 1: Laws & Enforcement

- To date, no known legislation regarding seat belts has been introduced; or
- No state-to-state comparison of primary or secondary laws, penalties or fees has been completed.
- School year 2021-22 driver education participants and successful completion of course are not yet available.
- STEP related seat belt citations for FFY 2022 are not yet available. (HSP Annual Report)
- Tribal STEP related seat belt citations for FFY 2022 are not yet available. (HSP Annual Report)

Strategy 2: Communication, Education & Injury Prevention

Four Buckle Up Montana (BUMT) coalitions continue to grow.

Traci Kiesel, Tri-County BUMT reports

- Engagement of addition of community members including L & C Co Sheriff Dept, Lewis & Clark Public Health Dept., Helena Police Department, AAA, DPHHS, MDT, and MHP representatives that are now CPS techs.
- Currently working on CPS Instructor Training for Hybrid CPST Course
- Alive at 25 is ongoing with efficient scheduling of fewer but larger classes.
- Monthly CPS tech newsletters and bi-monthly webinars continue to keep techs engaged.

Wendy Olson Hanson, Flathead Co BUMT Coordinator reports that

- Alive at 25 is continuing to go well. She noted it would be good to touch base with Sgt TJ Templeton to check data of students that have attended as an alternate sentencing for traffic offenses, specifically unrestrained occupants over the past few years and include in measurables.
- Recertifying techs is ongoing. A Butte tech recertification update and seat checks was conducted. Continuing to look for opportunities to keep techs engaged.
- Working on developing a resource for Whitefish that provides where and when car seats can be checked if fire department is not available.
- Currently working on CPS Instructor Training for Hybrid CPST Course

Megan Brunelle, Cascade County BUMT coordinator reports

- Car seats distribution averages 5 per month. Working on car seat educational information.
- Working with high schools in Cascade County to enhance awareness and importance of seat belt use among teens.
- Contacted Great Falls MHP District Sgt about coordinating with Alive at 25.
- Continues to engage with Malmstrom AFB and Benefis community involvement

Steve Schmidt, Missoula County BUMT Coordinator and Missoula Co Health Department

- Continues to build networks with NIC Unit at St Patrick Hospital, county social workers, the food network, and Missoula Rural Fire Department regarding proper child passenger seat fittings and car seat distribution.

Safe on All Roads outreach and education continues.

- SOAR will be launching the FFY 2023 Sports campaign focused on seat belt use and consequences of risky driving behavior. Sheila Cozzie will be applying for a second GHSA grant for SOAR coordinators from Ford Driving Skills for Life. The primary focus being speeding and under-served, over-represented teen population groups.

Teen Traffic Safety education and awareness continues with various opportunities.

- Sheila Cozzie continues to work with youth through the Teen Peer-to-Peer outreach and educational opportunities. Applied for GHSA grant funding and received \$30,000 from General Motors. Continued coordination with the FCCLA program with this year's theme being Distracted Driving. Actively taking applications for receiving these funds through December 9, to date have received 5 applications so far.
- Steve Schmidt continues outreach with teens and seat belt awareness with opportunities with the high schools in Phillipsburg and Drummond.
- Steve is working with safety partner, Healthy Missoula Youth, to get in front of youth to empower them to make positive driving choices.
- Don Smies, Richland County Health Department is coordinating the 2022-23 Battle of the Belts among seven schools. This activity involves confirming driver and passengers of vehicles are wearing their seat belts as they arrive at school each day. The idea not only promotes seat belt use and driver safety but can save life in the long run.
- Saved by The Belt – Two awards were presented in October by the Tri-County Coordinator in coordination with Annual DUI Concert in Helena.

Sustaining and grow the CPS Certification program

- Safe Transportation for All Children, cps training was held in Flathead County
- Eight (8) CPS courses were held in FFY22. Four (4) CPS trainings are scheduled for FY 2023. One class was held in Butte on October 11-14 resulting in 10 new techs. Also, seven new techs that obtained their certification at out-of-state classes. Upcoming classes are being scheduled in Great Falls, Billings and a hybrid course that will be online and in person and requires multiple hours of training.

Continue to support and sustain purchase and distribution of child passenger safety seats.

- Car seats were ordered In FFY22, MDT purchased 237 convertible child safety seats and 202 two in one high back booster child safety seats for distribution
- Develop child passenger safety educational materials with updated and coordinated messaging and a distribution plan.
- EMS for Children program has been reworked in the EMS & Trauma Sections within DPHHS. Updates will be provided as role and responsibilities evolve.

Strategy 3: Improve Unrestrained Vehicle Occupant Data

- FFY2022 observed seat belt usage is 92.9%

-locations will be changing summer of 2023, the locations change every 5 years.

- 2021 YRBS Reports and Data is online at [Youth Risk Behavior Survey \(mt.gov\)](https://opi.mt.gov/Portals/182/Page%20Files/YRBS/2021YRBS/Academic%20Achievement/Academic_Unintentional%20Injury%20Violence.pdf?ver=2021-10-01-095506-063) .
 - Specific to the emphasis area is the Academic Achievement & Unintentional Injuries & Violence, https://opi.mt.gov/Portals/182/Page%20Files/YRBS/2021YRBS/Academic%20Achievement/Academic_Unintentional%20Injury%20Violence.pdf?ver=2021-10-01-095506-063
- **Traffic Safety Culture Research Projects** [Traffic Safety Culture | Montana Department of Transportation \(MDT\) \(mt.gov\)](https://www.mdt.mt.gov/research/projects/trafficsafety.aspx) <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/research/projects/trafficsafety.aspx> among them include primers that can be downloaded and used and research studies

CHSP Recap

Received positive comments from those that attended on the flow and tie in of related safety efforts. Panel and technical experts provided a good overview few of safety factors in Montana. Some items shared by the Executive Leadership Team include:

- Office of Public Instruction (OPI) is moving forward to educate youth on the use of marijuana. Drivers' education Module 6 is being developed and is focusing on the Deadly Deeds. A new program, Montana DRIVE CDL is being rolled out.
- Additionally Move Over MT and others are looking at updating Montana Code to ensure all five disciplines are included (emergency response, law enforcement, fire & rescue, tow operators , and highway workers).
- Risky driving, speeding, unbuckled and distracted were noted by those in attendance as a major concern. MHP noted an interest about unbuckled nighttime fatality data.
- Include MT lane filtering laws as a part of motorcycle safety awareness. Educating the public on the traffic movement/ law needs to be ramped up for the coming year.
- EMS needs to be recognized as an essential service. Discussion included revisiting the joint report by Montana Hospital Association & DPHHS, *Emergency Medical Services in Montana: Crisis on the Horizon*, to see about revisiting in the next Legislative session.
- Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) noted the eight exam stations across the state that feature safety videos. The screens can be split 3 ways and a portion of the screen can be set up to rotate through. The new "It's Not Too Late " media previewed at the annual meeting would be good to add to line up.

Workplan Updates

Strategy updates from the 2022 emphasis area meetings and the HSP annual reports will be included in the CHSP Annual Report that is currently being compiled. The workplan template will be updated for the January meeting.

Upcoming Events

Grant applications for FFY2024 will open on January 1, 2023, information can be found at <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero/grants/>

2023 Meeting Schedule - second Tuesday of month @ 9 a.m. Next meeting January 10.

An email will be sent out to the current emphasis area team to determine continued interest and involvement on safety efforts and outreach involving awareness and importance of seat belt and child passenger seat use. The team is a work group that works to enhance the importance of motor vehicle safety restraints use, collaborate with other safety partners at local and state level with the overall objective to reduce unrestrained vehicle occupant fatalities and serious injuries.

Adjourned