

**Unrestrained Vehicle Occupant
CHSP Emphasis Area
Virtual Meeting**

Tuesday, January 10, 2023



Attendees:

Alyssa Johnson, Trauma Systems Manager, EMS & Trauma Systems Section, Department of Public Health & Human Services (DPHHS)
Don Smies, Injury Prevention, Richland County Health Department
Dwight Nelson, Driver Education Director, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
Hannah Yang, Epidemiologist, DPHHS
Janet Kenny, Emphasis Area Chair & State Highway Traffic Safety Section (SHTSS) Supervisor, Planning Division, MDT
Jennifer Wilson, Occupant Protection Program, SHTSS, Planning Division, MDT
Megan Brunelle, Cascade County Buckle Up MT Coordinator
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
Sgt John Spencer, Training, Montana Highway Patrol (MHP)
Spencer Harris, LE Liaison & EMS Grants, SHTSS, Planning Division, MDT
Steve Schmidt, Drive Safe Missoula, Ci-Co Health Department
Terry Mullins, MES & Trauma Systems Section Supervisor, DPHHS
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

Upcoming Events

- Lifesavers Conference, April 2-4, 2023, in Seattle, WA <https://lifesaversconference.org/about/>
- CPS Tech Training, May 4, 2023, in Helena

Old Business-

Work plan update is waiting for the 2022 FY HSP annual reports to complete the CHSP Annual Report.
MDT Fact Book link <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/publications/docs/brochures/factbook.pdf> The Fact Book contains the approved 2020 data. This data is what 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- Partners actively promoting in support of Vision Zero include Missoula County Health Department, Drive Safe Missoula, [Drive Safe Missoula | We Need You](#) Montana FCCLA [Vision Zero Grants - Montana FCCLA \(mtfccla.org\)](#)

Future discussions include consideration on ways safety partners can promote Vision Zero message.

Strategy 1: Laws & Enforcement

- To date, no known legislation regarding seat belts has been introduced. Strategy opportunities have been reprioritized. In the coming year enhanced effort and outreach is needed to support update and development of educational outreach materials and consistent messaging with fact sheets, speaking points, and other educational materials.

Strategy 2: Communication, Education & Injury Prevention

Four Buckle Up Montana (BUMT) coalitions consist of Cascade, Flathead, Missoula, and the Tri-Counties of Lewis and Clark (L&C), Jefferson, Broadwater, and Counties.

- FFY 2023, 1st Quarter reports will be shared at the February meeting.

It was noted the Safe Kids Worldwide (SKWW) does have multiple foreign languages car seat safety checklists listed under Resources [Car Seat Safety Tips | Page 4 | Safe Kids Worldwide \[safekids.org\]](#)

Still an interest in developing a Montana specific workplace policy and toolkit for employers.

Safe on All Roads outreach and education continues.

- Working on basketball campaign.

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. This year's theme being Distracted Driving.
- Steve Schmidt continues outreach with teens and seat belt
- Don Smies, Richland County Health Department is coordinating a safety mini grant to report out in the future

Sustaining and grow the CPS Certification program

- CPS Tech Training, May 4, 2023, in Helena

Promote and increase awareness of Alive at 25 education and training

- Need identified to enhance awareness of training and see about the possibility of sharing program at upcoming Judicial Conference. While Cascade Co. does not have a program the L&C Co. Alive at 25 has seen increased numbers of Great Falls attendees.

Strategy 3: Improve Unrestrained Vehicle Occupant Data

- Continue to conduct observational seat belt surveys, local and statewide. The locations change every 5 years and are due to change the summer of 2023.
- 2021 YRBS Montana Student & Driving Behaviors
86% of students wear a seat belt when riding in a car;
6% report never or rarely wearing a seat belt. Among drivers,
7% never or rarely wear a seat belt when driving;
71% always wear a seat belt when driving;
35% of males and 23% of females did not always wear a seat belt when driving. [Montana Students and Driving Behaviors \(mt.gov\)](#)

Announcements

Occupant Protection (op) Mini grants are accepted through the MDT Webgrant system. Focus of the mini grant is seat belt use and car seat use. <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/other/webdata/external/planning/OP-MINI-GRANT-Q-A.pdf>

Funding Opportunity - Montana Highway Traffic Safety FFY 2024 project proposals. Applications will be accepted beginning January 1, 2023, for FFY 2024 (October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024) projects.

[LIMITED SOLIC.PDF \(mt.gov\)](#)

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 February 14.

Meeting topics:

- BUMT quarterly updates- Jennifer Wilson& BU MT coordinators
- SOAR & Teen Safety quarterly updates- Sheila Cozzie
- SETT/ STEP/ Tribal STEP quarterly unrestrained vehicle occupant citations- Spencer Harris & Sheila Cozzie
- National Digital Check form – Tracie Kiesel

Adjourned