Keeping All Kids Safe:

A HOSPITAL-BASED CPS PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS
Blank Children’s Hospital

- 88-bed facility completely dedicated to meeting the unique healthcare needs of children
- Iowa Health System/Iowa Health-Des Moines
- Center for Advocacy and Outreach takes BCH beyond the walls
Children with Special Health Care Needs

- 14.2% of children in Iowa have special health care needs
- Medical and behavioral issues impact transportation
- All children deserve access to proper resources for safe transportation
The Problem

- Certain medical conditions hinder use of conventional car seats
- Special needs restraints are expensive
- Special needs restraints often not covered by insurance
- Loaner program through DME Provider deemed inadequate

Are we therefore unintentionally exposing children to health risks associated with motor vehicle crashes?
Our Solution

- A special needs CPS program facilitated by CPSTs
- Offer short-term use of SN restraints
- Provide education and installation assistance from CPSTs
Car Seat Rental Programs

- Liability
- Low Return Rate
- Staffing Issues
- Cleaning Restraints
Planning Phase

What are other hospitals doing?

- Which restraints?
- Loan or rent?
- Sample rental agreements/other paperwork
- Procedures for car seat rental and return
- How is liability addressed?

Who are the key players?

What scope?

What about funding?
Planning Phase

Research and creation of paperwork

Working with Legal

- Program rationale
- Sample programs/paperwork
- Outline of our proposed program
- Drafts of proposed protocol
- Drafts of proposed paperwork
- Addressing liability
- Letters of support
A rental program providing short-term use of specialized child restraints to children with special health care needs being discharged from BCH

- Education and installation assistance provided by CPSTs
- Refundable $50 deposit
- Program staff:
  - Pediatric Care Manager/SN CPST
  - Injury Prevention Educator/SN CPST
- Restraints:
  - Angel Ride
  - Dream Ride
  - Hippo
  - Modified EZ-On Vest
Addressing Liability

- Rental agreement
- Crash history statement
- Child restraints inspected by CPST
- Replacement of parts
- Cleaning per manufacturers’ instructions
- Unsafe seats destroyed
- Protocols for rental and return
- Installation is the parents’ responsibility
Final Steps & Other Considerations

- Informed key staff about program
- Created method for tracking seats
- Attended Forms Committee
- Addressed storage of restraints
Program Expansion & Improvement

- Added Chicco Key-Fit
- Expansion to Maternity Centers
  - Restraints: Chicco Key Fit and Angel Ride Car Bed
  - Team leader trainings
    - Provide basic education on positioning
    - Direct to Car Seat Safety Channel
    - Parent/caregiver installs
  - Protocols for rental and return
- 2011: Paperwork revised for readability
# Program Challenges

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<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Solution</th>
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| Night/weekend coverage                        | Plan ahead  
Meet with orthopedic docs  
Program expansion  
Basic in-house training | |
| Care Manager time constraints                 | Trained several NICU nurses as CPSTs  
Program expansion | |
| Possessiveness                                | Program expansion  
Education | |
| Lack of CPSTs  
Loss of CPSTs                                 | Basic in-house training  
Incentives, convenient re-cert opportunities | |
| Premature/low birth-weight babies             | Added restraints |
SN Program Numbers & Trends

- Chiccos have increased from 10 in 2008 to 69 in 2010
- Hippos have gradually decreased
- A total of 196 SN restraints rented
- 98% return rate
Key Components

- Funding & Child restraints
- CPSTs
- Commitment
- Protocol & Paperwork
- Address liability
- Determine scope
National Special Needs Resources

- National Center for the Safe Transportation of Children with Special Health Care Needs
  
  www.preventinjury.org  800.755.0912

- “Safe Travel for All Children: Transporting Children with Special Health Care Needs”

- Mercury Distributing  www.mercurydistributing.com
- Prevention Alternatives  shinn@comcast.net  517.927.7731
- Adaptive Mall  www.adaptivemall.com
Iowa Special Needs Resources

Statewide Special Needs
Child Restraint Distribution Program

North West:
Mikka Belson

North Central:
John Copper

North East:
Derek LaGrange

South West:
Sherri Webb

South Central:
Anne Garinger

South East:
Kat Altenhofen
Iowa Special Needs Resources

- Iowa Child Passenger Safety Network Website
  www.blankchildrens.org/cps

- Currently 32 Special Needs CPSTs in Iowa

- Special Needs Training: September 19th and 20th
Anne Garinger
Blank Children’s Hospital
Center for Advocacy & Outreach
515-241-6703
garingam@ihs.org