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Office of Traffic Safety Awards Stanislaus County Health Services Agency for Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety and Child Safety Seat Education Programs

Stanislaus County – The Stanislaus County Health Services Agency announced today that it has received a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to support its Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety and Child Safety Seat education. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety program will promote safe practices for pedestrians and bicyclists and emphasize drivers' responsibility to look out for other people using roads and paths. The Child Safety Seat Education program will support its efforts in educating parents and caregivers about the importance of child safety seats and ensuring every child travels safely. These grant programs run through September 2026.

With this funding, the agency can provide hands-on training, resources, and education to reduce crashes, prevent injuries, and promote safe travel. The ultimate goal is to ensure every family has the knowledge and tools to keep their children safe and to help build more walkable, bike-friendly communities where everyone can travel confidently.

"Through child passenger safety programs and strong partnerships, we are working toward a future where every child is protected on California's roads," OTS Director Stephanie Dougherty said. "By supporting projects that help families learn the importance of properly using car seats and boosters, we are building a culture where child safety is always the priority."

Child Safety Seat Education funds will be used for a variety of community outreach events, education classes, distribution of child safety seats, and training on the installation and use of child safety seats. The car seat safety program includes:

- Child safety seat inspection events and education classes.
- Child Passenger Safety Technician (CPST) training and recertification courses.
- Child safety seats at no-cost for families in need.
- Partnering with local organizations on car seat safety community outreach efforts in underserved communities.

"This funding helps us turn safety education into action in collaboration with our partners," said Ashley Worley, Community Wellness Manager with the Stanislaus County Health Services Agency. "By supporting families, youth, and community members with

hands-on training and resources, we're helping ensure everyone can travel safely, whether they're in a car, on a bike, or walking."

Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety funds will support various activities focused on bicycle and pedestrian safety:

- Bicycle training courses that educate youth on safe riding behaviors.
- Helmet fitting inspections and distribution of helmets to children in need.
- Community and school education presentations.
- Community bike rides that encourage and teach riders safe riding skills.

Funding for these programs is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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