PARTNER OUTREACH TOOLKIT

Bike Helmet Safety Awareness Month

MAY 2022
We are excited that you have agreed to join us in promoting our Put a Lid on It! Bike Helmet Safety Awareness campaign by participating in Bike Helmet Safety Awareness Month, May 2022.

As you know, bike helmets save lives and prevent injuries – in fact, in 2017, the number of people injured by not wearing a bike helmet was 51,000, enough people to fill Nationwide Arena in Columbus 2½ times! And, by simply providing a $10 helmet to a child, we can take $41 out of our health care system!

The National Transportation Safety Board is recommending that all 50 states enact laws requiring bicyclists to wear helmets to stem an increase in bicycle deaths on U.S. roadways.

Our ongoing efforts include an analysis of bike helmet usage among children in Ohio through a series of observations and surveys, a pediatrician education program, helmet distribution through pediatricians’ offices and an advertising/public relations campaign surrounding efforts during this exciting week.

The toolkit that follows contains materials for your use in promoting “Bike Helmet Safety Awareness Month.” There are several ways you can help:

- Host an event in your district to give away and properly fit bike helmets or participate in a bike rodeo or other event with a local school, community center or after-school program.
- Encourage your constituents to participate in activities to promote helmet safety during the month!
- Send out a news release to local media.
- “Like” the Ohio Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics Facebook Page and change your profile photo to the “Put A Lid On It” logo!
- Post messages to your Twitter Feed and Facebook Page – we’ve provided some samples – in the weeks leading up to May and during the month.
- Send a letter to the editor to your local newspaper.
- Distribute the enclosed flyer to anyone and everyone!

We look forward to working with you to raise awareness of this important safety initiative and to try to encourage everyone to “Put a Lid on It – Protect Before You Pedal!”

Thank you for all you do for Ohio’s children,

Melissa Wervey Arnold
Chief Executive Officer
Mark your calendar:  
PUT A LID ON IT!  
BIKE HELMET SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH  
MAY 2022  

Activities will include:  
bike rodeos – bike helmet safety lesson & helmet giveaways  
public awareness activities – and much, much more!  

Bike Helmets Save Lives - and Dollars!  

- In 2017, the number of people injured by NOT wearing a bike helmet was 51,000 – enough people to fill Nationwide Arena in Columbus 2 ½ times.  
- Currently in Ohio, estimates indicate that just 10-20% of children wear bike helmets, yet more than 70 percent of children ages 5 to 14 ride a bicycle regularly.  
- 75 percent of bike-related fatalities would be prevented with a helmet. Helmet use can reduce the risk of head injury by 85 percent and severe brain injury by 88 percent.  
- Apart from the automobile, bicycles are tied to more childhood injuries than any other consumer product, including trampolines, ladders and swimming pools.  
- Universal use of bicycle helmets by children ages 4 to 15 could prevent between 135 and 155 deaths, between 39,000 and 45,000 head injuries, and between 18,000 and 55,000 scalp and face injuries annually.  
- A $10 bike helmet saves healthcare system $41 per child.  
- If 85 percent of the children injured in the U.S. per year wore helmets, we could save up to $256 million in just one year.  
- The National Transportation Safety Board is recommending that all 50 states enact laws requiring bicyclists to wear helmets to stem an increase in bicycle deaths on U.S. roadways.  

Proven Interventions Exist  

- Parents who model wearing their bike helmet increase the likelihood of a child wearing their helmet.  
- Various studies show that bicycle helmet legislation is effective in increasing bicycle helmet use and reducing bicycle-related death and injury among children covered under the law. One study showed that within the five years of passage of a state mandatory bicycle helmet law for children ages 13 and under, bicycle-related fatalities decreased by 60 percent. Police enforcement increases the effectiveness of these laws.  
- A combination of efforts is necessary to effectively increase helmet usage rates among Ohio children:  
  o Raising awareness of the benefits of bike helmet use  
  o Encouraging modeling behavior among adults  
  o Distributing bike helmets to Ohio children  
  o Advocating for supportive public policies
Currently in Ohio, estimates indicate that just 10-20% of children wear bike helmets, yet more than 70% of children ages 5 to 14 ride a bicycle regularly.

**Bike Helmets Save Lives!**

- **75%** of bike-related fatalities would be **prevented** with a helmet.
- Helmet use can reduce the risk of head injury by **85%** and severe brain injury by **88%**.
- **A $10 bike helmet saves** healthcare system $41 per child.

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**Helmet Policies Work!**

- **75% of parents** support a mandatory bike helmet law for children.
- **The Ohio AAP supports policies that require bike helmet use for all children 16 years of age and younger.**
- Bicycle-related head injury rates among children have decreased by up to **45%** following the passage of bicycle helmet legislation.

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**Put a Lid on It!**

- Bike Helmet Month is May 2020.
- The Ohio AAP's Bike Helmet Safety Awareness Program started in 2011 as a one-day event in September, and evolved into an annual event in May.
- Over **57,000 bike helmets** have been distributed to Ohio’s children since 2011 through the Ohio AAP.

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**What Can You Do?**

- **Encourage all Ohio legislators to participate in the month!**
- **Send a letter to the editor** to your local newspaper sharing why you support bike helmet use.
- **Use #bikehelmetsafety** to post messages to your Twitter Feed and Facebook Page, and change your profile photo to the “Put A Lid On It” logo!

To learn more, visit [http://ohioaap.org/PutALidOnIt](http://ohioaap.org/PutALidOnIt) or contact Olivia Simon at osimon@ohioaap.org
Help save lives and prevent injuries by properly fitting and wearing helmets whenever you are riding a bike! Put a Lid on It and Protect Before You Pedal!

- Place the helmet low on the forehead, just above the eyebrows.
- Show the children that the helmet straps should be snug under the chin so the helmet stays in the same position.
- Show the children that the helmet should not move back and forth or side to side.
- Demonstrate that when children wear a helmet on the back of their head (move helmet so forehead is well exposed) that the helmet cannot do a good job of protecting the brain.
SAMPLE LETTER TO THE EDITOR/LEGISLATOR
To the Editor/Legislator:

In 2017, the number of people injured by not wearing a bike helmet was 51,000, enough people to fill Nationwide Arena in Columbus 2½ times. Universal use of bicycle helmets by children ages 4 to 15 could prevent between 135 and 155 deaths, between 39,000 and 45,000 head injuries and between 18,000 and 55,000 scalp and face injuries annually.

The National Transportation Safety Board is recommending that all 50 states enact laws requiring bicyclists to wear helmets to stem an increase in bicycle deaths on U.S. roadways.

To help prevent injuries and save lives, We/I are/am joining the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (Ohio AAP) in a statewide effort to remind children to “Put a Lid on It!” during the month of May 2022 – Ohio Bike Helmet Safety Awareness Month.

And, this month is not just for kids. We know that parents who model wearing their bike helmet increase the likelihood of a child wearing their helmet, so this month is not only to get children to wear their helmets, but also to allow them to see adults in all walks of life wearing their helmets proudly.

Importantly, it also makes fiscal sense to ensure children wear helmets. For the cost of a $10 bike helmet, we can take $41 out of Ohio’s health care system. That’s a significant return on an affordable investment for our families.

To learn more and show your support, visit ohioaap.org/PutALidOnIt.

NAME
ADDRESS
PHONE NUMBER
SAMPLE SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

Don’t forget to use the hashtags #putalidonit and #bikehelmetsafety on Facebook/Twitter/Instagram!

Week of April 18:
Mark your calendars! We’re participating in Bike Helmet Safety Awareness Month May 2022! Wear your helmet and be cool like us! #PutALidOnIt #BikeHelmetSafety

Week of April 25:
Did you know that by spending $10 on a bike helmet for a child, we can take $41 out of Ohio’s health care system? Find out more at http://ohioaap.org/PutALidOnIt #PutALidOnIt #BikeHelmetSafety

Week of May 2:
In 2010, the number of people injured by not wearing a bike helmet was 51,000, enough people to fill Nationwide Arena in Columbus 2½ times. #PutALidOnIt to save lives and prevent injuries! #BikeHelmetSafety

May 4:
Starting today, show your support for saving children’s lives and preventing injuries by participating in Bike Helmet Safety Awareness Month. Visit http://ohioaap.org/ PutALidOnIt for more information!

May 6:  (CHANGE YOUR PROFILE PIC TO THE PUT A LID ON IT LOGO!)
It’s Bike Helmet Safety Awareness Month! What are you doing to help promote the use of bike helmets by children in your community? #PutALidOnIt #BikeHelmetSafety

May 9:
Summer is right around the corner, and this is the perfect time to make sure your child’s helmet fits properly! It might be time for a new one, and it’s Bike Helmet Safety Awareness Month. Visit http://ohioaap.org/PutALidOnIt for a free “fit a helmet” fact sheet. #PutALidOnIt

May 16:
It’s #PutALidOnIt Bike Helmet Safety Awareness Month! Check it out by visiting http://ohioaap.org/PutALidOnIt!

May 23:
Show your support for saving children’s lives and preventing injuries by participating in Bike Helmet Safety Awareness Month. “Put A Lid On It” has more information! #PutALidOnIt #BikeHelmetSafety