Kidz in Motion

SAFE TRAVELS TAKE CENTER STAGE



Rolling out the red carpet for

Child Passenger Safety

2026 International
Child Passenger Safety Conference
August 26-28

Thank You to
North Carolina Office of State Fire Marshal Team
for providing A/V services

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Joe Starling

Continuing Education Units

You will find a CEU Proof of Attendance on the back cover of this program. To receive credit for a CPST CEU Session, arrive at the session within 5 minutes of the start and remain in the room until the end of the session. At the end of each session, obtain a sticker or your CEU as you exit.

CEU
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Workshop Evaluations

Feedback makes this conference stronger and better. Please take a moment after each workshop you attend to tell us what you think by doing one of the following:

- **Scan the QR code below**
- **Scan the QR code on the presentation screen**
- **Visit kidzinmotion.org/evaluations**
- **Complete a paper evaluation, located in the back of each session room**

Wi-Fi Network: SparkSomeJoy
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Thank you to Joie for sponsoring attendee internet access.

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Kidz in Motion

Welcome! It's awesome to have you here!

We are excited to have you join us for the 2026 KIDZ IN MOTION International Child Passenger Safety Conference, as we celebrate our 21st annual conference!

The Planning Committee works hard to create a quality conference that meets the educational needs of our field and industry. We strive to foster your ability to enhance your child passenger safety work when you return home. Please share your thoughts and ideas for future conferences with any of the Planning Committee members, or reach us at info@kidzinmotion.us.

We hope to see you again next year in Madison, Wisconsin August 11-13. 2027! From the Planning Committee:

Allan Buchanan
North Carolina Office of State Fire Marshal, NC

Noemi Duenas
Pacific Safety Center/Keep 'Em Safe Prog., CA

Sharon Evans
Cook Children's Medical Center, TX

Tammy Franks
KIDZ IN MOTION Training, OH

Alan Garibo
Pacific Safety Center/Keep 'Em Safe Prog., CA

Woody Johnston
KIDZ IN MOTION Training, OH

Bevan Kirley
UNC Highway Safety Research Center, NC

Kelly Murphy
CYBEX, CT

Kristel Robison
UNC Highway Safety Research Center, NC

Jim Savage
Children's Wisconsin, WI

Mandi Seethaler
Center for Safe Alaskans, AK

Alex Wilkins
North Carolina Office of State Fire Marshal, NC

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
GOVERNOR'S HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

MARK EZZELL
DIRECTOR

August 26, 2026

On behalf of Governor Josh Stein, I want to welcome you to the 2026 KIDZ IN MOTION International Child Passenger Safety Conference.

This conference is an opportunity for child safety experts like yourself to swap good ideas, learn the latest research, and be in the company of others who share your profound commitment to keeping kids safe.

But this conference isn't just a learning experience. It's also something of a family reunion. Child Passenger Safety Technicians, Instructors, and Advocates share a unique commitment, and that commitment forms a special bond. This conference will undoubtedly strengthen that bond, allowing you to go back to your respective communities more energized than ever.

We're especially proud to have North Carolina host this conference. In North Carolina, we're continuing to expand our statewide network of CPS Technicians, increase recertification rates, and form new partnerships with hospitals, court systems, and others. While North Carolina is justly proud of our own robust CPS program that has been a model for so many across the country, we also have a lot to learn from all of you. And we look forward to doing so on the beautiful North Carolina coast.

Best wishes for a safe and meaningful conference!

Sincerely,

Mark Ezzell

Mark Ezzell
Director

Thank you to our conference planning In-kind Sponsors

Center for Safe Alaskans

Children's Wisconsin

Cook Children's

CYBEX

North Carolina Office of State Fire Marshal

Pacific Safety Center/ Keep 'Em Safe Program

Safe Kids North Carolina

UNC Highway Safety Research Center

Lactation Room
Meeting Room 105

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Thank you to members of the Manufacturers Alliance for Child Passenger Safety for providing conference scholarships

AXKID North America	Dorel Juvenile	Peg
babyark	Evenflo (Part of Goodbaby International)	Safe Traffic System (Ride Safer)
Baby Trend	American Honda Motor Co.	SHIELD Restraint Systems
Chicco	Hyundai-Kia America	Thomashilfen North America
Clek	IMMI	Toyota Motor North America, Inc.
CYBEX	Joie Baby	UPPAbaby
Doona	Nuna	Volkswagen Group of America

Thank you to the North Carolina Child Passenger Safety Program for providing conference scholarships for their CPST Instructors and Technicians

buckleupnc.org
Securing North Carolina for Life

Kidz in Motion Exhibitors

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THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
HIGHWAY SAFETY RESEARCH CENTER

Extended Learning Sessions

Wednesday, August 26

Registration open 7:00 am - 5:00 pm at River Concourse Registration Counter

Wellness Reset **6:30 am - 5:30 pm** **Meeting Room 103**	**Stop by the Wellness Reset Room any time for a welcoming space to pause, regulate and recharge.**
7:15 - 8:45 am **Meeting Rooms 106-108**	**Breakfast**
8:00 - 8:45 am **Salon A**	**First-time Attendee Orientation**
9:00 am - 4:45 pm **Salon A**	**Got Emotions? Regulate to Elevate - Strategies to Strengthen Leadership and Trust in Our Child Passenger Safety Community** **Noemi Duenas,** Pacific Safety Center, noemi@psc411.com **Nita Huey-Smith,** Delaware State Police, juanita.huey-smith@delaware.gov **Aubrey Klick,** Delaware Office of Highway Safety, aubrey.klick@delaware.gov **Michael Munson,** Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, michael.munson@ag.tamu.edu **Ellen Walston,** ECU Health Medical Center, ewalston@ecuhealth.org **Marci Ware,** Knoxville Police Department, mware@knoxvilletn.gov
9:00 am - 12:15 pm **Salon B** **(pre-registration required)**	**What Could Go Wrong? Misuse, Testing, Consequences and Impacts** CEU **Members of the Manufacturers Alliance for Child Passenger Safety**
9:00 am - 12:15 pm **Salon C**	**Utilizing the EMR, Epic, For Your Hospital Program** **Eloise Allen,** St. Louis Children's Hospital, eloise.allen@bjc.org **Brittany Kaiser,** St. Louis Children's Hospital, brittany,kaiser@bjc.org **Bridget Leach,** St. Louis Children's Hospital, bridget.leach@bjc.org
9:00 am - 12:15 pm **Salon D**	**DIY CEU** **Courtney Barry,** Chicco, USA, chiccocps.usa@artsana.com **Allan Buchanan,** Safe Kids North Carolina, allan.buchanan@ncdoi.gov
9:00 am - 12:15 pm **Salon E**	**Instructor Forum: How We Do the Things We Do, Act 4** **Jim Savage,** Children's Wisconsin, jim.savage@kidzinmotion.org **Mandi Seethaler,** Center for Safe Alaskans, mandi@safealaskans.org
9:00 am - 12:15 pm **Salon F**	**Along for the Ride: Prenatal Vehicle Safety** CEU **Greg Colton,** Hudson Center for Prenatal Vehicle Safety, greg.colton@hcpvs.org
10:30 - 10:45 am **River Concourse**	**Coffee Break**

Extended Learning Sessions

Wednesday, August 26 (continued)

Registration open 7:00 am - 5:00 pm at River Concourse Registration Counter

12:15 - 1:15 pm **Meeting Rooms 106-108**	**Lunch**
1:30 - 4:45 pm **Salon B**	**Elevate Your Presentation Skills, Port City Edition** **Tammy Franks,** KIDZ IN MOTION Training, Inc., tammy.franks@kidzinmotion.org **Mandi Seethaler,** Center for Safe Alaskans, mandi@safealaskans.org
1:30 - 4:45 pm **Salon C** **(pre-registration required)**	**Escape Room CEU Development** **Bevan Kirley,** UNC Highway Safety Research Center, kirley@hsrc.unc.edu **Kristel Robison,** UNC Highway Safety Research Center, robison@hsrc.unc.edu
1:30 - 4:45 pm **Salon D**	**CPS Toolkit: Maximizing CPS Resources for Best Practice** CEU **Joe Colella,** Baby Safety Alliance (formerly JPMA), jcolella@babysafetyalliance.org **Jackie Stackhouse,** Morristown Medical Center, jackieleach@comcast.net
1:30 - 4:45 pm **Salon E** **(pre-registration required)**	**Hot Topics: Exploring Controversial Child Passenger Safety Subject Matter** CEU **Kecia Healy,** The Car Seat Pros, thecarseatpros@gmail.com **Heather Watson,** The Car Seat Pros, carseatsite@gmail.com
1:30 - 4:45 pm **Salon F**	**Navigating the Journey: Hospital-Based Child Passenger Safety Programs Roundtable** **Sharon Evans,** Cook Children's Medical Center, sharon.evans@cookchildrens.org **Jim Savage,** Children's Wisconsin, jim.savage@kidzinmotion.org
3:00 - 3:15 pm **River Concourse**	**Afternoon Break with Snacks**
6:30 - 9:30 pm **Embassy Suites**	**KIDZ IN MOTION Lip Sync Battle** Light snacks and cash bar

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2026 Conference At-a-Glance

Thursday, August 27

Registration 7 am - 5 pm at River Concourse Registration Counter
Exhibits Open in Exhibit Hall 8:00 - 9:00 am, 12:40 - 1:10 pm, 2:55 - 3:55 pm

	Salon A-B-C	Salon D	Salon E	Salon F	Meeting Room 106
Wellness Reset 6:30 am - 5:30 pm Meeting Room 103	Stop by the Wellness Reset Room any time for a welcoming space to pause, regulate and recharge.				
Breakfast 7:15 - 8:45 am	Breakfast served in the Exhibit Hall				
Breakfast Meetups 7:30 - 8:30 am	Join your colleagues for discussion. Topic tables include: Multilingual CPS Education, State and Territory CPS Coordinators, and CPS in Law Enforcement.				
Exhibits Open 8:00 - 9:00 am	Exhibits Open in the Exhibit Hall				
Orientation 8:30 - 9:00 am		Moderator and Assistant Moderator Orientation			
Conference Opening and Welcome 9:15 - 9:30 am	Conference Opening and Welcome				
Manufacturers Panel 1 9:30 - 11:00 am	Child Restraint Manufacturers Panel 1 CEU				
Session 1 Workshops 11:15 am - 12:05 pm	Rotating Car Seats and Their Potential to Reduce Misuse CEU	Pupil Transportation for Pre K & Students with Disabilities CEU	Best or Bust? What (and Who) We Lose Without Nuance	Safety Superheroes: When Enforcement Leads Families to Learning	The Hidden Gem: The Upside to a Proactive Emergency Services CPS Philosophy
Lunch 12:10 - 1:10 pm	Lunch served in the Exhibit Hall				
Exhibits Open 12:40 - 1:10 pm	Exhibits Open: Exhibit Hall				
Manufacturers Panel 2 1:20 - 2:50 pm	Child Restraint Manufacturers Panel 2 CEU				
Exhibits Open 2:55 - 3:55 pm	Exhibits Open and Snacks in the Exhibit Hall				
Session 2 Workshops 4:10 - 5:00 pm	Regulatory Updates for CPSTs CEU	Case Studies of MVCs at Children's Nebraska CEU	The Science of Belonging: Creating a Thriving Technician Community	Hospital Car Seat Programs: From Discharge to Community Resource	The Role of Retail: Enhancing CPS Outcomes Through Better Customer Experience
Afternoon Get-Togethers 5:10 - 6:10 pm Open to all attendees		Advancing Child Passenger Safety Crash Investigations: A New Standardized Approach		Headovations Heads Up! Redefining Head Positioning: Live Demo/Interactive Session	

2026 Conference At-a-Glance

Friday, August 28

Registration 7 am - 2 pm at River Concourse Registration Counter
Exhibits Open in Madison Ballroom A&B 8:00 - 9:00 am, 12:15 - 12:45 pm, 1:50 - 2:20 pm

	Salon A-B-C	Salon D	Salon E	Salon F	Meeting Room 106
Wellness Reset 6:30 am - 3:30 pm Meeting Room 103	Stop by the Wellness Reset Room any time for a welcoming space to pause, regulate and recharge.				
Breakfast 7:15 - 8:45 am	Breakfast served in the Exhibit Hall				
Breakfast Meetups 7:30 - 8:30 am	Join your colleagues for discussion. Topic tables include: CPS in Fire Services and Safe Travel for All Children (STAC).				
Exhibits Open 8:00 - 9:00 am	Exhibits Open in the Exhibit Hall				
Session 3 Workshops 9:10 - 10:00 am	Vehicle Regulations for CPSTs CEU	Beyond the Manual: Accessible Features for Caregivers with Disabilities CEU	Emergency Services and Getting "Buy In" from the Top, Part 2	Bridging Public Safety and Public Health in Child Passenger Safety	Finding New Ways to Overcome Those Funding Opposing Airline Child Restraints
General Session 10:10 - 10:40 am	National Child Passenger Safety Board/MACPS Hall of Fame - Salon A-B-C				
Session 4 Workshops 10:50 - 11:40 am	Top 10 Safety Concerns for Student Transportation CEU	Competing Needs: The Challenge of Transporting Children with Neuromuscular Conditions CEU	#GoodBetterBest: Navigating the Intersection of Tech and Technique	The Technician Toolkit	To Hybrid or Not to Hybrid? The Advantages and Challenges of Hybrid Instruction
Lunch 11:45 am - 12:45 pm	Lunch served in the Exhibit Hall				
Exhibits Open 12:15 - 12:45 pm	Exhibits Open in the Exhibit Hall				
General Session 12:50 - 1:45 pm	Reimagine Feedback: Where Leadership Meets Learning - Growing People, Not Just Performance				
Exhibits Open 1:50 - 2:20 pm	Exhibits Open and Snacks in the Exhibit Hall				
Session 5 Workshops 2:30 - 3:20 pm	The Ultimate CPS Game Show: Bigger and Better Edition CEU	Manuals, Misuse and Mayhem - Where Details Matter and Misuse Hides in Plain Sight CEU	Creative Collaborations in Child Passenger Safety	Stronger Together: A Systems Approach to CPS Across Communities	Updating Child Passenger Safety Law
Session 6 Workshops 3:30 - 4:20 pm	Car Seats 301: Exceptions and Why They Exist CEU	Spot the Imposter: Fake, Real or Noncompliant CEU	Extraordinary Uses of Ordinary Car Seats CEU	Step-by-Step Multilingual CPS Education	See the Whole Picture: Science, Memory and Unified Messaging to Prevent Pediatric Vehicular Heatstroke
Closing 4:30 - 5:00 pm	Closing: Salon A-B-C Hero Awards, Prize and Scholarship Drawings, Raffles				

KIDZ IN MOTION Conference 2026

Thursday, August 27

6:30 am - 5:30 pm	**Wellness Reset: Stop by any time for a welcoming space to pause, regulate and recharge.**		**Meeting Room 103**
7:15 - 8:45 am	**Breakfast**		**Exhibit Hall**
8:00 - 9:00 am	**Exhibits Open**		**Exhibit Hall**
8:30 - 9:00 am	**Moderator and Assistant Moderator Orientation**		**Salon D**
9:15 - 9:30 am	**Conference Opening and Welcome** **Mandi Seethaler,** Center for Safe Alaskans, KIDZ IN MOTION Planning Committee **Brian Taylor**, State Fire Marshal, North Carolina Office of State Fire Marshal		**Salon A-B-C**
Child Restraint Manufacturer Panel I **9:30 - 11:00 am**	AXKID Inc.	**Hans Bergman**	**Salon A-B-C** **Moderator:** **Jennifer Pelky** **Manufacturers Alliance for Child Passenger Safety** CEU
	Britax	**Sarah Tilton**	
	Chicco, USA SPONSOR	**Courtney Barry**	
	Cybex	**Kelly Murphy**	
	Doona	**Lori Cawley**	
	Graco SPONSOR	**James Fitzpatrick**	
	Joie SPONSOR	**Claire Smith**	
	Safe Traffic System, Inc.	**Vera Fullaway**	
	Thomashilfen North America	**Jessica Hawley**	
Session I Workshops **11:15 am - 12:05 pm**	**Rotating Car Seats and Their Potential to Reduce Misuse** CEU	**Sarah Haverstick** Evenflo **Matt Maltese** MRM Analysis	**Salon A-B-C** **Moderator:** Joshua Gibson **Asst. Moderator:** Alfred Everington Jr.
	Pupil Transportation for Pre-K & Students with Disabilities CEU	**Corey Perreault** Maine Child Passenger Safety Prog. **Jodi Polchies** Gorham Fire Child Passenger Safety Program	**Salon D** **Moderator:** Denise Donaldson **Asst. Moderator:** Akeya Barrett
	Best or Bust? What (and Who) We Lose Without Nuance	**Holly Choi** AXKID North America **Jamie Grayson** The Jamie Grayson **Britney Schroeder** Buckle and Latch, LLC **Samantha Taylor** Mama Knows Car Seats	**Salon E** **Moderator:** Kyndra Webb
	Safety Superheroes: When Enforcement Leads Families to Learning	**Danielle Kessenger** National Safety Council	**Salon F** **Moderator:** Jackie Quinley
	The Hidden Gem: The Upside to a Proactive Emergency Services CPS Philosophy	**Michael Munson** Texas A&M AgriLife Passenger Safety	**Meeting Room 106** **Moderator:** Britney Melvin

KIDZ IN MOTION Conference 2026

Thursday, August 27 (continued)

12:10 - 1:10 pm	**Lunch**		**Exhibit Hall**
12:40 - 1:10 pm	**Exhibits Open**		**Exhibit Hall**
Child Restraint Manufacturers Panel 2 1:20 - 2:50 pm	Baby Trend	**Ryan Lefever**	**Salon A-B-C** **Moderator:** **Claire Smith** **Manufacturers Alliance for Child Passenger Safety** CEU
	Dorel Juvenile	**Daniel Dias**	
	Evenflo	**Sarah Haverstick**	
	Inspired by Drive	**Dustin Moss**	
	KidsEmbrace	**Tony Jerisha**	
	Merritt Manufacturing	**Shayne Merritt**	
	Peg	**Scott McAllister**	
	Stryker SPONSOR	**Olivia Janssen**	
	UPPAbaby	**Bob Wall**	
2:55 - 3:55 pm	**Exhibits Open** *with Snacks served*		**Exhibit Hall**
Session 2 Workshops 4:10 - 5:00 pm	**Regulatory Updates for CPSTs** CEU	**Denise Donaldson** Safe Ride News Publications	**Salon A-B-C** **Moderator:** April Houston **Asst. Moderator:** Amy Hamilton Forester
	Case Studies of MVCs at Children's Nebraska CEU	**Amy Borg** **Travis Hedlund** Children's Nebraska	**Salon D** **Moderator:** Theresa Cromling **Asst. Moderator:** Sonya Blackburn
	The Science of Belonging: Creating a Thriving Technician Community	**Kristel Robison** UNC Highway Safety Research Ctr. **Kyndra Webb** National Safety Council	**Salon E** **Moderator:** Tina Sanders
	Hospital Car Seat Programs: From Discharge to Community Resource	**Michelle Jamison** **Sarah Knudsen** **Rachel Rosenberg** Intermountain Health - Primary Children's Hospital	**Salon F** **Moderator:** Shannon Jackson
	The Role of Retail: Enhancing Child Passenger Safety Outcomes Through Better Customer Experience	**Amy Plass** Inland Mama **Amber Roper** Nature Baby Outfitter	**Meeting Room 106** **Moderator:** Renee Curler
5:10 - 6:10 pm Afternoon Get-together	**Advancing Child Passenger Safety Crash Investigations: A New Standardized Approach**	**Erin Brill** Car Seat Safety Consultants **Lance Mitchell** Maine Bureau of Highway Safety	**Salon D**
5:10 - 6:10 pm Afternoon Get-together	**Headovations: Heads Up! Redefining Head Positioning: Live Interactive Demo**	**Ben Cohen Gazit** **Ami Prager** Headovations	**Salon F**
5:10 - 6:10 pm Business Meeting	**Manufacturers Alliance for Child Passenger Safety (members only)**		**Meeting Room 106**



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Chicco would like to ***thank***

Technicians, Instructors & Advocates

for the passion they put into keeping children safe! We hope you have a wonderful week of learning and networking!

KIDZ IN MOTION Conference 2026

Friday, August 28

6:30 am - 2:00 pm	**Wellness Reset: Stop by any time for a welcoming space to pause, regulate and recharge.**		**Meeting Room 103**
7:00 am - 2:00 pm	**Registration**		**River Concourse**
7:15 - 8:45 am	**Breakfast**		**Exhibit Hall**
8:00 - 9:00 am	**Exhibits Open**		**Exhibit Hall**
Session 3 Workshops 9:10 - 10:00 am	**Vehicle Regulations for CPSTs** CEU	**Emily Burton** American Honda Motor Co. **Jennifer Pelky** Toyota Motor North America, Inc.	**Salon A-B-C** **Moderator:** Charlene Ellison **Asst. Moderator:** Kathy Zents
	Beyond the Manual: Accessible Features for Caregivers with Disabilities CEU	**Britney Lombard** HopSkipDrive	**Salon D** **Moderator:** Beverly Hopps **Asst. Moderator:** Linda Frederickson
	Emergency Services and Getting the "Buy In" from the Top, Part 2	**Ryan Dantin** Lafourche Parish Sherriff's Office	**Salon E** **Moderator:** Joe Schilling
	Bridging Public Safety and Public Health in Child Passenger Safety	**Carrisa Johns** Orange County Sherriff's Office **Lina Chico** Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children	**Salon F** **Moderator:** Danielle Kessenger
	Finding New Ways to Overcome Those Funding Opposing Airline Child Restraints	**William McGee** Author/Airline Safety Advocate	**Meeting Room 106** **Moderator:** Fernanda Herranz
General Session 10:10 - 10:40 am	**National Child Passenger Safety Board: Honoring the Mentors Among Us** **Presenters: Kristel Robison and Michael Munson,** National Child Passenger Safety Board		**Salon A-B-C**
	Whether we realize it or not, we are all mentors and, likewise, we are all mentees. Join the NCPSB to learn about our focus on building stronger programs through mentorship. We will also take a few minutes to recognize the 2026 Technician, Instructor, and Team of the year - all of whom serve as mentors to their communities and fellow programs and technicians.		
	Manufacturers Alliance for Child Passenger Safety Hall of Fame **Presenters: MACPS Members**		

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KIDZ IN MOTION Conference 2026

Friday, August 28 (continued)

Session 4 Workshops 10:50 - 11:40 am	**Top 10 Safety Concerns for Student Transportation** CEU	**Denise Donaldson** Safe Ride News Publications	**Salon A-B-C** **Moderator:** Corey Perrault **Asst. Moderator:** Taneisha Stancil
	Competing Needs: The Challenge of Transporting Children with Neuromuscular Conditions CEU	**Meredith Heitkamp** **Carrie Rhodes** Nationwide Children's Hospital	**Salon D** **Moderator:** Tirzah Winterton **Asst. Moderator:** Brookelyn Letterman
	#GoodBetterBest: Navigating the Intersection of Tech and Technique	**Britney Lombard** HopSkipDrive **Kyndra Webb** National Safety Council	**Salon E** **Moderator:** Ena Edward-Descartes
	The Technician Toolkit	**Kathleen Clary-Cooke** CPST-I **Jen Ellis** St. Luke's Children's Hospital **Kelcey Ronneburg** St. Luke's Children's Hospital	**Salon F** **Moderator:** Velvet Tyndall
	To Hybrid or Not to Hybrid? The Advantages and Challenges of Hybrid Instruction	**Nita Huey-Smith** Delaware State Police/Office of Highway Safety **Aubrey Klick** Delaware Office of Highway Safety	**Meeting Room 106** **Moderator:** Ryan Dantin
11:45 am - 12:45 pm	**Lunch**		**Exhibit Hall**
12:15 - 12:45 pm	**Exhibits Open**		**Exhibit Hall**
General Session 12:50 - 1:45 pm	**Reimagine Feedback: Where Leadership Meets Learning - Growing People, Not Just Performance** **Travis Marsh, Battalion Chief, CPST-I** Grants Pass, OR Fire and Rescue Travis will explore feedback as a leadership tool that supports learning, engagement, and professional growth. Using concepts from organizational reframing, participants will examine how structure, relationships, influence, and culture shape the way feedback is given and received. The presentation offers practical strategies for approaching tough conversations in ways that build trust, accountability, and stronger team engagement.		**Salon A-B-C** **Moderator:** **Woody Johnston**
1:50 - 2:20 pm	**Exhibits Open** ***with Snacks served***		**Exhibit Hall**

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KIDZ IN MOTION Conference 2026

Friday, August 28 (continued)

Session 5 Workshops 2:30 - 3:20 pm	**The Ultimate CPS Game Show: Bigger and Better Edition** CEU	**Brian Rauscher** Safe Start: Infant & Child Health & Safety	**Salon A-B-C** **Moderator:** Kelly Ransdell **Asst. Moderator:** Heather Garrity
	Manuals, Misuse and Mayhem - Where Details Matter and Misuse Hides in Plain Sight CEU	**Emilie Christensen** **Amanda Schafter** Children's Minnesota	**Salon D** **Moderator:** Jason Sowers **Asst. Moderator:** Joyce Myrick
	Creative Collaborations in Child Passenger Safety	**Ashlee Jackson** Car Seats 4 The Culture	**Salon E** **Moderator:** Heather Smith
	Stronger Together: A Systems Approach to CPS Across Communities	**Christian Bonds** Oklahoma State Dept. of Health **Isis Palomino** Safe Kids Oklahoma **Josh Snider** OU Children's Hospital	**Salon F** **Moderator:** Elizabeth Koldoff
	Updating Child Passenger Safety Law	**Jennifer Rubin** Safe Kids Greater Sacramento **Stephanie Tombrello** CA Strategic Highway Safety Plan	**Meeting Room 106** **Moderator:** Steffonie Cockerill
Session 6 Workshops 3:30 - 4:20 pm	**Car Seats 301: Exceptions & Why They Exist** CEU	**Erin Brill** Car Seat Safety Consultants **James Fitzpatrick** Graco	**Salon A-B-C** **Moderator:** Amy Borg **Asst. Moderator:** Isis Palomino
	Spot the Imposter: Fake, Real or Noncompliant CEU	**Baylee Dorsey** Tucson Medical Center	**Salon D** **Moderator:** Bill Hall **Asst. Moderator:** Teri Hoyler
	Extraordinary Uses of Ordinary Car Seats CEU	**Kyndra Webb** National Safety Council	**Salon E** **Moderator:** Hunter Hijma **Asst. Moderator:** Thomas Hardy
	Step-by-Step Multilingual CPS Education	**Kimberly Morales** **Jennifer Rubin** UC Davis Health	**Salon F** **Moderator:** Luly Beckles
	See the Whole Picture: Science, Memory and Unified Messaging to Prevent Pediatric Vehicular Heatstroke	**Patti Liedy** National Safety Council	**Meeting Room 106** **Moderator:** Taryn Wilson
4:30 - 5:00 pm	**Closing, Hero Awards, Prize and Scholarship Drawings** • **Hudson Center for Prenatal Vehicle Safety Raffle** • **Quilt Raffle benefitting Blood Cancer United**		**Salon A-B-C**

Workshop Session Details

Session I Workshops

Thursday 11:15 am - 12:05 pm

Salon A-B-C

Rotating Car Seats and Their Potential to Reduce Misuse

CEU

Sarah Haverstick, Evenflo
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Matt Maltese, MRM Analysis
matt@mrmanalysis.com

Rotating car seat seats have become an incredibly popular car seat category, driven by increasing consumer enthusiasm and innovative, new product offerings. The Evenflo team conducted a deep dive into their National Digital Check Form data to review consumer usage. Comparing rotating models, to two different sets of traditional, non-rotating models, the team found some interesting insights. This discussion will review the findings of their peer-reviewed research. We will spend time highlighting car seat design and installation features that may contribute to proper car seat use.

Salon D

Pupil Transportation for Pre K & Students with Disabilities

CEU

Corey Perreault, Maine Child Passenger Safety Program
carseatsmidcoast@gmail.com

Jodi Polchies, Gorham Fire Child Passenger Safety Program
gorhamcarseat@gmail.com

For school departments and agencies, who are currently transporting or will be transporting 2, 3, and 4 year olds, as well as students with disabilities, navigating how to transport these most vulnerable students can be difficult and confusing. Federal laws clash with state laws that clash with local school department policies and procedures - how do we navigate and know the best way to proceed? This session will explore training options, CSRS options, and provide suggestions on how to work with school officials and state representatives to safely transport students and support bus drivers and support staff.

Salon E

Best or Bust? What (And Who) We Lose Without Nuance

Holly Choi, AXKID North America
holly.choi@axkid.com

Jamie Grayson, The Jamie Grayson
jamie@thejamiegrayson.com

Britney Schroeder, Buckle and Latch, LLC
britney@buckleandlatch.com

Samantha Taylor, Mama Knows Car Seats
samanthataylor2801@gmail.com

While striving for best practice is important, overemphasizing it can unintentionally make car seat safety feel intimidating or unattainable for caregivers. This presentation explores curbside and online scenarios about common caregiver questions. By offering strategies to respond with flexibility and understanding, Techs can focus on what works best for each caregiver and child. Technicians can make car seat safety both approachable and achievable.

Salon F

Safety Superheroes: When Enforcement Leads Families to Learning

Danielle Kessenger, National Safety Council
danielle.kessenger@nsc.org

Suit up and discover how Florida's DOT-funded CPS Diversion Program is transforming enforcement into an opportunity for learning. This session reveals how a modernized diversion model—offering accessible online and in-person options, consistent statewide messaging, and Car Seat Basics as its foundation—drives safer outcomes for children. Explore how Car Seat Basics for Law Enforcement equips officers for accurate, confidence-building traffic-stop interactions that strengthen trust with caregivers.

Meeting Room 106

The Hidden Gem: The Upside to a Proactive Emergency Services CPS Philosophy

Michael Munson, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
michael.munson@ag.tamu.edu

As the world moves—people commuting, kids riding, & emergency services responding—we often overlook the power of a proactive approach to child passenger safety. Too often, responders enter the picture only after tragedy occurs. Shifting from reaction to prevention, we can address risks before lives are changed forever. Proactive efforts like education and car seat safety outreach do more than protect children; they build trust between families & emergency services, strengthen community relationships & promote a culture of safety.

Workshop Session Details

Session 2 Workshops

Thursday 4:10 - 5:00 pm

Salon A-B-C

Regulatory Updates for CPSTs

CEU

Denise Donaldson, Safe Ride News Publications
denise@saferidenews.com

Expand your awareness of the latest regulatory changes, including those that went into effect last year and those coming up in 2026 and beyond. This session will cover how the new requirements for manufacturers will affect your work as a CPST, including how and why some features and instructions for car seats and cars have changed—and will continue to change.

Salon D

Case Studies of MVCs at Children's Nebraska

CEU

Amy Borg and Travis Hedlund, Children's Nebraska
aborg@childrensnebraska.org thedlund@childrensnebraska.org

Children's Nebraska Injury Prevention Team will present on real world crash scenarios. They will cover multiple case studies of children involved in motor vehicle crashes, circumstances surrounding the crash and injuries to the child, including pictures and outcomes.

Salon E

The Science of Belonging: Creating a Thriving Technician Community

Kristel Robison, UNC Highway Safety Research Center
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Kyndra Webb, National Safety Council
kyndra.webb@nsc.org

Belonging is an important element of human psychology, one that is deeply rooted and contributes to our successes and failures in new situations. In this session, we'll take a dive into the science of belonging, leveraging the research to identify key principles. We will then apply these principles to our Technician communities, identifying ways we can use our understanding of belonging to encourage the successful integration of Technicians into our programs. The data is clear - newly certified Technicians are at risk of never recertifying. Let's tackle this challenge together through a unique lens.

Salon F

Hospital Car Seat Programs: From Discharge to Community Resource

Michelle Jamison, Sarah Knudsen and Rachel Rosenberg
Intermountain Health - Primary Children's Hospital
michelle.jamison@imail.org sara.knudsen@imail.org rachel.rosenberg@imail.org

Hospital Car Seat Programs bridge safe discharge practices with long-term community support by integrating child passenger safety into the hospital setting. This model incorporates CPSTs into the discharge process to identify needs, provide education, and ensure proper use of car seats. Loaner seat programs address immediate safety and access barriers, and follow-up to connect families to ongoing community resources. By extending injury prevention beyond discharge, hospitals can promote equitable access to car seat education, improve caregiver confidence, and strengthen partnerships that support child safety in the community.

Meeting Room 106

The Role of Retail: Enhancing Child Passenger Safety Outcomes Through Better Customer Service

Amy Plass, Inland Mama
amy@inlandmama.com

Amber Roper, Nature Baby Outfitter
amber@naturebabyoutfitter.com

This session explores the critical relationship between Child Passenger Safety (CPS) and retail, focusing on how baby gear stores and manufacturers can better support families. Attendees will examine challenges in retail, including gaps in education that leave caregivers without the knowledge needed to make informed car seat decisions. The session will highlight retailers improving customer experiences through education and in-store guidance, along with examples of manufacturers supporting these efforts through partnerships, tools, and training. Participants will gain practical strategies to strengthen collaboration between CPS professionals, retailers, and manufacturers to improve education and CPS outcomes.

Workshop Session Details

Session 3 Workshops

Friday 9:10 - 10:00 am

Salon A-B-C

Vehicle Regulations for CPSTs

CEU

Emily Burton, American Honda Motor Co.
eburton@na.honda.com

Jennifer Pelky, Toyota Motor North America, Inc.
jennifer.pelky@toyota.com

Participants will receive an overview of a wide variety of testing vehicle manufacturers conduct to meet FMVSS regulations, US NCAP standards and third-party safety ratings. CPSTs will gain a deeper understanding of the intersection between regulatory compliance, vehicle safety design, and child occupant protection.

Salon D

Beyond the Manual: Accessible Features for Caregivers with Disabilities

CEU

Britney Lombard, HopSkipDrive
blombard@gmail.com

The CPS community has long supported complex medical needs of child passengers with innovative products and specialized education. But what happens when the barrier to safety isn't the child's diagnosis, but the caregiver's? It's time to expand our definition of "Special Healthcare Needs" to include the caregivers who are installing and using child restraints. By understanding use cases for technical features such as one-handed operation, self-tensioning systems, and rigid lower anchors, we can help ensure every caregiver - regardless of their ability - has the tools, knowledge, and confidence to keep their children safe.

Salon E

Emergency Services and Getting "Buy In" From the Top, Part 2

Ryan Dantin, Lafourche Parish Sherriff's Office
ryan-dantin@lpso.net

We've all probably experienced push back from the upper echelon of our respective agencies as to the importance of CPS in the grand scheme of emergency services. In this workshop we will discuss different tips and ideas as to how to get "buy in" and greater support for your CPS efforts.

Salon F

Bridging Public Safety and Public Health in Child Passenger Safety

Carrisa Johns, Orange County Sherriff's Office
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Lina Chico, Orlando Health
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Law enforcement agencies are uniquely positioned to serve as trusted community partners in injury prevention, yet their role in child passenger safety is often limited to enforcement or periodic education events. In Orange County, Florida, a multidisciplinary partnership between a law enforcement-led Occupant Protection Program, a pediatric trauma center, and fire rescue educators has expanded caregiver education and car seat services. This session highlights collaboration between the Orange County Sheriff's Office, Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children, and Orange County Fire Rescue, sharing practical strategies for building cross-sector partnerships that strengthen referral pathways and expand access to CPS resources.

Meeting Room 106

Finding New Ways to Overcome Those Funding Opposing Airline Child Restraints

William McGee, Author/Airline Safety Advocate
skyriting@yahoo.com

Since 1989, widespread advocacy for mandating airline child restraints has made it irrefutable that lap kids under 2 are not truly safe unless properly restrained. NTSB, American Academy of Pediatrics, safety and consumer advocates, labor unions, aircraft manufacturers, and even FAA state that children are safest in restraints. So why after nearly four decades has neither Congress nor FAA mandated restraints? The presenter will address his long battle with airline lobbyists and their undue influence on Congress and FAA. He'll state the quiet part out loud: Why airlines don't want FAA to ban lap kids, and what can be done.

Workshop Session Details

Session 4 Workshops

Friday 10:50 - 11:40 am

Salon A-B-C

Top 10 Safety Concerns for Student Transportation

CEU

Denise Donaldson, Safe Ride News
denise@saferidenews.com

Passenger safety for most children involves being transported for school, and CPSTs can provide essential information to their transporters, especially when the child is pre-school age or has a disability. CPSTs in this session will learn how to best focus interactions with student transporters by identifying the main challenges—and misunderstandings—when it comes to occupant protection for students.

Salon D

Competing Needs: The Challenge of Transporting Children with Neromuscular Conditions

CEU

Meredith Heitkamp and Carrie Rhodes, Nationwide Children's Hospital
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For children with neuromuscular conditions, their medical and positioning needs are often at odds with child passenger safety recommendations. These patients can struggle with tolerating a seated position, presenting substantial challenges with transportation. This session will cover a brief synopsis of neuromuscular disorders, including the rapidly changing landscape of recently developed treatments. Additionally, the session will include a discussion of factors affecting transportation for these children, strategies for approaching situations where medical needs and CPS-related best practices may conflict, and the opportunity to review case studies.

Salon E

#GoodBetterBest: Navigating the Intersection of Tech and Technique

Britney Lombard, HopSkipDrive
blombard@gmail.com

Kyndra Webb, National Safety Council
kyndra.webb@nsc.org

In the fast-paced world of social media, is your advocacy good enough or truly the best it can be? We will explore strategic social media messaging tailored for CPSTs. This session moves beyond basic posting, blending essential accessibility practices and effective communication. Participants will learn accessibility standards including alt-text, captioning and social media best practices to ensure educational content is available for all audiences. Join us to transform your digital advocacy from simple posts into a powerful, accessible toolkit for community safety.

Salon F

The Technician Toolkit

Kathleen Clary-Cooke, CPST-I
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Jen Ellis, St. Luke's Children's Hospital
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Kelcey Ronneburg, St. Luke's Children's Hospital
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The Technician Toolkit takes a lively look at fun, practical, and sometimes surprising tools that make a real difference in the field. From caregivers and children to vehicles and of course car seats, this session highlights clever items that simplify challenges and spark better problem solving. Some tools may look familiar as we honor Sue Emery, but will you recognize them all? This year brings a fresh mix of new favorites, plus time for some audience shared picks. Everyone leaves with a bigger set of smart, field-ready ideas, and maybe a few unexpected delights.

Meeting Room 106

To Hybrid or Not to Hybrid? The Advantages and Challenges of Hybrid Instruction

Nita Huey-Smith, Delaware State Police/Delaware Office of Highway Safety
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Aubrey Klick, Delaware Office of Highway Safety
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Hybrid courses come with unique challenges, and our team has found solutions to these challenges that are beneficial to hybrid Instructors across the nation. Some Instructors are on the fence about adding the hybrid endorsement to their certification due to the unknown elements of student engagement and content flow. We will explore some of the challenges that hybrid presents, whiles also providing strategies to overcome the challenges and make teaching hybrid classes a smooth process. We have found hybrid. instruction beneficial and would like to encourage others to take the leap to hybrid by breaking down the perceived barriers.

Workshop Session Details

Session 5 Workshops

Friday 2:30 - 3:20 pm

Salon A-B-C

The Ultimate CPS Game Show: Bigger and Better Education

CEU

Brian Rauscher, Safe Start: Infant & Child Health & Safety
brian@nwsids.org

Buckle Up, the CPS Game Show is back—Bigger and Better Edition. How do you top last year's session? Bigger prizes, more action and all new technical content. Attendees will be randomly selected to compete in fast-paced challenges that blend updated CPS facts, real world scenarios, and rapid-fire problem solving. Whether you're on stage or cheering from the crowd, you'll experience a lively, competitive format designed to boost engagement and retention. This isn't a lecture—it's CPS education with the volume turned up, delivering fresh insights, big laughs, and memorable takeaways you can use in the field. A CEU has never been this fun!

Salon D

Manuals, Misuse and Mayhem - Where Details Matter and Misuse Hides in Plain Sight

CEU

Emilie Christensen and Amanda Schafter, Children's Minnesota
emilie.christensen@childrensmn.org amanda.schafter@childrensmn.org

This session brings a fun, game-show twist to technician skill building. In this interactive workshop, teams will compete by rotating through challenge stations to spot misuse, dig through manuals, and practice communicating technical knowledge. Expect quick thinking, teamwork, and a few surprising "aha!" moments along the way.

Salon E

Creative Collaborations in Child Passenger Safety

Ashlee Jackson, Car Seats 4 The Culture
carseats4theculture@gmail.com

This interactive workshop explores how creative, multi-generation collaborations can strengthen child passenger safety (CPS) initiatives and expand access to resources. Participants will examine innovative partnership models involving healthcare providers, public health agencies, law enforcement, educators, community organizations, and private industry. Through real-world examples and facilitated discussion, attendees will learn practical strategies for building sustainable partnerships, leveraging shared resources, and engaging underserved communities. The session emphasizes actionable approaches to increase correct car seat use, enhance community trust, and improve program reach and impact.

Salon F

Stronger Together: A Systems Approach to CPS Across Communities

Christian Bonds, Oklahoma State Department of Health
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Isis Palomino, Safe Kids Oklahoma
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Josh Snider, OU Children's Hospital
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Child passenger safety challenges are complex and require coordinated action across agencies and communities. This interactive workshop guides participants through mapping their local CPS ecosystem, identifying barriers and applying practical systems-thinking tools to strengthen collaboration. Designed for public health, hospitals, fire/EMS, tribal programs, immigrant-serving agencies, and community partners, the session uses hands-on activities and real-world scenarios to uncover gaps and opportunities within existing networks. Participants will leave with ready-to-use strategies, new connections, and a personalized 30-day action plan to improve CPS coordination and outcomes for diverse populations.

Meeting Room 106

Updating Child Passenger Safety Law

Jennifer Rubin, UC Davis Health
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Stephanie Tombrello, CA Strategic Highway Safety Plan
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Every state has a child passenger safety law, covering various requirements. The original laws were passed more than 25 years ago and seemed like settled decisions. Laws demonstrably increase usage but often are vague about the 8-12 age group with the highest child-death statistics for 20 years. Three states have added the 5-Step Test for correct safety belt fit to increase their protection. Data supporting the California effort will be shared, with an invitation for CPST Technician and Instructor in every state to join in the effort.

Workshop Session Details

Session 6 Workshops

Friday 3:30 - 4:20 pm

Salon A-B-C

Car Seats 301: Exceptions & Why They Exist

CEU

Erin Brill, Car Seat Safety Consultants
erinbrill.cpst@gmail.com

James Fitzpatrick, Graco
james.fitzpatrick@newellco.com

The CPS Technician Certification Training course provides a foundational framework for understanding child restraints; however, time constraints limit discussion of the real-world tips, tricks, and exceptions technicians encounter daily. Many of these exceptions are rooted in engineering design decisions, crash-testing protocols, and regulatory allowances that are not fully explored in the basic curriculum. This session examines practical installation techniques to maximize efficiency, common rule exceptions, and—critically—the engineering and testing rationale behind them. Participants will gain insight into how child restraints are designed and evaluated, why certain exceptions exist, and how to identify and verify this information using available resources.

Salon D

Spot the Imposter: Fake, Real, or Noncompliant

CEU

Baylee Dorsey, Tuscon Medical Center
baylee.dorsey@tmcaz.com

During this workshop, we will uncover the rise of fake car seats, learn how to properly identify them and explore strategies for addressing this escalating issue. Participants will dive into spotting the differences between fake and non-compliant car seats and understand why these distinctions matter for child safety. We will also showcase how our hospital is promoting community and staff education initiatives and responding effectively when fake car seats are encountered firsthand in patient care.

Salon E

Extraordinary Uses of Ordinary Car Seats

CEU

Kyndra Webb, National Safety Council
kyndra.webb@nsc.org

This workshop explores practical ways to meet the transportation needs of children with complex medical and behavioral challenges using conventional car seats. While Child Passenger Safety Technician Certification training emphasizes using conventional car seats before considering specialized adaptive restraints, real-world situations can present unique challenges. Participants will learn strategies for assessing positioning needs and identifying support features that may help a conventional car seat better accommodate medically complex passengers or children with behavioral concerns, including those who frequently attempt to escape the car seat or booster seat. The session will also review key car seat features and positioning aids that can improve safety and support, as well as guidance on recognizing when a conventional car seat is no longer appropriate and when additional resources or specialized support should be pursued.

Salon F

Step-by-Step Multilingual CPS Education

Kimberly Morales and Jennifer Rubin, UC Davis
kimorales@health.ucdavis.edu jenrubin@health.ucdavis.edu

How do you deliver CPS education to families in different languages when bilingual CPSTs are not available? Steps to consider include booking appointments, conducting classroom and curbside education with or without real-time interpretation, and documentation. The UC Davis Children's Hospital CPS team will walk you through each step of their process, from initial referral to a child departing safely, as they serve their culturally diverse community at both the bedside and curbside.

Meeting Room 106

Seeing the Whole Picture: Science, Memory, and Unified Messaging to Prevent Pediatric Vehicular Heatstroke

Patti Liedy, National Safety Council
patti.liedy@nsc.org

Pediatric vehicular heatstroke is a heartbreaking tragedy—one we can reduce by strengthening each layer of the Safe System approach: awareness, routines, technology, and consistent messaging. It continues to claim young lives, with U.S. cases near the yearly average of 38 children. Parked vehicles heat up quickly, and children's bodies warm faster, creating life threatening conditions within minutes. In more than half of incidents, an everyday memory lapse plays a role. This interactive session will explain the physical and cognitive science behind these events, share evidence-based prevention strategies and resources, and show how unified messaging can support nationwide prevention efforts.

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Wilmington, North Carolina
August 26 - 28, 2026

AM Conference Extended Learning CEU Sessions (Wednesday)

MACPS: What Could Go Wrong? Misuse, Testing, Consequences and Impacts Event ID 8454 3 CEUs	Along for the Ride: Prenatal Vehicle Safety Event ID 8476 2 CEUs CPST .5 CEU EMS

PM Conference Extended Learning CEU Sessions (Wednesday)

Hot Topics: Exploring Controversial CPS Subject Matter Event ID 8455 3 CEUs	CPS Toolkit, Maximizing CPS Resources For Best Practice Event ID 8469 3 CEUs

Conference CEU Sessions (Thursday - Friday) Event ID # 8437 - all sessions

Child Restraint Manufacturers Panel 1 1.5 CEUs	Rotating Car Seats and Their Potential to Reduce Misuse 1 CEU	Pupil Transportation for Pre K & Students with Disabilities 1 CEU
Child Restraint Manufacturers Panel 2 1.5 CEUs	Regulatory Updates for CPSTs 1 CEU	Case Studies of MVCs at Children's Nebraska 1 CEU
Vehicle Regulations for CPSTs 1 CEU	Beyond the Manual: Accessible Features for Caregivers with Disabilities 1 CEU	Top 10 Safety Concerns for Student Transportation 1 CEU
Competing Needs: The Challenge of Transporting Children with Neuromuscular Conditions 1 CEU	The Ultimate CPS Game Show: Bigger and Better Edition 1 CEU	Manuals, Misuse & Mayhem - Where Details Matter and Misuse Hides in Plain Sight 1 CEU
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