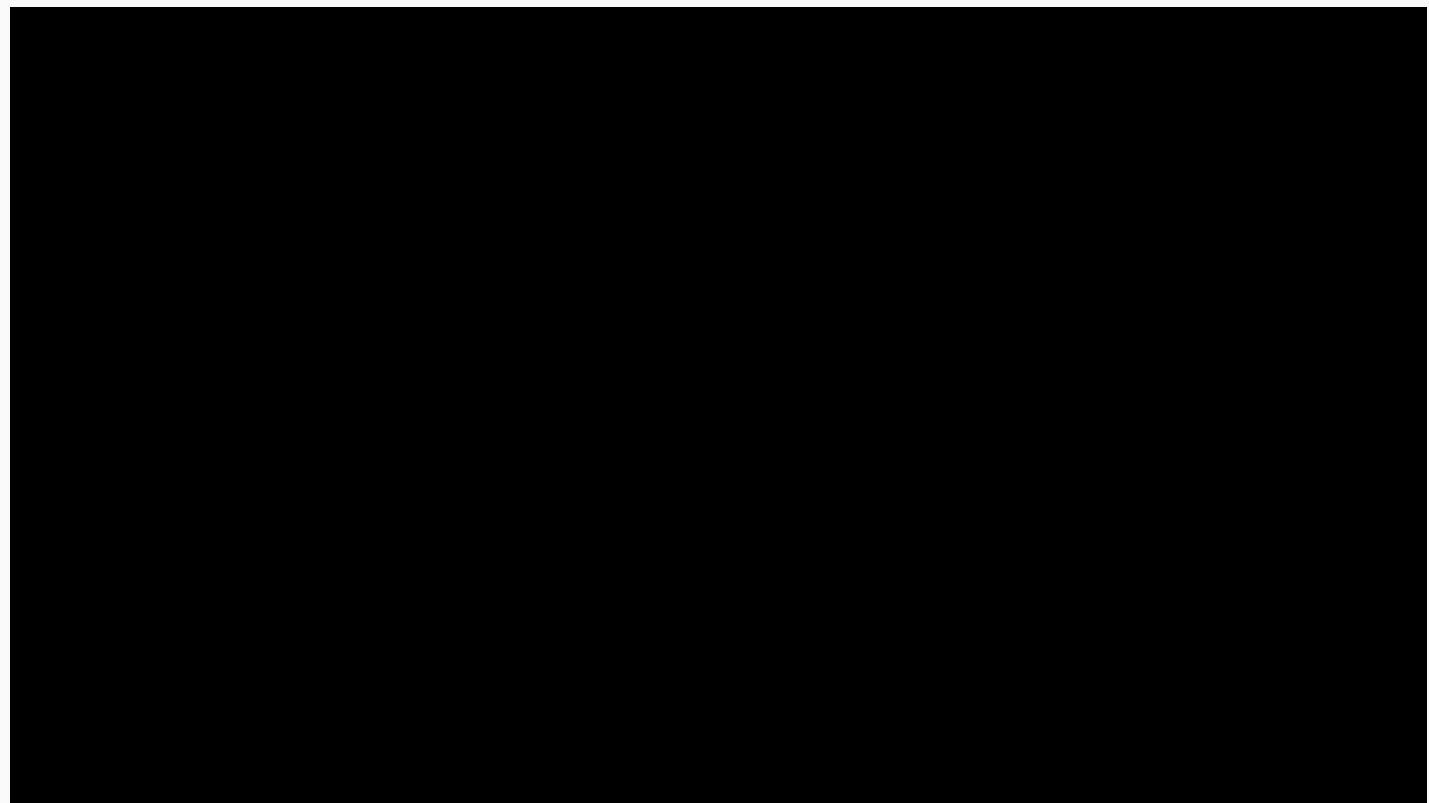


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Keeping kids safe with car seats



Keeping kids safe with car seats

KARE 11 Staff, KARE 6:47 p.m. EDT June 25, 2014



(Photo: KARE)

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BALDWIN, Wis. - A Wisconsin mother credits car seat clinic with helping save her daughter's life.

Bethany Olson and her two small children survived an accident in rural Western Wisconsin over the Memorial Day holiday.

A truck hit her car while driving on County road N. They were on their way to the store.

Olson says 15-month old EmmaJean and her 2 year-old son Gunner would not have survived if not for their properly secured child seats. Olson went to a clinic at the Baldwin Area Medical Center just two weeks before the accident happened.

Olson said at a press conference at Regions Hospital Wednesday, "No child should die from their car seat being installed incorrectly, their car seat facing the wrong way, or not being restrained correctly with a harness".

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Doctor Michael Partington with Gillete Children's Specialty Healthcare says it's up to parents to do what they can to help protect their children and kids "should be in a car seat carefully thought out, carefully positioned, carefully installed. That's the single best thing we can do for them."

EmmaJean receives physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy for several hours every day.

She is expected to stay in the Pediatric Trauma Center at Regions Hospital for the next two months.

[Regions holds free child and booster seat safety clinics](#) all year long.

You can also check with your local fire departments to see if they will be holding a clinic.

Wisconsin residents can look for clinic information at www.wcrtac-wi.org.

Regions injury prevention manger, Shonette Doggett, says the clinic appointments usually take a half hour. The instructors will take the time to inspect each seat and car so it is appropriate for every child.

Doggett said during the press conference, "We want parents to learn how to install that seat correctly, install their child in the seat correctly, and leave safer from the clinic than when they came in."

Doggett also wants parents to know the seat's history. Adding unless you bought it from the store, you'll need to ask the family member or friend you got it from if the seat was ever involved in an accident.

She also says seats do expire and if you buy the seat from a garage sale or borrow it, look for an expiration date.

Family and friends are holding a benefit to help the Olson family pay for EmmaJean's medical bills.

It will be held:

Friday, July 25th, 2014

Elmwood Rod and Gun Club

N6433 State Road 72

Elmwood, Wisconsin

Time: 4pm - 8pm

You can also make donations to:

EmmaJean Olson

First Bank of Baldwin

PO Box 159

Spring Valley, WI 54767

www.gofundme.com/9i2yvk



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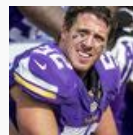


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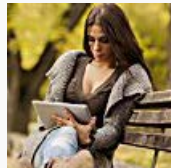
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