News Release

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CEA-FCH Haskell County

Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service

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A Car Seat Check-Up event was held at the Haskell County Courthouse Square with Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service-Haskell County partnering together with both groups being part of the Rolling Plains Rural Health Partnership.

In 2017, 929 people killed in traffic crashes in Texas were not wearing a seat belt. That year there were also 2,558 vehicle crashes in Texas in which unrestrained vehicle occupants sustained fatal or serious injuries.

According to Jill Christie, Traffic Safety Specialist-Abilene district, “Statistics show that three out of four car seats are either not installed correctly or the child is not properly restrained. Texas law required children to stay in a child restraint until they are eight years old unless they are taller than four feet nine inches.”

Haskell County Judge David Davis pointed out, “The objective of this program is to reduce the number of motor vehicle crash (MVC) injuries and fatalities to children in Texas who are unrestrained. But with so many different seats on the market, many parents find this overwhelming and that is what this program addresses. TxDOT manages a child safety seat distribution and education program. They examine the existing seats and determine if they are installed correctly, and if it fits the needs of the child. We are proud to be able to be a part of this program.”

At the Haskell County Car Seat Check-Up event, twenty-five car seats were checked. The next car seat check-up event to be held on the Haskell County Courthouse Square will be September 26 from 2-5 pm. This will be held in conjunction with the National Child Passenger Safety Seat Week September 23-29.

For more information contact: Darlene Hopkins-Haskell County Extension Agent for Family and Community Health at #940-864-2658 or Jill Christie-TxDOT Traffic Safety Specialist –Abilene district at #325-676-6808.

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