

University of Florida Transportation Institute
Technology Transfer Center
Occupant Protection Resource Center



Statewide Services and Support for Florida Child Passenger Safety Technicians and Instructors

Florida Occupant Protection Coalition Meeting
Gainesville, Florida

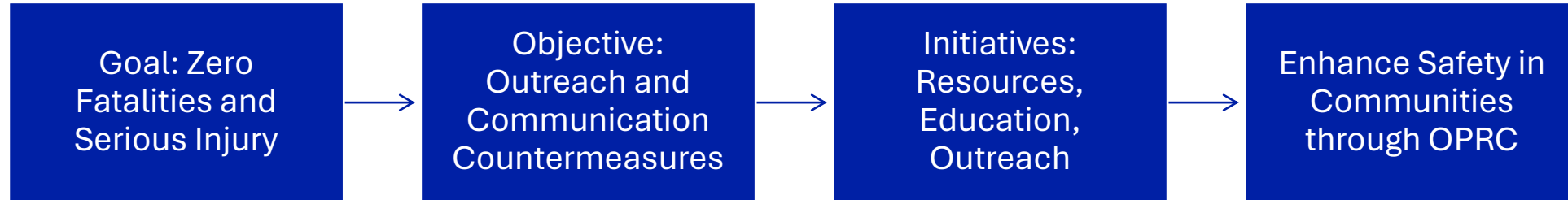
Funded by the Florida Department of Transportation

May 16, 2024



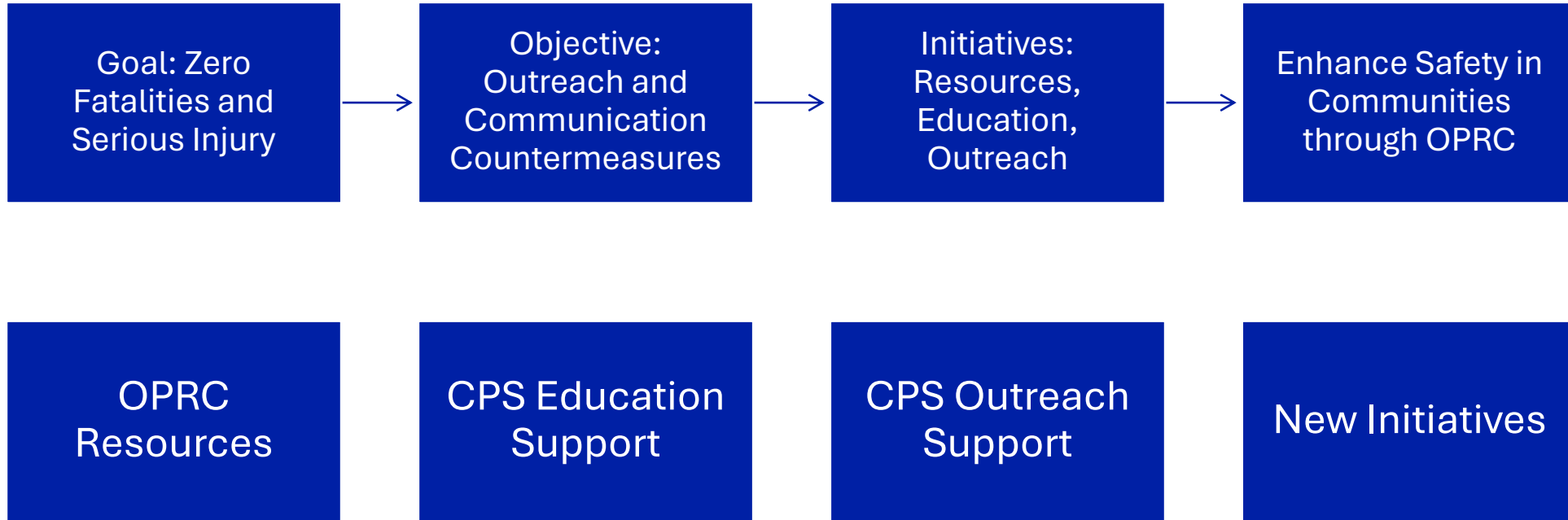


OPRC Purpose TO PROVIDE STATEWIDE SERVICES



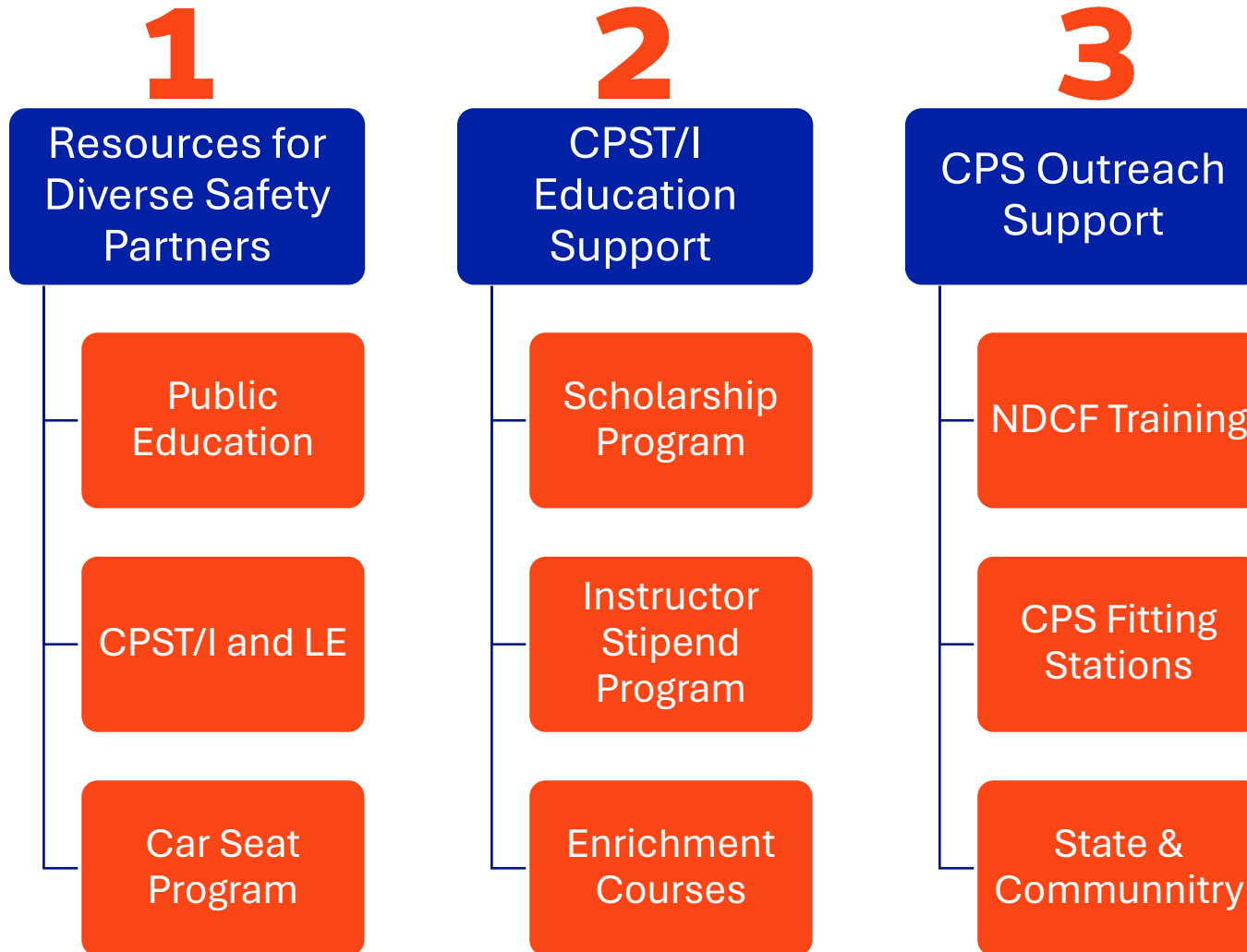


OPRC Purpose TO PROVIDE STATEWIDE SERVICES





OPRC Programs & Support Services



Goal

Educate Florida residents to **enhance the safety of all occupants** in vehicles on our roadways.

Support FDOT's Strategic Highway Safety Plan



OPRC Resource Program



1

Resources for Diverse Safety Partners

Public Education

CPST/I and LE

Car Seat Program



How many CPST/I's are first responders?





OPRC Resource Program



1

Resources for Diverse Safety Partners

Public Education

CPST/I and LE

Car Seat Program



68%





OPRC Resource Program



1

Resources for Diverse Safety Partners

Public Education

CPST/LE

Car Seat Program





OPRC Resource Program



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Resources for Diverse Safety Partners

Public Education

CPST/LE

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OPRC Resource Program



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OPRC Resource Program



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OPRC Resource Program



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Car Seat Program



Grandparents & Car Seat Safety

Grandparents: The Key to a Safe Ride
 Vehicles have changed in countless ways over the past five decades. Today's car seats are equipped with modern safety technology. When secured correctly, your child should be safe in your vehicle, even during a crash.

Installation
 Visit www.fdot.gov/equipment/car-seat-unsafe-2016 for detailed instructions, and be sure to read the car seat's instruction manual.

1. Select a car seat that is right for the child's age and size.
2. Always put the car seat in the back seat. The back seat is the safest.
3. Install the car seat facing in the correct direction; rear-facing is recommended for as long as possible, until the child outgrows the seat's height and weight limits for rear-facing.
4. Make sure the car seat is installed at the correct angle.
5. Place the seat belt through the correct belt path OR install the seat using lower anchors and tethers. Make sure the seat belt is tightly locked using the vehicle's seat belt locking mechanism OR the car seat's lock-off.
6. When securing the child, the chest clip should be at armpit level, and straps should fit snugly.

IF YOU'RE PREGNANT

IF YOU'RE PREGNANT, SHOULD I WEAR A SEATBELT?
YES — and a car seat for your baby and a safe ride for you.

WHAT'S THE RIGHT WAY?

SHOULD I ADJUST MY SEATBELT?

Grandparents: According to NHTSA's 2018 Grandparents Family National Survey, the number of grandparents in the United States has grown 24% since 2001. Today, many grandparents are their grandchild's primary caregiver and may be responsible for correctly installing and using car seats.

Installing car seats takes time, patience, and a little elbow grease. What might be physically easier for younger parents could prove frustrating for grandparents.

NHTSA is here to help you navigate this critical safety information. Read on for helpful car seat and booster seat information.

Need Help? **Services provided are FREE!**
 To find an inspection station or set up a virtual appointment with a Child Passenger Safety Technician, please visit NHTSA's Car Seat Inspection location: www.fdot.gov/equipment/car-seat-unsafe-2016 or call 1-800-424-9393.

* If you are still unsure, please consult the manufacturer's instructions.
 ** This is for average. Your car may not be an average.



OPRC Resource Program



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Public Education

CPST/ and LE

Car Seat Program





OPRC Resource Program



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Resources for Diverse Safety Partners

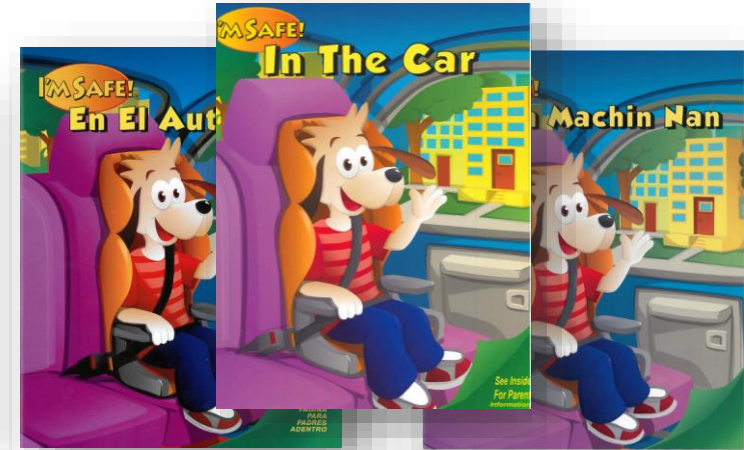
Public Education

CPST/ and LE

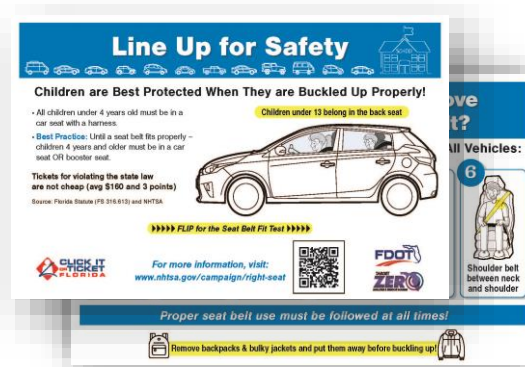
Car Seat Program

10,000+

- English, Spanish, and Creole
- 6,900 Activity books
- 3,750 Bookmarks



7,300



6,200



3,900



3,300

2019-23



OPRC Resource Program



1

Resources for Diverse Safety Partners

Public Education

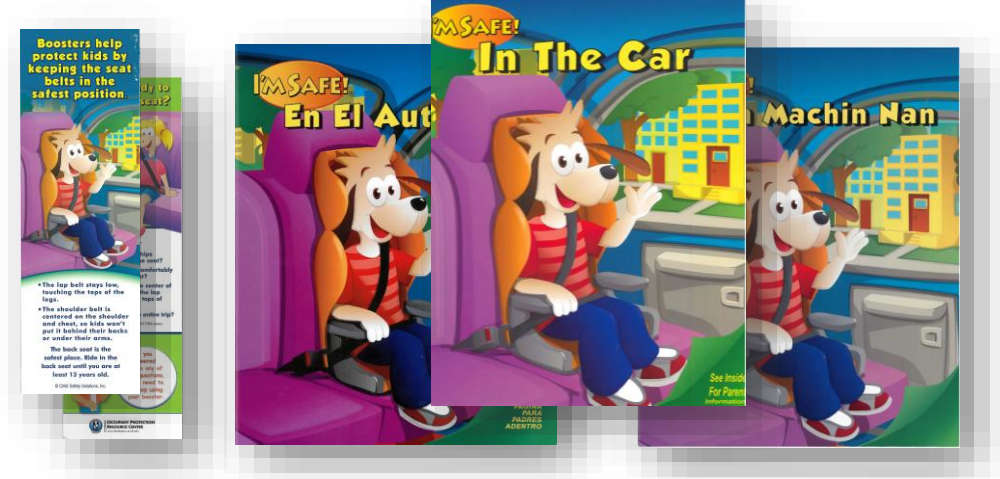
CPST/ and LE

Car Seat Program

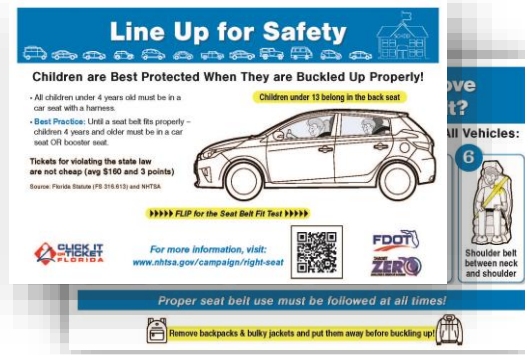
10,000+

- English, Spanish, and Creole
- 6,900 Activity books
- 3,750 Bookmarks

New Activity Book Coming Soon!



7,300



6,200 Hot Item!



3,900



3,300

2019-23



OPRC Resource Program



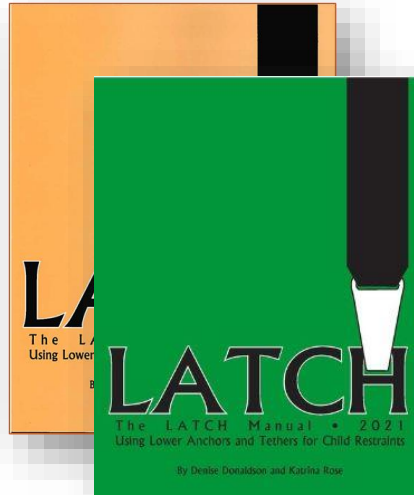
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Resources for Diverse Safety Partners

Public Education

CPST/LE and LE

Car Seat Program



In Need of Car Seat Assistance?
Whether you've just installed a car seat or need help installing or using one, get help at a car seat fitting station near you. Certified technicians will check your car seat free of charge, in most cases, and show you how to correctly install and use it.

Find a Florida Fitting Station
www.floridaoprc.ce.ufl.edu/oprc/Fitting_Stations.asp




1,000+ LATCH MANUALS

670 CPST STUDENT PACKAGES

2019-23



OPRC Resource Program



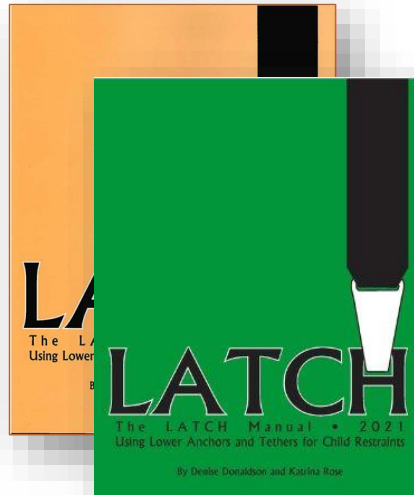
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Find a Florida Fitting Station
www.floridaoprc.ce.ufl.edu/oprc/Fitting_Stations.asp

FLORIDA OCCUPANT PROTECTION RESOURCE CENTER
www.floridaoprc.ce.ufl.edu

FDOT

1,000+ LATCH MANUALS

670 CPST STUDENT PACKAGES

New and Improved CPS Course Package Coming Soon!

2019-23



OPRC Resource Program



1

Resources for
Diverse Safety
Partners

Public
Education

CPST/I and LE

Car Seat
Program

1,356
technicians

88
instructors

2
candidates





OPRC Resource Program



1

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1,356
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88
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candidates

15:1





OPRC Resource Program



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Resources for Diverse Safety Partners

Public
Education

CPST/I and LE

Car Seat
Program



Source: NHTSA.

1,050
CAR SEATS

180
FLHSMV
PROGRAM
DONATED
CAR SEATS

2022-23



OPRC Resource Program



1

Resources for Diverse Safety Partners

Public
Education

CPST/I and LE

Car Seat
Program



Eligible Events

- CPS Week
 - Sept. 15-21, 2024
- CPST Course
- OP Focus Area



OPRC Resource Program



1

Resources for Diverse Safety Partners

Public Education

CPST/I and LE

Car Seat Program



Events Eligible for Car Seats

CPS Week

CPST Course

OP Focus Area

FDOT Car Seat Focus Counties 2023-2024

Bay	Indian River
Broward	Jackson
Citrus	Levy
Columbia	Miami-Dade
Desoto	Okeechobee
Duval	Orange
Gadsden	Palm Beach
Hardee	Pasco
Hendry	Pinellas
Hernando	Putnam
Highlands	Sumter
Hillsborough	Suwannee

Received OPRC car seats



OPRC Education Support Program



2

CPST/I Educational Support

Scholarship Program

Instructor Stipend Program

Enrichment Course

Program Goal

Provide scholarships for Safe Kids fees to maintain a robust network of Florida technicians and instructors.

scholarships
210
awarded

FOCUS AREAS
52%

Safe Kids Scholarships	Amount
Certification	\$95
Certified Tech/IC Recertification	\$55
Certified Instructor Recertification	\$60
Renewal Testing	\$95
Instructor Candidacy	\$85
Technician Proxy	\$25
Remaining Funds	\$14,495

2023-24



OPRC Education Support Program



2

CPST/I Educational Support

Scholarship Program

Instructor Stipend Program

Enrichment Course

Program

Teaching stipends for CPS instructors who teach certification courses.

Eligibility

- Teach off-duty
- Publicly listed on Safe Kids
- No local fee
- Min. 5 students registered/# of instructors 5:1 ratio
- OPRC reporting up-to-date

\$210 for renewal course within 50 miles
\$500 for renewal course greater than 50 miles
\$640 for full course within 50 miles
\$1500 for full course greater than 50 miles

CPST Focus Counties 2023/24

Baker	Hernando	Pasco
Bay	Hillsborough*	Polk
Brevard	Indian River	Putnam
Broward	Levy	Saint Johns
Charlotte	Marion	Seminole
Clay	Monroe	Suwannee
Columbia	Nassau	Volusia
Dade*	Okaloosa	Walton
Dixie	Orange*	
Duval	Osceola	

*** 50+ techs needed based on one tech per 1,500 population children (0-9 years)**



OPRC Education Support



2

CPST/I Educational Support

Scholarship Program

Instructor Stipend Program

Enrichment Course

Description

Safe Travel for All Children (STAC) is for CTST/Is who want to learn more about specialty and adaptive transportation.

Support provided:

- Course announcements
- FDOT approvals
- License fees via Indiana U
- Prepare / print course materials
- Instructor teaching stipends

\$420 for STAC course
\$1,000 for STAC course mentor

Florida STAC Courses

Year	Certified	New Instructors
2019	29	2
2022	17	2
2024	16	0





OPRC Education Support



2022-2023 Instructor Stipends

CPST/I

14

STAC

2

14%

FOCUS AREAS

Instructor Stipend
\$22,500

Funding
Allocated

Florida CPST/Is as of 5/11/2024

CPST - 1,356; CPSTI - 88; IC's - 2; TC's - 44



OPRC Education Support



STAC Technicians

62

Trained

STAC Teaching

5

Stipends

Special Needs
CPS Instructors*

23

Special Needs CPS
Technicians*

21



* As of May 11, 2024, Profile listed as "public" on Safe Kids Worldwide



OPRC Education Support



3

CPS Outreach Support

NDCF Training

CPS Fitting Stations

State & Community

Description

Increase number of Florida technicians using NDCF and inputting car seat check data into the NDCF

National Dashboard



Online Training

- 4 training sessions completed in 2023
- 4 training sessions upcoming in 2024

NDCF Training is a partnership with the National Safety Council



OPRC Education Support

National Digital Check Form



2023

Aug 14

Aug 28

Sept 11

Trainings

CPST/Is

133

Attending NDCF
Training in 2023

Upcoming Training

- **May 20 at 12PM**
- **June 18 at 3PM**
- **July 11 at 11AM**
- **July 29 at 1PM**

2024

NDCF Training is a partnership with the National Safety Council





OPRC Outreach Support



3

CPS Outreach Support

NDCF Training Program

CPS Fitting Stations

State & Community

Description

- Support **CPS Fitting Station Mapping Program** housed at the UF Department of Occupational Therapy.
- Coordinated with FDOT to update CPS fitting station submission form in 2024.

Program Goals

Update quarterly.
 Add new fitting stations from community partners and FDOT.

CPS Fitting Station Updates

- Completed in March 2024. July next update.
- Contacted 145 fitting stations to verify information.
- Updated CPS technician expiration dates and removed expired CPSTs.
- **8** CPS Fitting Stations were removed.
- **3** new CPS Fitting Stations added.
- **Total Florida CPS Fitting Stations = 113.**





OPRC Outreach Support



3

CPS Outreach Support

NDCF Training Program

CPS Fitting Stations

State & Community

Services Provided

- Connect businesses, parents, and caregivers to local occupant protection resources.
- Point of contact to public on CPST trainings, CPS fitting stations, & CPS programs and services.
- State CPS Coordinator with FDOT
- Provide data support.
- Promote CPS resources & attend technical updates.
- Connect agencies who want to certify staff with CPST instructors.





New Initiatives With FDOT Approval



NDCF Support



NDCF Data
Entry

NDCF Data
Dashboard
Outreach



Biannual
Newsletters

OPRC
Technician/Instructor



CPS courses &
car seat
checks

CPST/I Surveys



Best practices
& share with
CPS partners

**OPRC
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