

**B-H-K Child Development Board  
700 Park Avenue  
Houghton, Michigan 49931**

Serving Children & Families  
through:  
Head Start/Preschool,  
Early Start,  
Child Care,  
Even Start,  
AmeriCorps, and  
Other Family Services

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*Director*

To: The Daily Mining Gazette, L'Anse Sentinel, MTU Lode,  
WCCY/WOLV, WCUP, WGGL-FM, WMPL/WZRK, WUPY,  
WBUP-TV5, WLUC-TV6, WMTU, WNMU  
From: B-H-K Child Development Board  
Contact: Charles M. "Buster" Roberts, 482-3663  
Date: Oct. 3, 2002



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**B-H-K begins car-seat safety program**

**Two-year project to provide education, clinics around Copper Country**

HOUGHTON – Area parents are invited to take part in a new Child Passenger Safety program offered by B-H-K Child Development Board.

The primary goals of the two-year, \$60,000 project are to educate parents about the importance of child passenger safety, to show parents how to install and use seats properly, and to provide replacement seats as needed.

Project Coordinator Charles M. "Buster" Roberts said the clinics will provide parents with useful information for keeping their children safe, including the use of booster seats after a child has outgrown a regular car seat.

"Most parents know that Michigan law requires children under the age of 4 to use car seats, but they don't always know that older children who weigh less than 80 pounds should use a booster seat to position safety belts correctly," Roberts said. "This program will overcome this and help ensure children are transported safely."

Funded by the Michigan Department of Community Health and a large gift from the Ford Motor Co., the program will provide car-seat clinics at local schools, childcare centers and other agencies throughout the year (see chart below). Parents must pre-register for clinics by calling the toll-free Parent Helpline at 1-888-610-2323.

**(more)**

## 2-2-2

Parents who attend a clinic will receive instruction about proper car seat installation techniques by Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians from B-H-K and participating agencies. Michigan State Police, sheriff departments and other service agencies are helping to staff and operate the clinics. Families are asked to bring any existing car seats, which will be checked for suitability, crash history and recall status. If a family doesn't have a suitable seat, one will be provided free of charge.

B-H-K Executive Director Rod Liimatainen said the agency is pleased to offer this program, which is similar to the Child Passenger Safety program offered the past two years by Michigan State Police at the Calumet Post.

"Ultimately, we want to make sure that every preschooler, kindergartener and child up to 80 pounds is properly restrained in an appropriate car seat," Liimatainen said. "There's no reason any child should suffer a preventable injury due to improper restraint."

For more information about the program or to register for a clinic, call the Helpline at 1-888-610-2323.

### Upcoming Child Passenger Safety Clinics

<b>When</b>	<b>What time</b>	<b>Where</b>
Monday, Oct. 7	3:30-5:30 p.m.	Chassell Elem.
Wednesday, Oct. 9	3:30-5:30 p.m.	Chassell Elem.
Saturday, Oct. 12	10 a.m.-noon	BHK L'Anse Center
Wednesday, Oct. 16	3:30-5:30 p.m.	BHK Pelkie Center
Monday, Oct. 21	3:30-5:30 p.m.	BHK Aura Center
Saturday, Oct. 26	10 a.m.-noon	BHK Houghton Center
Monday, Nov. 4	3:30-5:30 p.m.	BHK Centennial Center
Wednesday, Nov. 6	3:30-5:30 p.m.	BHK Centennial Center
Saturday Nov. 9	10 a.m.-noon	BHK Houghton Center
Monday, Nov. 11	3:30-5:30 p.m.	BHK Covington Center
Saturday, Nov. 16	3:30-5:30 p.m.	BHK Baraga Center
Wednesday, Nov. 20	3:30-5:30 p.m.	BHK Ryan Center
Saturday, Nov 23	10 a.m.-noon	BHK Ryan Center