

## IS YOUR CARSEAT INSTALLED CORRECTLY?

### **Infant seat and convertible seat: (Rear facing)**

- Faces backwards whenever in use
- Handle down while car is moving
- Retainer clip at armpit level on baby
- Baby is within height & weight requirements
- Harness straps are at or below the shoulders
- Seat cannot be moved more than 1 inch when pulling by belt/ LATCH path
- Cannot pinch any slack on harness straps when child is in the seat
- Seat is at a 45-degree angle

### **Convertible car seat: (Forward facing)**

(Child **should not** face forward until he/she is over 1 year old **and at least** weighs 20+ pounds). The longer a child is rear facing, the better!

- Straps are at or above the shoulders of child (in top slots of many convertible seats)
- Seat cannot be moved more than 1 inch when pulling by belt/ LATCH path
- Child is within weight and height requirements of seat
- Cannot pinch any slack on harness straps when child is buckled in the seat
- Seat is in an upright position

### **Booster Seat:**

- The child is over 4 years and over 40 pounds.
- The child will ride in a booster until the child is 4'9", 80 pounds and 8 years old (Wisconsin Law effective June 2006)
- The purpose is to lift your child into a safe and comfortable position for the adult seat-belt system
- Seat needs to sit snugly against the back of the vehicle seat
- The shoulder belt should pass comfortably across the chest and shoulder
- Lap belt should rest tightly over the top of the child's thighs.

### **For the pregnant passenger:**

- Let someone else drive when possible to avoid being close to the steering wheel
- Buckle the lap belt across the top of your thighs (NOT YOUR BELLY)

All children under the age of 13 are safest in the back seat!

Always refer to your car seat and vehicle owners manual for proper installation.

These are general guidelines. For more information or a free car seat installation, please contact Safe Kids Coalition of Kenosha and Racine Counties at 687-3366.

### **You can also find more information at the following web sites:**

The National Highway Safety Administration

[www.nhtsa.dot.gov](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov)

Safety Belt Safe U.S.A.

[www.carseat.org](http://www.carseat.org)

