



CHILDREN'S VILLAGE NEWS

2011/12 SCHOOL YEAR

At Children's Village . . .

Message from the Executive Director

Rochelle Morrell



Did you know that every 60 seconds 12 children in America are seriously injured from occurrences such as vehicle crashes, fires and burns, drowning, poisoning or choking? Now look at the pictures. What you see is prevention in action. At Children's "safety" Village, children are given the tools they need to help them be safe in their daily lives.

The pictures also tell the story of a community ahead of its time, a community committed to proactively addressing the number one cause of death for children under 14, unintentional injury.

For over 20 years, Children's Village has provided **free** safety education and emergency preparedness for **all** children in the county. Students who attended Children's Village in its infancy are now returning as parents of current students. Without exception, they recall safety lessons learned and how those lessons became part of their lives. They remark at the many changes and improvements they see at today's Children's Village, but agree that the safety education and skills training available to students remain second to none.

The concept and creation of a Children's "safety" Village speak to our community's commitment to child safety. The innovative and successful program at Children's Village is now being gifted to the next generation. And, what a gift it remains, evidence that Washington County refuses to wait for its children to become part of the statistics noted above. For 20 years and counting, Children's Village has helped students learn that fires and injuries are understandable, predictable and nearly always preventable.



Tell me and I will forget
Show me and I **MAY** remember
Involve me and I **WILL** understand

Safety is no accident !

Maintaining Safety

Children's Village and safety education have been synonymous terms for a generation. What helps make this possible? New ideas and programs come and go regularly. But a grassroots effort growing into a nationally acclaimed program, serving children in Washington County for more than 20 years, is something to note. Community commitment and support remain driving factors, while ongoing success stories continue to define the program. Also, Children's Village provides a premier fire and personal child safety curriculum presented by dedicated instructors, who keep students engaged. At Children's Village, classroom presentations and skills training exercises are monitored for effectiveness both by teachers who accompany their classes to Children's Village, and then provide feedback, and by the pre- and post-tests students take. A sampling of these tests indicates that students routinely move from the 70th percentile in pre-tests to the 90th percentile following their education at Children's Village. Children leave campus with interactive homework assignments to complete with adult family members. These safety projects not only reinforce what students learn at Children's Village but also create safer homes throughout the community, while the state-of-the-art safety campus provides a setting unlike an ordinary classroom. Many ingredients, many partners, equal safety for many children.

Welcome Back

Pennsylvania Schools: When corporate grant funding secured by Children's Village to bring Franklin County students to its safety campus for fire prevention classes ended in 2009, administrators and parents from the Waynesboro and Greencastle-Antrim School districts went to work. Students from these districts had attended Children's Village since 2003 when the grant-funded program began. After missing one year, excited students returned in January 2011. Parents and educators from the Franklin County schools worked to find funds so their children could return to Children's Village. Last school year, Children's Village was pleased to welcome back 23 Pennsylvania classes, and looks forward to continuing the program this year. Approximately 500 children received the gift of a Children's Village safety experience, because administrators and parents in Franklin County believe in the importance of the program. To support this initiative, the Franklin County Department of Emergency Services will partner with Children's Village and provide their first responders to teach all Franklin County classes. Another successful partnership promoting child safety. Children's Village is pleased to welcome back Pennsylvania students, and thanks Franklin County Department of Emergency Services for its support. While children in Franklin County will be safer because of classes at Children's Village, funds raised by the program will support the free safety education Children's Village annually provides to all second-grade students in Washington County. A safety win across the board!

NFA Tours: The Dept. of Homeland Security/FEMA and the National Fire Academy recognize the importance of Children's Village to community safety. These partner organizations regularly send students, from across the country, attending Public Safety Educator training at the National Fire Academy to tour Children's Village. Children's Village is honored to be a community ambassador for Washington County.

DOT Foods: Mini-cars at the Village are tuned, polished and ready for more than 2,000 road trips with students this year. An annual gift from the DOT Foods Maintenance Dept. A great addition to the safety team!

◆◆◆Mission◆◆◆

Children's Village provides **FREE** life-safety education to over 2,000 county students from public, private, and home schools each year, over 46,000 since the program began. While there is no charge to students, the **actual** cost for **each** child to attend the two-day program is **\$84**. County funding and volunteer hours offset a portion of the cost, but Children's Village must raise **\$65** for each student. Consider joining our other partners, We need your support as we work to promote child safety throughout our community!

Events

Children's Village hosts three annual events to support its program, a *VIP Server Breakfast* in April, *Kids Alive Fest*, a community open-house in May, and the *Golf Classic* in September. Join us for one or more; have fun while promoting child safety in our community!

We thank the many individuals and organizations in our community for their commitment to our program and these events. Our thanks to all!

Children's Village gratefully recognizes sponsors and event chairs, for sharing their time, talents, and dollars to support our community-service mission. Thank you . . .

VIP Breakfast **SUSQUEHANNA BANK**
Lead Sponsor

Kids Alive Fest **VOLVO POWERTRAIN**

Golf Classic **Provident Agency**
Lunch Sponsor
Allen Swope / Frank Hoover
Event Co-Chairs

Children's Village thanks **ALL** donors. Your generosity supports child safety throughout our community.

Major Sponsors

(2010/11 School Year)

\$500 - \$999

AFSCME Local 3373, Antietam Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary, Castle's Liquors, Columbia Bank, Irving Einbinder Foundation, Heidler Roofing, Maugansville Volunteer Fire Co., Midas Muffler, Provident Agency, Rotary Club of Hagerstown.

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Greencastle-Antrim School District, Hagerstown Kiwanis Club Foundation, Intelsat, Maryland Charities Campaign, Charles McAtee III, OFC. Christopher Nicholson Memorial Law Ride (Blue Knights), Rotary Club of Hagerstown Charitable Foundation, Rotary Club of Hagerstown Sunrise Foundation, Susquehanna Bank, Truck 1-Pioneer Hook & Ladder Co., Volvo Powertrain, Barbara Wagner.

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Citi, Department of Homeland Security/FEMA, DOT Foods, Richard N. Funkhouser Foundation, WABEC Foundation.

\$5,000 - \$9,999

CSX TRANSPORTATION, ALICE VIRGINIA & DAVID W. FLETCHER FOUNDATION, MICHAEL G. CALLAS CHARITABLE TRUST, STATE FARM INSURANCE.

\$10,000 - \$25,000

WASHINGTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT, WASHINGTON COUNTY GAMING COMMISSION.