



e-newsletter

December 2013

News from Charlie's House - the home safety site

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Charlie's House in Action

Charlie's House continues our mission of preventing injuries to children in and around the home. Some of the recent gifts that have been provided to us to continue this mission include:

Royals 50/50 Raffle: Charlie's House was the recipient of the 50/50 raffle at a Kansas City Royals game on September 20, 2013. A generous donation of \$2,634 was received thanks to the giving of fans at the game.

KC CAN!: Again this year, The Kansas City Children's Assistance Network (KC CAN!) chose Charlie's House as the beneficiary of their community event. This Kansas City-based volunteer organization was founded in 1999 by thirteen young, local professionals. What started as an idea among close friends has launched into a philanthropic initiative that supports 15 to 20 local projects every year and provides children in our community education, safety and hope. Thank you KC CAN! for your donation of \$3,135.

Zipco Golf Outing: A friendly golf game provided a grant of \$8,072 in September, 2013. Zipco, is a general contractor specializing in tenant finish work and design build for new construction. A special thank you to Zipco President Terry Zipsie for matching the contributions of the companies to Charlie's House through their golf outing.

DONATE NOW

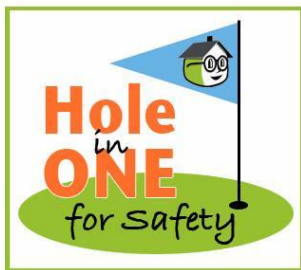
Charlie's House provides safety information, materials, and furniture straps free of charge as a way of helping keep children in our community safe. If you would like to help us achieve our mission of preventing injuries to children in and around the house, please consider a financial donation to Charlie's House.



Charlie's House was named in honor of Charlie Horn, a 2 year old boy, who was killed in 2007 when a small dresser in his bedroom fell on him.

The mission of **Charlie's House** is to prevent injuries to children in and around the home.

SAVE THE DATE



Kansas Rural Community Foundation: Thank you to the Kansas Rural Communities Foundation for their recent grant of \$10,000. The Kansas Rural Communities Foundation exists to help concerned individuals mobilize charitable giving to support the betterment of Kansas communities and organizations.

So many ask, what services can Charlie's House provide with these donations? As we work toward achieving the goal of constructing the home, we will continue with our education and awareness initiatives to keep children safe. Our dedicated education committee distributes checklists and furniture straps throughout the community. Some recent education events in September and October include:

- Kansas City Rotary
- Cerner
- Parents as Teachers
- The inaugural Charlie's House 5K Home Run for Safety
- Kansas Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics Annual Meeting
- Safety fairs, including the Old Navy Safety Fair

During these 8 weeks, we distributed approximately:

- 175 furniture straps
- 8,000 checklists
- 150 home safety slides

In addition to these outreach events, we have established a Physician Alliance that distributed safety checklists through:

- Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics
- Shawnee Mission Medical Center
- North Kansas City Hospital
- Kansas Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatricians
- Cradle Connect
- Various physicians & pediatricians

As we continue our mission of preventing injuries to children in and around the home, we are available to present information to organizations on how to keep children safe in the home. Feel free to contact us at john@charlieshouse.org.

Charlie's House Golf Classic
May 8, 2014
Shoal Creek Golf Club
Kansas City, MO

 Join Our Mailing List

 Forward to a Friend

Charlie's House
6324 N. Chatham Ave, #223
Kansas City, MO 64151
info@charlieshouse.org

Dashing all the Way to Your Holiday Destinations?

Safe Kids Kansas Gives Safety Tips for Holiday Travel

To many children, winter holidays means traveling to see family and friends. Whether your trip is over the river and through the woods, or the distance of a plane trip, plan ahead to ensure safe travels.

"If your holiday travels include a stay at a relative or friend's be sure to talk to your host in advance about basic childproofing," says Cherie Sage, Safe Kids Kansas. Discuss the possibility of installing age-appropriate safety devices such as cabinet locks or outlet covers to prevent injuries to your kids. Be prepared to bring your own safety devices, if you can. This is especially important if you are visiting people whose children have already grown or those without children, as safety devices may be out-of-date or nonexistent. "Remind everyone to keep pill-minders and other medications out of sight and out of reach of children," adds Sage. "Keep purses and baggage off the floor where curious children can get into items that may be toxic or cause injuries."

When traveling by car, always use a car seat or booster seat that is appropriate for your child's age and size. Babies should be kept rear-facing for as long as their car seat allows, approximately age 2. A forward-facing car seat can protect older toddlers and harnesses should be used up to the weight and height limit indicated by the car seat manufacturer. Children who have outgrown a harness seat should use a booster seat until they meet the minimum requirements of Kansas law, or the laws of the state you are visiting. For more information about the Kansas booster seat law, visit www.kansasboosterseat.org. Older children and adults also need to buckle up on every ride.

Visit a child passenger safety technician to ensure your child's seat is safe, appropriate for your child, and being used correctly. To find a car seat inspection station near you, visit www.kansascarseatcheck.org and search your city or county for local programs. "Every time you

get in your car, it is important to make sure everyone is buckled appropriately and secure all loose items so that they don't become projectiles in case of a sudden stop or crash," Sage says.

When traveling by airplane, Safe Kids Kansas and the Federal Aviation Administration strongly recommend using a car seat. Infants and toddlers are safest in an approved car seat with a harness, in case of turbulence. "A child who rides in a car seat on the ground should ride in that car seat on a plane," says Sage. Make sure your child's car seat is labeled 'certified for use in motor vehicles and aircraft.' Children who have outgrown their harness car seats should sit directly on the airplane seat like all other passengers, keeping the lap belt buckled snugly across their thighs. Booster seats cannot be used on airplanes, because they require shoulder belts and airplane seats have only lap belts. Boosters can be checked with other luggage, or at the gate, so you have them handy at your destination.

Planning ahead also involves packing appropriate safety gear for your children. If they will be biking, skateboarding, or participating in any other wheeled sports, make sure to pack their helmet. If you have a baby and the trip involves staying overnight, consider bringing your own folding playpen, rather than relying on borrowed cribs. A survey conducted by Safe Kids Worldwide found many hotel-issued cribs to be defective, damaged or even recalled from the market. And know that the old crib at Grandma's that was used when you were a child may not meet current safety standards or may even be recalled.

If you must use a borrowed crib, inspect it carefully for broken or missing parts and look up the model on www.recalls.gov to make sure it isn't subject to any safety notices," says Sage

For more information about child passenger safety on airplanes, visit the "Flying with Children" page at www.faa.gov/passengers. For information about car seats and child passenger safety in general, visit www.safekids.org. For information about crib safety, visit the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission at 800-638-2772 or www.cpsc.gov.

The Perfect Holiday Gift!



Create a family keepsake with a personalized platter by Kansas City artist Laura Lenhart. **40% of each purchase price will support funding of the demonstration house, community education, and outreach activities for Charlie's House.**

Provide a photograph of the house you would like to have on the platter and Laura will paint and personalize it for you. Oven, microwave and dishwasher safe. \$50.00

To order your Charlie's House Platter email the artist at potterybylaura@yahoo.com or phone [\(816\)914-5906](tel:8169145906). Please indicate your order is on behalf of Charlie's House.



On September 29, 2013, 360 participants and 80 volunteers showed up for the Inaugural Charlie's House 5K Run/Walk and Kids' Fun Run.

Educational information was provided by the Charlie's House Education Committee on a sunny fall day at the CommunityAmerica Ballpark in Kansas City, Kansas.

Special thanks to our World Champion Sponsor
Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics

In addition, sincere thanks to the following organizations who provided sponsorships:

- Automobile Dealers of Kansas City
- Brian Anselmo Memorial Foundation
- Decksapes and DS Construction
- Freddy's Steakburgers and Frozen Custard
- Hawthorn Bank
- Kansas City Urology Care, P.A.
- Lockton
- Mechanical Breakdown Protection, Inc.

Midtown Athletic Club
North Kansas City Hospital
Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery Associates
Polsinelli
Village West Apartments (Northpoint
Development)

A special thanks to our in-kind donors:

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Jewish Community Center
Kansas City Urology Care
Lamar Outdoors
Laramar
Nick and Jakes
Panera Bread
Photos4Good
Kaystar
Rellec
Sonic
Sporting Kansas City
TYR
US Toy

We also want to thank Brad Oswald and Kaystar
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