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Frederick County Health Department

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**Centerville Elementary School Children Joined
Safe Kids Frederick County and FedEx on International Walk to School Day**

More than 800 Students Learned About Safe Walking

FREDERICK, MD -- Safe Kids Frederick County brought together the Frederick County Health Department, Frederick County Public Schools, Urbana Fire Department, the Sheriff's Office, AAA Mid-Atlantic, Aetna Better Health of Maryland, Asian American Center of Frederick, Parks and Recreation, the County Executive's Office and over 800 local school children on Wednesday, October 10th to raise awareness about pedestrian safety and encourage the creation of safe walking environments. More than 250,000 children across the United States participated in International Walk to School Day to learn how to walk safely.

"We had a great event on Wednesday celebrating International Walk to School Day," said Jessica Dayal, B.S.PHS, CPST, Safe Kids Frederick County. "Every day, more than 40 children get hit by a car in the United States. By walking with students on International Walk to School Day, we can show them how to walk safely."

In 2000, Safe Kids Worldwide and program sponsor FedEx created the Walk This Way Program in the United States to teach safe behaviors to motorists and child pedestrians and create safer, more walkable communities. Safe Kids and FedEx address the issue through research, physical improvements to school zones, and education and awareness campaigns throughout the year, such as International Walk to School Day.

Safe Kids coalitions across the country worked with more than 600 elementary schools around International Walk to School Day to hold events for children to teach them how to walk safely and recognize pedestrian dangers.

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Safe Kids Frederick County teamed up with community members and organizations to teach safe walking skills at Centerville Elementary School. The group worked with teachers and parents to share safety tips and demonstrate the importance of visibility and pedestrian awareness.

“International Walk to School Day is a big day at FedEx,” said Rose Flenorl, Manager of FedEx Global Citizenship. “In hundreds of cities around the world FedEx safety experts, drivers and other volunteers work with Safe Kids to reach and teach tens of thousands of children about road safety. As part of our FedEx Cares commitment to invest \$200M in 200 cities around the world by 2020, our team members are passionate about volunteering to help keep kids and communities safe.”

About Safe Kids Frederick County

Safe Kids Frederick County works to prevent unintentional childhood injury, the number one cause of death for children in the United States. Its members include the Frederick County Health Department, Frederick County Public Schools, Maryland Poison Control, Sheriff’s Office, Frederick Police Department, Frederick Memorial Hospital, Red Cross, Statefarm, Verizon, Zero to three, Aetna Better Health of Maryland, Asian American Center of Frederick, Mental Health Association, YMCA, and community members. Safe Kids Frederick County is a member of Safe Kids Worldwide, a global network of organizations dedicated to preventing unintentional injury. Safe Kids Frederick County was founded in 1995 and is led by the Frederick County Health Department. For more information, visit safekids.org or www.frederickcountymd.gov/MCH.

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