



Public Health
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Frederick County Health Department

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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School Children Join Safe Kids Frederick County on International Walk to School Day and Walktober Festivities

FREDERICK, MD -- Safe Kids Frederick County encourages families to join with local school children, parents, Frederick County Public Schools, the state of Maryland, and local leaders on Wednesday, October 6th to raise awareness about pedestrian safety and to encourage the creation of safe walking and biking environments. More than 250,000 children across the United States participate in International Walk to School Day to learn how to walk safely in partnership with FedEx Corp. We will also be joining the Maryland Department of Transportation in their Walktober campaign with a fun activity for families all around Frederick County.

“We will continue our virtual tradition of an activity with students, parents, and school staff on safe walking and biking practices for International Walk to School Day. There will be a Bingo Game ‘Frederick Walking Scholars Contest’ for families to participate in and we have some new activities on our sheet. The school and family with the most bingos will win a prize where Middletown Elementary won last year,” said Jessica Dayal, B.S.PHS, CPST, SBD, the Safe Kids Frederick County coordinator. “Every day, more than 40 children get hit by a car in the United States. On International Walk to School Day, we can show children how to walk and bike safely and find the safest school route.”

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.

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In 2019, 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.

Last year, 27 schools were represented along with home schooling families. We are excited for all of the families and school staff in Frederick County to join us this year! This contest will go on for the whole month of October and we will announce winners soon after. Please remember that your children do not have to attend a public or private school for you to enter into the contest.

For more information on the Frederick Walking Scholars and Walktober, visit <https://health.frederickcountymd.gov/FrederickGetsActiveSafely>. To learn more about Safe Kids Frederick County, visit health.frederickcountymd.gov/safekids.

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