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STATE FIRE MARSHAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: NC Office of State Fire Marshal, State Farm, and Safe Kids NC Host Free Child Seat Clinics in Western NC for Families Impacted by Hurricane Helene

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April 2, 2025

RALEIGH, NC – The North Carolina Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM), in partnership with State Farm and Safe Kids NC, is bringing free child seat clinics to Western North Carolina to assist families affected by Hurricane Helene. Certified Child Passenger Safety (CPS) technicians will be on-site to provide education and install child safety seats properly. Free car seats will also be available to those in need while supplies last.

The first event will be held on April 4, from 12 PM to 4 PM at the Franklin Fire Department in Macon County. The second clinic will take place at the Child Fest event in Mitchell County on April 5.

“As families continue recovering from the impact of Hurricane Helene, ensuring their children travel safely is one of our priorities,” said State Fire Marshal Brian Taylor. “We’re grateful for the support of State Farm and Safe Kids NC in providing these essential safety resources to families in Western North Carolina.”

Safe Kids NC Director Allan Buchanan emphasized the importance of proper car seat installation. “Statistics show that more than half of child safety seats are installed incorrectly. Our goal is to ensure every family we meet leaves with their child riding as safely as possible.”

Kim Conyers, spokesperson for State Farm, highlighted the company’s commitment to safety: “State Farm is proud to support child passenger safety initiatives because we know that the proper use of car seats can save lives. We encourage families to take advantage of this free opportunity to protect their most precious passengers.”

Families in need of a car seat should arrive early, as availability is limited. Parents and caregivers must bring their child and vehicle to ensure the best fit for their car seat installation.

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