



**COLUMBIA COUNTY**  
230 Strand Street  
St. Helens, Oregon 97051  
Phone: (503) 397-1035 Fax: (503) 366-7243

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Tuesday, August 10, 2010**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Jan Kenna, Director, Commission on Children & Families: 503-397-7225

### **Columbia County Safe Kids Welcomes Natalie Otero**

This month, Natalie Otero joined the local Child Car Seat Safety program through a grant from ACTS Oregon. The Columbia County Safe Kids Chapter, which manages the program, enthusiastically welcomed Natalie to this new position.

Natalie is coordinating the monthly car seat clinics which are held in different parts of the county from September through June. A large volunteer crew works with the coordinator and makes the clinics possible. This past year 44 volunteers manned the clinics, including technicians from Cowlitz County, Washington.

At the monthly clinics, technicians check car seats for proper installation and fit for each child. Seats are also available at a reduced cost to low income families. The next clinic is scheduled on September 9, 2010, at the Clatskanie Transit Center.

The local Safe Kids Chapter has been steadfastly guided by a Steering Committee since 2006. With guidance from ACTS and Safe Kids Oregon, the group revitalized the county's child car seat program. With their dedication to the safety of our children and no outside resources, 64 children were served from January to June this year.

The Steering Committee members include representatives from Community Action Team, Commission on Children and Families, Department of Human Services Self Sufficiency, Northwest Regional Educational Service District and Columbia County Transportation Department.

For more information about the car seat clinics and how you can get involved in the building child safety, please contact, Jan Spika Kenna at 503.397.7225.