

Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research & Policy

The Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy conducts research and practice to inform, create and disseminate programs and policies designed to reduce injury from consumer products. Examples of our work follow.

Provide access to affordable safety products for high risk families.

- Research conducted by Center faculty showed that cost and access barriers were preventing Baltimore families from using safety products such as smoke alarms and stair gates. In response, the first hospital-based Children's Safety Center in the country was created to provide free personalized education and low cost safety products.
- Through effective local partnerships, the Center now runs three Safety Centers to serve Baltimore's communities – the original Children's Safety Center, Safety Lane, and the CARES Mobile Safety Center.
- These centers reach an estimated 6,000 visitors annually. They are popular with families, improve visitors' safety knowledge, and help increase use of child safety products. This model has been replicated in many hospitals around the country.



Ensure consumer safety information is understandable.

- Research conducted by the Center showed that health literacy is a barrier among low-income inner city parents; in response, the Center developed an array of safety education materials to address the needs of this population which are now used at the Safety Centers and at community events.
- A groundbreaking study conducted by Center faculty established that parents misunderstood the warning label "Recommended for ages 3 and up," which led to Federal regulators changing toy labeling policies. A case study of this success story is underway.

Facilitate evidence-based decision-making on consumer product-related legislation.

- Center faculty are investigating the implementation of fire sprinkler policies at state and local levels to facilitate dissemination of best practices.
- Produced and distributed "Preventing Injuries in Maryland: A Resource for State Policy Makers" to all members of the MD legislature in 2010 and 2011. Injury topics include ATV safety and home fires.
- Center faculty have assisted members of the Maryland General Assembly on bills concerning ATVs, child safety seats and fire sprinkler systems.

About the Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy

- Founded in 1987, the Center is a leader in redefining injury as a public health problem and promoting injury prevention as a scientific discipline.
- Guided by a commitment to ensuring its high quality research is translated into programs and policies, the Center's work reduces the burden of injury around the globe.
- The diversity of disciplines needed to advance the science of injury control, from prevention to acute care to rehabilitation, are well-represented among the Center's world-renowned faculty.

For more information, please visit our Website: www.jhsph.edu/InjuryCenter or call (410)-955-2221