

# COLUMBIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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## Press Release

**SHERIFF DAVID P. Bartlett**

Contact: Lieutenant Wayne Lopez  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 24, 2015

Sheriff David P. Bartlett reports that the Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians from the Columbia County Sheriff's Office and Columbia County Department of Health held a Child Passenger Safety Seat Inspection at the Club Life Day Community event in Kinderhook on Saturday July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and it was a big success. The Columbia County Sheriff's Office along with the Columbia County Department of Health, and the Valatie Rescue Squad would like to thank the owners and staff of Club Life for all their support as well as the owners and staff of Cantele Tent Rentals for their generous tent donation, which provided shelter for the Child Passenger Safety Seat Inspection.

Technicians assigned to the Child Passenger Safety Seat Program provide new child seats to families who have shown a need, and complete a safety inspection at these events. In addition to a safety seat inspection, parents and caregivers receive free one-to-one installation guidance and safety education from Sheriff's Office and Health Department nationally certified technicians. The program's success is attributed to the grant program itself, as well as the collaboration between the Sheriff's Office and Health Department. A total of 134 safety seats have been inspected and a total of 108 safety seats have been replaced by the grant program. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 3 out of every 4 safety seats are not installed properly. Other seats may be broken or in some way deficient.

Child seats are provided, (while supplies last), to low-income families who have a demonstrated a need for a child safety seat(s) and meet guidelines set by the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. Guidelines that must be met before a child safety seat is provided:

- Applicant must have his or her vehicle present
- Applicant must meet income eligibility requirements;
- Applicant must receive education on child passenger safety;
- Applicant must complete the manufacturer's warranty card;

An applicant must sign an agreement and waiver of liability form. To contact a certified child passenger safety technician call (518) 828-3358 extension 1293 for more information or visit the Columbia County Sheriff's Office website at [www.columbiacountysheriff.us/childseatsafety.html](http://www.columbiacountysheriff.us/childseatsafety.html) To learn more about child passenger safety or to find a technician or an inspection station, go to [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov), click on the child passenger safety icon, and then click on the Fitting/ Inspection Station link or go to [www.seatcheck.org](http://www.seatcheck.org)

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Contributed photo:

Left to right back row: Mike Potter Valatie Rescue Squad certified technician, Kristy Frederick Columbia County Health Department certified technician, Columbia County Sheriff certified technicians Deputy Cindy Madison and Deputy Peter Grzeskow with Zachary Potter being fitted for a new seat, Alex and Arica Rosenstrach Club Life event staff, Mike Breen Valatie Rescue Squad certified technician, and Patricia Abitabile Columbia County Health Department certified technician