



**News Release**  
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## **Parents Cutting Corners on Safety in Tough Economic Times**

*Health department warns parents against cutting corners on safety measures to save money*

(Salt Lake County) – With tough economic times impacting families across the nation, many Salt Lake County residents are looking for ways to cut their food, clothing and health expenses. But the Salt Lake Valley Health Department (SLVHD) is warning parents against cutting corners in some areas, which could lead to dangerous outcomes.

Safe Kids Salt Lake County and SLVHD are reminding parents to not cut corners when purchasing safety items such as car seats, cribs, and toys. Obtaining quality items can be expensive, leading parents to purchase cheaper secondhand items which may not be as effective in preventing injury and protecting their children.

“Parents need to do their research to ensure the quality of any car seat or crib they are buying,” says May Romo, Safe Kids coordination with SLVHD. “Parents should check the U.S. Product Safety Commission\* for recalled items and know the Safe Kids Crib Safety Checklist\*\* before making a purchase. These guidelines are an excellent resource and parents are strongly encouraged to use them.”

Safe Kids provides car seats to residents of Salt Lake County on a sliding fee scale, enabling local parents to purchase an affordable and safe car seat for their child. Interested parents should call (801) 313-6607 for more information.

Safe Kids Salt Lake County will also be giving out 50 free car seats at the annual Zero Fatalities Safe Kids Fair on Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. Car seats will also be available on a sliding fee scale at the fair.

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\* U.S. Product Safety Commission - [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov)

\*\* Safe Kids Crib Safety Checklist - [www.usa.safekids.org](http://www.usa.safekids.org)