



Proclamation



HEATSTROKE AWARENESS DAY

WHEREAS, on average, a child dies while unattended in a hot car every ten days in the United States; and

WHEREAS, since 1998, 850 children in the United States have died in this tragic manner, making heatstroke the leading cause of non-crash, vehicle-related deaths for children; and

WHEREAS, over 70% of children who die from heatstroke in hot cars are two years old and younger; and

WHEREAS, heatstroke deaths are entirely preventable; and

WHEREAS, a change in routine is the most common reason that parents forget that they left a child behind in a car; and

WHEREAS, it only takes a few minutes for a car to heat up and become deadly to a child inside, and young children are particularly at risk because their bodies heat up three to five times faster than an adult's; therefore, it is vitally important that parents and caregivers never leave a child alone in a car, even if it is not a hot day and the windows are left cracked open; and

WHEREAS, an untold number of children left in hot cars are rescued by bystanders who take action; and

WHEREAS, if anyone in Carrboro sees a small child alone in a car, they should call 911 immediately; and

WHEREAS, Safe Kids Orange County, and other Safe Kids coalitions, join with the Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association, firefighters, first responders, medical professionals, children's hospitals, pediatricians, police officers, and other persons dedicated to child heatstroke prevention in spreading awareness about its causes, risks and preventive measures.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 30, 2020 as "**Heatstroke Awareness Day.**" As summer approaches, I call upon the residents of Carrboro to join with me and Safe Kids Orange County in raising awareness about the dangers of heatstroke, and to work diligently to this end so that no more children die while unattended in a hot car.

This the 26th day of May, 2020.



Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor