



# JEFFERSON COUNTY General Health District

— Prevent. Promote. Protect. —

## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **BIKE HELMET SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH**

**STEUBENVILLE, OH** - To help prevent bicycle injuries and save lives, the Jefferson County General Health District is joining the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (Ohio AAP) in a statewide effort to remind children to **“Put a Lid on It!”** during the month of May 2022 – Ohio Bike Helmet Safety Awareness Month. Currently in Ohio, estimates indicate that just 10-20% of children wear bike helmets, yet more than 70 percent of children ages 5 to 14 ride a bicycle regularly.

This month is not just for kids. We know that parents who model wearing their bike helmet increase the likelihood of a child wearing their helmet, so this month is not only to get children to wear their helmets, but also to allow them to see adults in all walks of life wearing their helmets proudly.

In 2017, the number of people injured by not wearing a bike helmet was 51,000. Universal use of bicycle helmets by children ages 4 to 15 could prevent between 135 and 155 deaths, between 39,000 and 45,000 head injuries and between 18,000 and 55,000 scalp and face injuries annually.

The Jefferson County General Health District will have FREE bike helmets and fitting education for small children while supplies last at the June 3<sup>rd</sup> Frist Fridays on Fourth Street. Summer is right around the corner, and this is the perfect time to make sure your child’s helmet fits properly!