JEFFERSON COUNTY
General Health District
— Prevent. Promote. Protect. —

News Release

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PUT A LID ON IT: PROTECT BEFORE YOU PEDAL

STEUBENVILLE, OH – The Jefferson County General Health District (JCGHD) is partnering with the Jaquan Lavender Foundation to promote bicycle safety. The JCGHD will have FREE bicycle helmets and safety education for children while supplies last at the JaQuan Lavender Foundation Fun Day on Saturday, June 22, 2024. The Olympic Fun Day events are from 12 - 4 pm and bike helmet distribution will be from 2:30 - 4 pm.

To help prevent bicycle injuries and save lives, the JCGHD received bike helmets from the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (Ohio AAP) in a statewide effort to remind children to Put a Lid on It! Even though helmet usage can reduce the risk of head injury by 85% and severe brain injury by 88%, estimates in Ohio indicate that just 10-20% of children wear bike helmets. Apart from the automobile, bicycles are tied to more childhood injuries than any other consumer product, such as trampolines, ladders, and swimming pools. Bicycle safety is not just for kids; we know that parents who model wearing their bike helmet increases the likelihood of a child wearing their helmet.

Bicycling is a great means of transportation and recreation. Everyone, in every community, deserves the freedom to ride to their destination safely. U.S. Census reports have shown that people in low-income, marginalized communities and communities of color often rely on walking and biking as their primary means of transportation, making safer bicycling critical to address transportation inequities.

The U.S. Department of Transportation's National Roadway Safety Strategy has outlined the comprehensive approach our nation needs to create a safe system for everyone, including people who bike. A safe system focuses on safer people, safer roads, safer vehicles, safer speeds, and post-crash care.