

KidsAndCars.org earns Kansas award

Posted: Wednesday, December 5, 2012 9:08 pm **Staff Report**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Safe Kids Kansas has presented its Outstanding Coalition Organization of 2012 award to KidsAndCars.org, the leading nonprofit child safety organization working to prevent injuries and deaths of children in and around motor vehicles, according to a recent press release.

The award was presented at 1 p.m. Dec. 4 at the Washburn Institute of Technology in Topeka.

Founded by Janette Fennell in 1996, KidsAndCars.org has worked to prevent tragic child deaths in and around vehicles. KidsAndCars.org has played a leading role in successes including:

- Internal trunk release mechanisms now are required in all vehicles with trunks to prevent heat stroke and other types of entrapment deaths.
- Safer power window switches now are required on all vehicles to help to prevent strangulation deaths and lost fingers.
- A vehicle cannot be taken out of gear unless the driver's foot is on the brake pedal.
- The proposed rear-visibility standard requiring rear-view-camera systems to be installed on all passenger vehicles will be announced by Dec. 31.

Education materials developed include the first-ever BlindZone education kit to prevent backover deaths, and more than 200,000 heat stroke "Look before you lock" education cards that have been distributed to new parents through hospitals nationwide.

http://www.arkcity.net/news/nature/article_44fc760a-3f52-11e2-ad78-0019bb2963f4.html