

Mother works to educate parents about risk of driveway backovers

Casey Jordan's daughter defied odds, survived own accident

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Daughter's backover accident sparks mom's new crusade

KANSAS CITY, Mo. —A Kansas City-area mother whose daughter survived being run over by a vehicle in the family driveway is sharing her story to help other families avoid a similar accident.

Casey Jordan's daughter Skye was a toddler when a vehicle backed over her in the driveway. The girl had just been dropped off, and she was behind it when the truck pulled out.

Her injuries were so extensive that doctors gave her just a 5 percent chance of survival.

Skye defied the odds and made an incredible recovery, a blessing Jordan said she doesn't take for granted. She has been working to educate parents to the dangers of driveway backovers, so they don't go through the same ordeal.

"It's crucial this time of year especially that parents raise awareness to their children about going out in the street. You want to make sure they have a parent's hand or an adult's hand going into the street," Jordan said. "It's also (important) for adults to realize that it could happen in the blink of an eye."

The government has passed a rule requiring all new cars to have a rear-view camera by 2018, but until those cameras are standard equipment, awareness and diligence will have to do.

"Since the accident, I have a lot of things that I will do," Jordan said. "I will walk around my vehicle. And I will check around me to see if there are any children playing."

She said she can't solely rely on mirrors and that kids can move quickly into the path of a vehicle. She said simple awareness can make all the difference.

"You could be just jumping in the car and be thinking about dinner, but when you're getting ready to back out of that parking lot thinking, 'What can I cook my kids for dinner or get for groceries,' there might be a small child behind you," she said.

The Kansas City-based Kids and Cars organization named Jordan an "Exceptional Mother of Inspiration" for her work to educate other people. She is one of several parents from across the country to receive the honor.

With temperatures on the rise for the summer, the organization also wants to remind parents about the dangers of leaving children in hot cars. Last year in the United States, 32 children died after being left in a hot vehicle.

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