Making A Difference - Mom turns personal tragedy into quest to keep other children safe

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SUMMERVILLE, SC -<u>KidsAndCars.org</u>, a national nonprofit child safety organization, publicly recognized Dee Bien of Summerville, SC as one of an extraordinary group of volunteers: mothers whose lives were changed forever due to the tragic loss of their

child, and who now honor their child's memory by working tirelessly to ensure another family does not have to suffer a similar loss.

Dee Bien's daughter Aslyn had just celebrated her 1st birthday when she died in 2004 after being left alone in a hot vehicle by her babysitter. Aslyn's mother has become a courageous, persistent and effective advocate for KidsAndCars.org. She works tirelessly to raise awareness about the largely misunderstood tragedy of vehicular heatstroke that took her daughter's life.

<u>KidsAndCars.org</u> has named Bien as an "Exceptional Mother of Inspiration" in recognition of her unwavering commitment to educating parents and other caregivers and raising awareness about how to keep children safe in and around vehicles.

"Each recipient of the 'Exceptional Mother of Inspiration' award is a tremendous example of selflessness, compassion and unbelievable courage," said Janette Fennell, president and founder of KidsAndCars.org, "After a crippling trauma, she has volunteered her time and energy to help other families prevent or deal with the devastation of similar tragedies. Although nothing will bring back her child or heal her wounds, she continues her volunteer efforts to keep America's children safe."

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