



Bristol's Promise Buckle Up for Life Program Coordinator recognized with National Award

Samuel Jones Named National Buckle Up for Life Coordinator of the Year

Bristol, TN, September 18, 2017 – Samuel Jones has been named the 2017-2018 Buckle Up for Life Coordinator of the Year, in recognition of his volunteer work with Child Passenger Safety.

Buckle Up for Life, the national car seat education program from [Toyota](#) and [Cincinnati Children's Hospital](#), named Samuel Jones Coordinator of the Year. Samuel provides families and caregivers in the Bristol, VA-TN area education about all aspects of car and booster seats, seat belts and distracted driving. He is a Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician, providing car seat checks to ensure proper installation and functioning. Samuel volunteers his time for this role.

"I was really surprised to receive this award. I was highly honored to be recognized for the work I do to ensure that the children of Bristol ride safely," said Samuel Jones.

"Sam is a volunteer for Bristol's Promise, the fiscal agent for the local BUFL work. Bristol's Promise is dedicated to mobilizing the Bristol TN/VA community, to meet needs of children and youth in the Bristol TN/VA area. Samuel has worked in the region, an area of the country that has been significantly impacted by the decline of the coal mining industry," said Gloria Del Castillo, Senior Specialist of Community Engagement for *Buckle Up for Life*. "Sam is a great advocate for child passenger safety, whose volunteer work has impacted the lives of many among the neediest families in the Bristol area by providing Child Passenger Safety Education to over 450 families and distributing 322 child car seats. With this award, we thank Sam for his service. We couldn't think of anyone more deserving of the 2017-2018 BUFL Coordinator of the Year award than he is."

Samuel will be recognized at the July 26th meeting of Bristol's Promise: Youth Networking Alliance.

Buckle Up for Life was created by Toyota and Cincinnati Children's in 2004. In one city alone, the program nearly tripled the proper use of car seats among participating families. Community organizations that have offered the program report a marked improvement in participants' auto safety behaviors.

About Bristol’s Promise

Bristol’s Promise is a Bristol TN/VA coalition of organizations, businesses, faiths, schools and government working together for children and youth. Bristol’s Promise works together to bring the “5 Promises” to children and youth in our Bristol community: Caring Adults, Safe Places, Healthy Start, Effective Education and Opportunities to Serve. In addition Bristol’s Promise works to assess needs of children and youth, plan programming with evidence-based programs and best practices, network and share information and community resources and evaluate how our community is doing in service to our children and youth. Bristol’s Promise partners and serves as the fiscal agent for Buckle Up for Life, Reading Buddies TN/VA and the Sullivan County Anti-Drug Coalition.

About Buckle Up for Life

Buckle Up for Life is a national injury prevention program for families, created by Toyota and Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center in 2004, to help keep child passengers safe. The program partners with leading children’s hospitals, community organizations, local governments, schools and non-profit organizations to teach parents and children about the proper use of car seats and seat belts and to provide free car seats to families in need. *Buckle Up for Life* has reached more than 45,000 people nationwide and has partnerships in 17 cities including New York, Dallas, Memphis, Phoenix, Chicago, Cincinnati, Houston, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Orange County, and San Antonio – and expands to new partners each year. In one city alone, the program nearly tripled the use of proper car seats in participating families. Toyota has provided funding for over 40,000 car seats for families in need. For more information about Buckle Up for Life, please visit www.buckleupforlife.org.

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