**N E W S R E L E A S E**

*For more information, contact:*INSERT YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION HERE

**Thousands of Children Injured Every Year on Amusement Rides**

*Following the posted guidelines for safe riding can prevent many injuries*

(CITY, STATE) For many families, the summertime includes trips to amusement parks, state fairs, carnivals, and church festivals where children can enjoy a fun day of activities including riding amusement rides. But for many, a fun day at one of these locations can quickly come to an end when a child gets injured while riding an amusement ride. This week, INSERT ORG is joining other advocates across the country to warn parents of the potential dangers of amusement rides and how parents can make the right choice about which rides they let their child ride.

Amusement rides might seem like a harmless and fun activity—after all, they usually have seatbelts and lap bars to help keep everyone safe. However, thousands of children are injured each year while riding amusement rides. These injuries happen when children fall in, on, off, or against the ride, but children also get injured while riding by being hit by something or hitting part of their body on the ride.

To help prevent these injuries, the best thing you can do is follow all of the posted guidelines for use. The rules are there for a reason and have been put in place to help people safely enjoy the ride. Also be aware that fixed-site rides, such as rides at amusement parks, are regulated by each state; therefore, safety regulations and inspection frequency can be very different depending on which state you are in. Fortunately, there are steps parents can take to help ensure that their next day riding amusement rides ends in laughter and fun instead of tears.

“INSERT OWN QUOTE HERE,” said INSERT NAME, TITLE OF PERSON BEING QUOTED HERE, a member of Prevent Child Injury. “INSERT ADDITIONAL QUOTE HERE.”

Before you let your child on an amusement ride, follow these simple safety tips to decide if the ride is the right one for your child:

* **Do a quick check:**Before your child gets on a ride, take a quick look around. If anything doesn’t seem safe, choose a different activity.
* **Read the sign:** Only let your child get on the ride if they meet ALL of the listed requirements such as height, age, weight, and health restrictions.
* **Obey the rules:** Follow any special seating order and/or loading instructions and always use seat belts and safety bars.
* **Know your child:**If you think your child won’t be able to follow the safety guidelines or will be too afraid, keep them off of the ride.

More prevention tips are available at <https://www.preventchildinjury.org/toolkits/amusement-ride-safety>

Prevent Child Injury is a national group of organizations and individuals, including researchers, health professionals, educators, and child advocates, working together to prevent injuries to children and adolescents in the U.S. Prevent Child Injury promotes coordinated communication to the public about prevention of child injury, which is the leading cause of death of our nation’s youth. To become a member of Prevent Child Injury or for more information and resources on this and other child injury topics, please visit [www.preventchildinjury.org](http://www.preventchildinjury.org).

 [PARAGRAPH ABOUT YOUR ORGANIZATION HERE]

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**Ideas for quotes:** local stories or data, parents at amusement parks, family story of child injured while riding an amusement ride, dangers of amusement rides, etc.