



NATIONAL  
**CHILD PASSENGER  
SAFETY BOARD**

A program managed by the National Safety Council

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rear facing • forward facing • booster seat • seat belts

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**Jennifer Booge Receives Child Passenger Safety Instructor of the Year Award**

*Minnesotan Devotes Her Life to Child Passenger Safety*

Twenty years ago, Jennifer Booge was introduced to child passenger safety by a friend. Then a stay-at-home mom, she also was introduced to her second calling.

Today, Booge is recognized as a leader in the child passenger safety community and as the Child Passenger Safety Instructor of the Year by the [National Child Passenger Safety Board](#). The award is sponsored by [Toyota Motor North America](#).

“To Jennifer, we say any job well done and that has been carried out by someone who is fully dedicated is not only a job worth noting but also worth celebrating,” National Child Passenger Safety Board Chair Tammy Franks said. “In cases like this, a lot of seemingly ‘small things’ can add up to giant contributions, to greatness personified. That is Jennifer, a great safety ambassador and a source of inspiration.”

Booge, a resident of Park Rapids, MN, started her journey by undergoing training to become a nationally certified Child Passenger Safety Technician. Within a year, she was certified as the only CPS Instructor in the northern half of Minnesota.

She created a model Head Start Child Passenger Safety program and quickly discovered providers were not receiving formal training on proper car seat use. So, she began offering parent trainings and raised money to provide free car seats to families. She also realized there was a lack of school bus transportation training in her region. Booge offered train-the-trainer opportunities so CPS Technicians could reach out to school districts.

She was asked to serve on the Minnesota Child Passenger Safety Advisory Board and took an active role in curriculum development and technician updates across the state. Later, she served on the National Child Passenger Safety Board and climbed to the rank of Board Chair in 2015.

Additionally, Booge has served on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration school bus curriculum revision committee. She currently sits on a number of child restraint safety advocacy councils and participates on the Lifesavers Occupant Protection for Children planning committee. She has served as a volunteer in all of these roles.

Booge will be the first to tell you, though, that it is the partnerships she has built with Tribal communities that bring her the most satisfaction. Over the years, she has volunteered to assist in building child passenger safety programs on Indian Reservations in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Nebraska.

“In every setting, Jennifer finds a way to make that personal connection, and the passion she has for her work shines through,” Franks said. “It has been said that a good instructor can inspire hope, ignite the imagination and instill a love of learning. Jennifer does that. She is a great instructor and an even greater human being.”

### **About the National Child Passenger Safety Board**

The National Child Passenger Safety Board, a program managed by the National Safety Council, seeks to maintain the quality and integrity of the National Child Passenger Safety Technician Certification Training. The program is used to train and certify child passenger safety technicians and instructors. For more information about child passenger safety or the National CPS board, please visit the Board’s website at [www.cpsboard.org](http://www.cpsboard.org)