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## **Safe Kids Johnson County Celebrates International Walk to School Day**

(OLATHE, KS – OCTOBER 3, 2016) Safe Kids Johnson County will join local school children, parents, caregivers and FedEx volunteers on Wednesday, Oct. 5 to raise awareness about pedestrian safety on International Walk to School Day. More than 250,000 children across the United States will participate in the annual event to learn about walking safely and to encourage the creation of safe walking environments.

This year, Manchester Park Elementary School (9810 Prairie Creek Road, Lenexa, KS 66220), is celebrating the event with a pedestrian safety presentation by FedEx, who will also bring a truck for the students to tour. The event starts at 8:30am at the school.

“On Walk to School Day, parents and caregivers both teach and model safe pedestrian behavior,” said Katie Schatte, Safe Kids Johnson County coordinator.

According to the National Center for Health Statistics, road traffic injuries are the leading cause of death among children ages 3 to 14. More than 61 children are injured every day severely enough to seek medical attention and more than 500 children are killed every year.

In 1999, Safe Kids Worldwide and program sponsor FedEx created the Safe Kids Walk This Way Program in the United States to teach safe behaviors to motorists and child pedestrians and create safer, more walkable communities.

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### **About Safe Kids Johnson County**

Safe Kids Johnson County works to prevent unintentional childhood injury, the number one cause of death for children in the United States. Safe Kids Johnson County is a member of Safe Kids Worldwide, a global network of organizations dedicated to preventing unintentional injury. For more information, call 913-477-8312.

### **About Johnson County, Kansas**

Located in the southwestern quadrant of the Kansas City Metropolitan Region, Johnson County, Kansas is a community of choice with a current population of more than 570,000, making it the most populated of the 105 counties in Kansas, but traditionally having the lowest mill levy in the state. For more information visit the county’s website at [www.jocogov.org](http://www.jocogov.org).