September 19, 2009

Safe Kids
Lincoln-Lancaster County

Lincoln's First Annual Smoke Alarm Rally

Close to 150 Volunteers representing Safe Kids Lincoln Lancaster County lead by Fire Captain Jeff Hatcher from Lincoln Fire and Rescue installed 390 dual detection 10 year battery operated Smoke alarms in an area on the south side of the Capitol this morning at Lincoln's first Smoke Alarm Rally. In less than 3 hours over 1,000 front doors to homes and apartments were knocked on in this effort in an area bounded by 10th to 14th, F street to Washington.

Fire Captain Jeff Hatcher goes over the plan with Lincoln Fire & Rescue volunteers.

Dr. Bruce Dart, Health Director, expresses his gratitude and the importance of these efforts by Lincoln Fire & Rescue, Safe Kids, Red Cross and the Mayor's Office.

This area of town has been identified by data from Lincoln Fire and Rescue and the Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department as having an increased level of fire and fire injury activity. "People living in this area of town are at a greater risk and deserve a higher level of protection," said Hatcher. "This program is designed to do just that and after today 1/3 of the living units in this area now have that added protection."

Southeast Community College Fire Protection student, Tommy Gerrish, tests a newly installed smoke alarm.

Most of the homes in this part of the city are apartments. Residents were given pamphlets, offered in multiple languages, on apartment fire safety and home fire escape planning. Translators for multiple languages were also on site to offer assistance with language barriers. "This was a successful event" said Brian Baker from Safe Kids LLC. "Our volunteers were tireless, they just kept coming back, asking for more alarms to install...We plan on making this an annual event," said Baker.

Look at all these volunteers! Thanks everyone!

Team of volunteers out in the neighborhood on their way to install alarms.

Lincoln Fire Rescue · Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department · Safe Kids Lincoln-Lancaster County · American Red Cross · Stronger Safer Neighborhoods Initiative

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Safe Kids Nebraska

We couldn't have done it without you!
See you next year!

Mayor Beutler encouraging Lincolnites to come together to help out the South Capitol community.

"I appreciate all the volunteers and sponsors who have come together to protect children, their families and their homes from fire. This kind of community partnership is exactly what our Stronger Safer Neighborhoods Initiative is all about. Efforts like this do make a difference in keeping Lincoln a safe place to live, work and raise a family."
-Mayor Chris Beutler

Lincoln Resident Maggie Marsh and her daugher Taylor survived an early morning fire in 2000 due to a working smoke alarm.

"My daughter and I would not be here today, if it weren't for a smoke alarm alerting us that our house was on fire."
-Maggie Marsh

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