The Illinois Child Passenger Safety Conference was held November 13-15 in Springfield, IL. With over 400 attendants, Bryanna Lawler, one of the National Center’s occupational therapists, was a presenter. She covered the new recommendations from NHTSA’s Working Group on best practice recommendations for transporting children in ground ambulances. Additionally, she presented on a research study conducted at Riley Hospital on the issues surrounding the safe transportation of children with autism, including possible interventions.

Did You Recently Pass a “Safe Travel for All Children: Transporting Children with Special Health Care Needs” course?

The National Center for Safe Transportation of Children with Special Healthcare Needs at Riley Hospital for Children receives all paperwork from the course instructor within 30 days of the completion of the course. Once the paperwork is received by the National Center, Safe Kids is provided with the rosters and tech profiles are updated within 2 business days. When your profile is updated, you will see “Extra Training: Special Needs” in your CPS Online Profile.

Did you pass a course and it’s not in your profile? Contact the National Center directly: Laura W. Novak lwillia2@iuhealth.org, 317-274-6709.
"Safe Travel" in Tennessee

"Safe Travel for All Children" class was held in Knoxville, Tennessee on October 17 & 18, 2012. Over 20 participants from Tennessee were trained on the best practice recommendations for transporting children with special health care needs. Bryanna Lawler traveled to Tennessee to assist with the class and mentor a new instructor candidate.

AOTA Transportation Chat

Dr. Marilyn J. Bull and Bryanna Lawler participated in an AOTA (American Occupational Therapy Association) pediatric virtual chat entitled “Youth transportation: pedestrians, passengers, and drivers.” on November 8, 2012. Being represented in the virtual chat was an important step in strengthening the National Center’s relationship with the occupational therapy community.

Occupational therapists can play an influential role in evaluating safe transportation options for children with disabilities riding in passenger vehicles and buses. Their participation in discussions about best practice transportation solutions will enhance occupant protection efforts on behalf of children with special health care needs.

For more information on AOTA, visit www.aota.org.