



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

From: Galion Community Hospital
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Galion Community Hospital Offers Safe Sitter Classes

Education coordinator, Noelle DeVault, RN, BSN, has announced the encore of a one-day training program for area teens. The Safe Sitter® program is a nationally recognized babysitting certification program and will be available at GCH on Saturday, October 21, 2006. The cost is \$25.00 and includes snacks and lunch. Safe Sitters will receive a backpack full of information and reference material.

Safe Sitter® (www.safesitter.org) is a medically accurate program that teaches 11 to 13 year olds how to be safe, nurturing babysitters. Dr. Patricia Keener, a pediatrician, developed the Safe Sitter® program in 1980 after a colleague's child choked to death while in the care of an adult sitter. The goal of the Safe Sitter® program is to reduce the number of avoidable and unintentional deaths among children cared for by babysitters.

Over 350,000 young adolescents across the country have been trained by Safe Sitter® to handle life-threatening emergencies. Students get hands-on practice in basic lifesaving techniques so they are prepared to act in a crisis. They learn safety and security precautions, such as what to do if a stranger comes to the door. They learn basic child development as well as the business aspects of babysitting.

Ms. DeVault heads the Education Department and instructs staff and community members on a variety of health and safety topics. Ms. DeVault shared a bit about the program “To successfully complete the Safe Sitter® program, students must pass a practical test on choking rescue and a written test to show that they have mastered the key concepts and have the skills necessary to handle an emergency.” She went on to say, “Our June class filled up very quickly, and we had a waiting list. We’re very happy to have the opportunity to repeat the class.”

The class will be taught from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. and includes certification. For more information and to sign up for the one day training class, call the Education Office of Galion Community Hospital at 419-468-0717 by October 17, 2006. Space is limited.