

Cook Children's Urges Parents to #LifeguardYourChild with Powerful Video

Fort Worth, TX – Three families devastated by drowning are the subject of a new video released by Cook Children's Medical Center in Fort Worth. The video, published on the hospital's social media pages this week, is part of the 'Lifeguard Your Child' campaign which urges parents, grandparents and caretakers to protect children and teens around water.

Already in 2018, 41 children have been admitted to Cook Children's for drowning-related injuries. Seven of those children have died. The courageous families featured in the video are from different walks of life, but they all share the pain of losing a child to drowning.

About the families:

- Dana Gage lost her 15-year-old son Connor on Labor Day weekend of 2012. He was diving off of a dock at Possum Kingdom Lake and never came back up.
- Jane and Mike Garner's son Jaylen was four days away from turning 2 years old. During his birthday party, Jaylen slipped out of sight and into a hot tub and drowned.
- Aaron Terasas had never publicly shared the story of how his son, Wyatt, died until the filming of this video. During a trip to Possum Kingdom Lake on July 4th weekend in 2012, Wyatt slipped into the water without a lifejacket. His body was recovered by a dive team.

Drowning is the leading cause of accidental death for children ages one to four, and the second leading cause for kids one to 14 in Texas.

You can see the video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QPWTqG_ZNM

You can also download the video, and three shorter versions from Cook Children's Dropbox account: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/9fldjbm8xe97wzr/Full%20round%20table.mp4?dl=0>

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About Cook Children's

Cook Children's Health Care System embraces an inspiring Promise – to improve the health of every child in our region through the prevention and treatment of illness, disease and injury. Based in Fort Worth, Texas, we're proud of our long and rich tradition of serving our community.

Our not-for-profit organization encompasses nine companies – a medical center, two surgery centers, a physician network, home health services and a health plan. It also includes Child Study

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Center at Cook Children's, Cook Children's Health Services Inc., and Cook Children's Health Foundation. With more than 60 primary, specialty and urgent care locations throughout Texas, families can access our top-ranked specialty programs and network of services to meet their unique needs.

We've worked to improve the health of children from across our primary service area of Denton, Hood, Johnson, Parker, Tarrant and Wise counties for more than 100 years. Based on the exceptional care we provide, patients travel to Cook Children's from around the country and the globe to receive life-saving pediatric care built on leading technology, extraordinary collaboration and the art of caring.

For more information, visit cookchildrens.org.

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