

# Getting Children to School Safely



## Parents are the Key



We're always with you.®

### **Congestion and other School Zone Traffic Hazards**

Because of the large number of parents and children arriving at school at the same time, School Zones often present a serious safety hazard for children. As congestion increases, it becomes more difficult for parents and children to see one another. Caring parents often unknowingly create traffic hazards while rushing to drop off or pick up children.

By making simple changes in your daily routine, you can reduce their danger. Use the following School Zone safety tips to reduce traffic hazards:

- Don't use cell phones or drive distracted around School Zones.
- Don't park across the street and have your child cross. If there is no alternative to parking across the street from the school, accompany your child, using a crosswalk, as he or she crosses the street.
- Learn about and use the existing drop-off/pick-up system organized by the school.
- Discuss drop-off/pick-up rules with your children.
- If a drop-off/pick-up system does not exist or is poorly set up, work with school officials to create or improve the system.
- Reduce school zone congestion by carpooling with neighbors or friends.
- Teach and encourage children to cross at the corner and use designated crosswalks.
- Follow instructions provided by school crossing guards.
- And of course, always remember to use seat belts and appropriate child safety seats or booster seats when transporting children. The safest place in cars for children under 13 is the rear seat.