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# Thermometer Helps Remind Drivers of Kids on Board

**A Broward welfare agency is using a new device to prevent children from being left in hot cars**

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Last week's [death of 2-year-old Haile Brockington](#), left for hours in her daycare center's van, is the most recent example of how heat can kill.

“It's really a growing concern and we want to be proactive, we want to make sure this doesn't happen,” said [Silvia Smith-Torres](#), Vice President of Client Services at ChildNet, the agency that manages [Broward County](#)'s child welfare system.

This week, ChildNet started putting “Life-Meters” on all its cars used to transport abused and neglected children. Cesar Byrd does a lot of driving for the agency and thinks it's a great idea.

“It just lets you know how hot the temperature is at all times. It's very accurate.”

There's a sticker on the rear window that is simply a visual reminder that reads "please don't forget me inside the car." On the upper corner of the driver's window is a medical grade thermometer.

When Cesar tested it today at around 11 a.m., the vehicle was reading 130 with the door ajar.

From 1998 to 2008, 414 children in the [U.S.](#) died in cars from hyperthermia. Florida has the second highest number in the country with 40 deaths.

Life-Meters only cost the agency \$1.90 each.

"We're giving them to all our foster parents, we're giving them to relatives and non-relatives -- anybody who cares for one of our children," said Smith-Torres.

With these temperature decals on all its cars, ChildNet of Broward is hoping other child care agencies in the state do the same. To find out more about Life-Meters go to [www.lifelink1.com](http://www.lifelink1.com).

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