The Infant Safe Sleep Dispatch

Cribs for Kids Quarterly NPSI E-Newsletter – Summer '25

Cribs for Kids Launches New Professional Training Series

Modules Designed for Those Working with Infant Caregivers & Families

In our July Safe Sleep Champions Quarterly Webinar, Cribs for Kids launched its new **Professional Training Series**. This is an on demand, online collection of educational modules designing for professionals who have a distinct opportunity to engage with families of infants, support safe sleep practices, and ultimately help prevent infant deaths due to suffocation and SIDS. With the Safe Sleep Ambassador as a prerequisite, the professional training modules will build upon that knowledge while focusing on the specific areas of safe sleep education and and prevention strategies that can be impacted by the specific profession featured in a particular module. The professional training series has debuted with, ***"Your Visit Can Safe a Life: Safe Sleep and Child Welfare Professionals"***, targeting those professionals working with the families at highest risk of losing a baby to unsafe sleep. Developed, implemented, and tested across Pennsylvania through a collaborative grant project over the past two years, this first module will be the foundation of future module development. You can visit the Professional Series Landing page to learn when the next modules will be launched. On deck for September is the training for Home Visitors and for October is Child Care Professionals. The module for first responders will debut in the first quarter of 2026, but you can review the child welfare module to understand babies at the highest risk of death, and also access a great FAQ and Assessment Tool.

Professional Training Series: https://cribsforkids.org/professional-training-series/
Safe Sleep Champions Webinar on Professional Training Series: https://youtu.be/__tJ9GcBjj8

Storytime: October Safe Sleep Month to Prevent Suffocation & SIDS

Register for the Tuesday, September 30th, Noon ET Webinar to Learn More

On September 30th, Cribs for Kids kicks off October's Infant Safe Sleep Awareness Month with the **Fall Safe Sleep Champions Webinar**. Social Media Manager, Kelly James, shares the development and launch of our new Safe Sleep Storytime campaign. This month-long initiative aims to raise awareness and prevent sleep-related injuries and deaths by sharing stories of those impacted by unsafe sleep. We know your stories are powerful tools for education, providing a real-world connection to the important of safe sleep for every sleep for every baby to prevent suffocation and SIDS. Across the hour, you'll hear the stories of a couple of families who lost their baby, and learn how you can share your own safe sleep story across October. Whether a parent, childcare provider, first responder, medical examiner, healthcare professional, or child welfare worker–your story may save a baby.

Register for the Tuesday, September 30th, Noon ET Webinar: https://cribsforkids.org/webinar/
Learn More about Safe Sleep Storytime Campaign: Safe Sleep Storytime – Cribs for Kids

Building Blocks Mini Grant Awards Announced

Notable Public Safety Opportunities

In partnership with Baby Safety Foundation (formerly JPMA Cares) and Safe Kids Worldwide, Cribs for Kids provided a grant opportunity for non-profit agencies working to prevent sleep-related infant deaths to receive Safe Sleep Survival Kits and safe sleep education to expand safe sleep efforts in their community. We received 230 applications for the 40 available grant packages that include the Cribette play yard, Snoozzzsette wearable blanket, and other essential safe sleep products, along with educational materials to spread awareness and prevent suffocation-related incidents. We are grateful for the our collaboration with Baby Safety Alliance, Baby Safety Foundation, and Safe Kids Worldwide along with our many partners who are able to benefit from the first Building Blocks program. Click below for more information including a list of awardees. Many of the submitted projects include cooperation with first responders, we were also pleased to award several public safety agencies including Arvada Fire in Colorado, Emergency Health Services Federation in Pennsylvania, and Harrisonburg Fire Department in Virginia. With the help of these and the other recipients, we continue to move closer to our goal of preventing sleep-related deaths and ensuring all babies have a safe place to sleep. We look forward to sharing their good works related to the Building Block grant.

More on the Program and the Awardees: Cribs for Kids, Baby Safety Foundation, & Safe Kids Worldwide Announce the Safe Sleep Building Blocks Grant Recipients

Safe Kids Worldwide – Collaboration Opportunity?

Cribs for Kids is honored to partner with Safe Kids Worldwide on shared mission to reduce infant mortality related to unsafe sleep. While an international organization across 30 countries and in the US where they have dozens and dozens of local coalitions in each of the 50 states and D.C. Do you have a Safe Kids Worldwide Coalition in your area? They will prove a great partner not just for safe sleep, but for all the work your team does to keep kids safe like car seat safety and injury prevention.

Is there a Safe Kids Worldwide Coalition in your area?
https://www.safekids.org/our-network

Around the Country: Public Safety & Infant Safe Sleep

Butler County EMS Partners with Countywide Baby Jubilee

Click to learn how Stuart Funk, Butler County EMS Public Outreach & Education Director, worked with their county's health department to provide safe sleep education a celebratory event. Have you reached out to your health departments, hospitals, or libraries to spread the infant safe sleep message to prevent sleep related deaths?

County-wide annual Baby Jubilee set for Thursday - Butler County Times-Gazette
The Event: https://www.bucoks.com/953/Baby-Jubilee

Anchorage Police Department Warns of Infant Death Spikes



Click to hear how Sgt. Jade Baker with the Anchorage Police Department shared with her city's local media about the increase in sleep-related infants deaths across their community. Have you spoken with local papers, tv, or radio stations about infant deaths happening in your service area?

'It terrible for everybody': Anchorage sees spike in infant deaths

Cribs for Kids Program Advisory Board

Meet Advisory Board Member: Lisa Mayhew



As reported in an earlier issue, in 2024, Cribs for Kids announced the formation of our Program Advisory Board. Comprised of a dozen safe sleep experts working in their specialty areas as first responder, medical examiner, doula, nursing, community health, childcare, education, and more. Cribs for Kids sought their expertise as we readied our "Safe or Not Safe" photo module last year. We will rely on their expertise as we develop our professional training modules. Earlier we introduced you to Brian Maloney, MS, Director of Operations for Plum EMS located in Southwestern Pennsylvania, serving us in his capacity as a first responder. In this issue, we are introducing you to Program Advisory Board Member, **Lisa Mayhew, MS**. A published author, Lisa served her home state of North Carolina for 24 years as a Child Death Investigator in its Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. She was a incredibly instrumental member of its Child Fatality Prevention System. She is passionate about preventing infant sleep-related deaths. Upon retirement, Lisa founded **The Teagan Group**, a training company devoted to supporting those investigating and working to prevent such deaths.

Learn More about Lisa: https://www.linkedin.com/in/lisa-mayhew-bb916437/
Her Most Recent Publication: https://cap-press.com/books/isbn/9781531017422/Child-Death-Investigations-Third-Edition

Fun Foto Feature – Summer Intern Taniya Griffin



We were lucky to once again host a summer intern through the **University of Pittsburgh Public Health Undergraduate Scholars Program**. You may recall it was last summer's intern that helped us launch our Safe or Not Safe Module. This summer, we welcomed **Taniya Griffin** (left), a rising senior at Xavier University of Louisiana. Taniya worked closely with our Program and Outreach Manager, **Spencer Poston, MSc**, (right) to revisit how we provide education and collect data when a Cribette is donated to a family. Her project, **From Form to Function: Redesigning a Data Tracking Tool to Strengthen Safe Infant Sleep Education,** involved redesigning the yellow cards we ask parents or caregivers to fill out when they receive a Cribette. We have been using this same yellow card for years, knowing we needed to expand its purpose and refine the information. Taniya did just that! Thanks to her work, which will be implemented later this year, the new **Cribette & Care** form will both provide education at the time of donation while collecting streamlined data from the families receiving Cribettes. Taniya presented her work in a poster session for her program, showcasing the impact of her redesign and its potential for improving our safe sleep efforts. We are proud of the work she has accomplished and grateful for her contributions to our mission.

Thank you, Taniya, for joining us in our mission to help every baby sleep safer!

Devon George
Devon is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters