



Infant Safe Sleep Mini-Grant Program

PURPOSE

The SID Network of Ohio has created a mini-grant program to provide funding to neighborhood and community groups for outreach projects to reduce the risk of SIDS and other sleep-related causes of infant death in the state of Ohio. The purpose of the program is to increase community participation in disseminating the infant safe sleep message throughout the state of Ohio.

The American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines for infant safe sleep practices are:

- **Always** place your baby on his or her back for every sleep time.
- Keep soft objects or loose bedding **out of the crib**. This includes pillows, blankets, and bumper pads.
- The safest place for your baby to sleep is in the room where you sleep, but **not in your bed. Never place babies to sleep on adult beds**, chairs, sofas, waterbeds, pillows, cushions or soft surfaces.
- Dress your baby in sleep clothing, such as a sleep sack, and **do not use a blanket**.
- **Avoid letting the baby get too hot**. Keep room temperatures in a range comfortable for a lightly clothed adult.
- Infants should receive **all recommended vaccinations**.
- **Breastfeeding is recommended** to help to reduce the risk of SIDS.
- **Avoid smoke exposure** during pregnancy and after birth. Place the crib in an area that is always smoke free.
- **Supervised, awake tummy time** is recommended daily to facilitate development.
- **Consider using a pacifier** at nap time and bed time, once breastfeeding is well established.
- Talk to those who care for your baby, including **child care providers, family, and friends, about placing your baby to sleep on their back for every sleep**.
- Obtain **regular prenatal care** to reduce the risk of SIDS even before birth.
- **Avoid alcohol and illicit drug use** during pregnancy and after birth.

Funds are to be used for educational initiatives in the state of Ohio that work to promote infant safe sleep practices and increase public awareness regarding the impact of sleep-related infant deaths, and ways to reduce these incidences.

Examples of community programs to be considered for a mini-grant include, but are not limited to:

- Infant safe sleep demonstrations
- Infant safe sleep trainings and workshops
- Infant safe sleep community awareness events
- Infant safe sleep community “baby showers” (awareness event with educational resources and prize giveaways)
- SIDS Sunday awareness event organized by churches

BACKGROUND

Sudden Unexpected Infant Deaths (SUID) are defined as deaths that occur suddenly and unexpectedly in infants less than 1 year of age, and whose cause of death are not immediately obvious prior to investigation. After a full investigation, these causes of death may be diagnosed as suffocation, asphyxia, entrapment, infection, ingestions, metabolic diseases, cardiac arrhythmias, trauma (accidental or non-accidental), or SIDS.

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is marked by the sudden death of an infant under 1 year of age, which remains unexplained after a thorough case investigation - including performance of an autopsy, examination of the death scene, and a review of the clinical history.

From 2007-2011, 819 infants died in the state of Ohio as a result of a sleep-related death. Fifty-seven percent of the sleep-related infant deaths occurred in locations considered unsafe such as in adult beds and on couches. Fifty percent of the sleep-related infant deaths occurred in infants who were sharing a sleeping surface (bedsharing) with someone else at the time of death. Only 33 of those infants were sleeping "ABC" (Alone, on their Back, and in a Crib without smoke exposure). That equates to 3 babies each week in the state of Ohio dying in unsafe sleep environments.*

In 2012, a total of 1,045 infants died before their first birthdays.* **Currently, Ohio ranks 45th out of all 50 states for highest infant mortality rates overall (those babies who die before they reach the age of one year), and Ohio has the highest infant mortality rate in the country among African American babies.**

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

•A complete application form and a detailed project budget must be submitted. Please do not include other printed materials, CD's, videos or audiotapes. Any such additional materials will not be considered. All applications must be completed and delivered by mail or email in accordance with the instructions contained therein. Requests will be reviewed by the SID Network of Ohio advisory committee.

•Amount requested may not exceed **\$600**. Applications that describe cash and in-kind matching funds will be viewed more favorably.

•There will be two rounds of *Infant Safe Sleep Mini-Grants* annually. Requests must be postmarked by the dates below for consideration, and any requests received after the deadline may be rejected or held for the next cycle, as determined by the SID Network of Ohio advisory committee. Projects cannot begin before the specified project start date for any given round, and must be completed within 3 months from the start date.

- **Round 1: For projects occurring between January 1, 2015 – April 30, 2015**

Application deadline: November 1, 2014

Award notification date: December 1, 2014

- **Round 2: For projects occurring between July 1 – October 31, 2015**

Application deadline: May 1, 2015

Award notification date: June 1, 2015

•All approved mini-grant applications will be required to send a representative to a **mandatory orientation meeting** scheduled approximately two weeks after award notification in Columbus, OH. Additional information regarding this meeting will be included in your notice of award letter, if approved for funding.

•All approved applicants must be prepared to present the project highlights at a **mandatory closeout meeting** that will be held approximately two weeks after the project period ends in Columbus, OH. A representative is required to attend the mandatory closing meeting and present on the organization's mini-grant activities.

For questions pertaining to this mini-grant program or application, please contact **Dr. Stacy Scott, at stacy@sidsohio.org or (419) 490-5993.**

*Ohio Child Fatality Review Thirteenth Annual Report

TERMS AND/OR GUIDELINES

- The programs created with the assistance of an *Infant Safe Sleep Mini-Grant* should be promoted and offered to the general public within the state of Ohio, with special emphasis directed to underserved populations and/or geographic areas within the state of Ohio including African American communities.

- Only tax exempt organizations are eligible to apply. Eligible groups may include, but are not limited to: civic and neighborhood organizations, social service groups, cultural organizations, and churches. Commercial, for-profit businesses and individuals are ineligible. Religious organizations are eligible for funding. However, projects should be ecumenical or secular in nature and open and promoted to the general public. The SID Network of Ohio cannot fund projects when the purpose or content of the project is to advance a religious ideology.

- *Infant Safe Sleep Mini-Grants* are not intended to be a recurring funding source for organizations, as one of the goals of the program is to distribute funds across the many geographic regions and cultural communities of the state. In general, organizations can only receive one grant per calendar year.

- *Infant Safe Sleep Mini-Grants* will not be awarded for the following:

- Projects exclusively serving perinatal and/or neonatal death.
- Dues
- Operating deficits and/or support
- Publication of books
- Capital improvements/building projects
- Chairs or professorships
- Endowments, annual fund drives, direct mail solicitation, fundraising events
- Purchase of food, advertising space, products such as T-shirts, cribs, crib sheets, and sleep sacks, or equipment with a useful life extending beyond the completion of the project
- Projects intended to influence legislation or support candidates for political office
- Use by another foundation or organization to distribute the funds to recipients of its own selection

The SID Network of Ohio reserves the right, under certain circumstances, to make exceptions to the above.

- Organizations receiving funds through the *Infant Safe Sleep Mini-Grant* Program must acknowledge support through placement of the SID Network of Ohio *Infant Safe Sleep Mini-Grant* Program logo on all project-related printed materials, including websites. Verbal acknowledgment must be given where printed acknowledgment is not possible. Prior approval of any materials upon which either logo will be placed should first be obtained from the SID Network of Ohio.

- A minimum of 25 participants must be reached with the project. Success of an event will be taken into consideration in connection with any future mini-grant applications. All approved applicants will be required to document activities, lesson learned – both positive and negative, and complete all project forms. Sign-in sheets are required at each project event. Please take photos if possible.

- The SID Network can assist groups with free brochures, posters and other information to help promote the infant safe sleep message.

- Organizations receiving funds through the program must submit a brief final report on the funded project, including actual date(s) of occurrence, project outcomes, summary of expenditures paid for with awarded funds, photo documentation of project, pre and post survey results and evaluation results including audience/beneficiary feedback, within 15 days of its completion.

- Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. Each proposal will be considered on its own merit. Additional information may be requested if it will assist in the review process. The SID Network of Ohio reserves the right to reject an *Infant Safe Sleep Mini-Grant* application for any reason, including a missed deadline or incomplete information.