

Steve Sisolak
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Richard Whitley, MS
Director

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES
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Ross Armstrong
Administrator

Date:

To: Medical Professionals in Nevada

From: Nevada Executive Committee to Review the Death of Children

Re: 2022 Quarter 2 Recommendation

The Nevada Executive Committee to Review the Death of Children (Executive Committee) exists to end preventable child death and is seeking your help in relation to safe sleep awareness and education. The Executive Committee meets quarterly to review the reports and recommendations of the regional multidisciplinary child death review teams and respond to these recommendations. This can include, but is not limited to, making recommendations for improvements to laws, policies, and practices to prevent the deaths of children under eighteen (18) in Nevada.

In Quarter 2 of 2022, the Washoe County Child Death Review Team submitted the following recommendations to the Executive Committee:

- **Local Pediatricians provide safe sleep education as recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics.**

Unsafe sleep conditions continue to be a concern throughout the state and to be a leading cause of death for infants in Nevada. Nevada data on safe sleep can be accessed on the [Maternal and Child Health Data Dashboard](#) or in the [Nevada Child Death Report](#). Self-report data indicate Nevada families placing infants on an approved separate safe sleep surface 33.2 percent in 2020, less than the national average of 36.9 percent.

This recommendation was received to encourage all pediatricians to continue their essential work in providing safe sleep education to families of infants in line with recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Bright Futures, and the [updated safe sleep guidelines](#) published by AAP.

Our goal is to encourage Nevada pediatricians, nurse practitioners, Advance Practice Registered Nurses, Doctors of Nursing Practice, Certified Nurse Midwives, other midwives, lactation consultants, and doulas to provide safe sleep education during appointments encourage implementing policies that safe sleep be discussed and documented at specific appointments for parents with children under the age of one year.

Should families be unable to afford a safe sleep environment, please feel free to reach out to the Cribs for Kids state affiliate funded by the Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Section, [REMSA](#), as they provide statewide safe sleep education and safe sleep kits, including a Pack n Play, or to [Baby's Bounty](#) which is also a Cribs for Kids affiliate in the state.

The Executive Committee values your commitment in preventing child deaths in the State of Nevada. Please feel free to reach out with any questions to Jessica Freeman, jfreeman@dcfs.nv.gov, 702-486-7711.

Respectfully,

The Executive Committee to Review the Death of Children

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