



Joe Lombardo
Governor



Richard Whitley
Director

The Executive Committee to Review the Death of Children

Division of Child and Family Services- Family Programs Office

Beverly Brown, April Stahl

May 1, 2024

Department of Health and Human Services

Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.



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Welcome

- 1. Call to order**
- 2. Roll call**



Initial Public Comment

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For Information Only

4. Purpose of the Executive Committee:

- A.** The Executive Committee to Review the Death of Children is a partnership of professionals, organizations, and agencies with the primary goal of preventing child maltreatment and child death by improving upon the recommendations of law, policy, and practice change. The intent is to bring together community-level organizations and agencies which can shed light on the factors that lead to child death, as well as recommendations to prevent similar deaths in the future. The Executive Committee reviews the findings and recommendations to determine what action to take in an effort to prevent other child fatalities as well as to improve the well-being and safety of children and families through prevention campaign messages and education.



For Information Only

B.Top Causes and Manners of Death

1. ACCIDENTS CAUSED BY ASPHYXIA
2. MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS
3. ACCIDENTS CAUSED BY DROWNING
4. HOMICIDES CAUSED BY BODILY FORCE OR WEAPON



For Possible Action

5. Consideration, discussion, and possible action to make funding recommendations to present to the Executive Committee to Review the Death of Children. The subcommittee will review and discuss each application and make recommendations for full/partial/or no funding for each one.

- **Baby's Bounty**
- **Community Chest**
- **Clark County Dept of Family Services**
- **Nevada Medical Center dba Hope Means Nevada**
- **Nevada suicide prevention Network**
- **Nye Communities Coalition**
- **UNLV Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy-Prevent Child Abuse Nevada**
- **Washoe County Human Service Agency**



Baby's Bounty

- For 16 years, our Baby Bundle & Safe Sleep program has helped increase self-sufficiency and personal independence for families struggling with poverty in Clark County. In 2025, we anticipate assisting over 1,000 families through the program by providing critical infant care education and the necessary items to care for a new baby. There are three components to our Baby Bundle program.
 - **Safe Sleep & Baby Basics Course** – The Safe Sleep & Baby Basics course is offered in English and Spanish. The course was designed in consultation with a board-certified pediatrician and the coroner's office, adhering to the American Academy of Pediatrics recommendations. Constructed by an instructional engineer, the course provides hands-on demonstrations of effective infant care and sleep strategies, demonstrating efficacy in reducing sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).
 - **Safe Travel** – To prevent death and severe injury from infants traveling without a car seat, each Baby Bundle includes a new infant regulation car seat. Each car seat is rear-to-front facing and holds a child from 5 to 45 pounds or 19 to 43 inches, from birth to 2 years of age.
 - **Baby Bundle** – Upon completing the Safe Sleep & Baby Basics course, each client receives a Baby Bundle containing the necessary items for an infant's health and safety. These items include a new infant regulation portable crib, a new car seat, a front carrier, a playmat, a bathtub, towels and washcloths, hygiene items, diapers and wipes, bottles, blankets, and twenty-five clothing items. Positive outcomes of the program include preventing SIDS, reducing maternal depression, increasing attendance at work, and more.
- \$41,000.00
- Safe Sleep



Community Chest, Inc.

- CCI will focus on all priority areas identified by the Executive Committee: safe sleep, injury prevention, mental health/suicide prevention, and means reduction. The aim is to bring education, resources, and supportive services to the children and families of Northern Nye, Douglas, Carson City, Churchill, Mineral, Lyon, and Storey counties. CCI is very fortunate to have diverse programs operating under one umbrella. This allows for many programs to seamlessly work together to offer services to multiple populations and age groups while ensuring they receive the same quality of care and have access to the most needed resources.
- \$16,709.00
- Suicide Prevention



Clark County Department of Family Services

- The Clark County Department of Family Services (CCDFS), in collaboration with OneSeven Communications, proposes to continue a multimedia campaign around safe sleep education. This campaign will provide parents and caregivers with the appropriate training and guidance to create a safe sleep area for babies and learn infant sleep safety recommendations. The campaign will reach all of Clark County, encompassing the entire southern region of Nevada, however, the campaign will also provide special emphasis targeting zip codes and demographic populations identified as experiencing the most risk for infant death caused by unsafe sleep. OneSeven, a full-service integrated marketing agency, has the experience and capabilities to support CCDFS in reaching various cultural and class levels through different media and communication tools.

- \$75,000.00
- Safe Sleep



Nevada Medical Center dba Hope Means Nevada

- Founded during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Hope Means Nevada (HMN) is the only nonprofit in Nevada that is solely dedicated to the intervention and prevention of teen suicide. With a mission to eliminate teen suicide and to empower Nevada's youth to live hopeful lives, HMN fills a gap within the Nevada healthcare system and offers resources and information for teens, as well as parents and caring adults.
 - Hope Means Nevada works to eliminate teen suicide in Nevada by means of (1) its Outreach Campaign, as well as its (2) additional programming. As HMN's signature program, the Outreach Campaign leverages the power of communication and peer-to-peer connection in order to enhance awareness of mental health, share suicide prevention information, and expand access to critical care. By focusing on simple messaging and a clear call to action to access mental health resources, Hope Means Nevada's Outreach Campaign reaches teens, parents, and caring adults throughout Nevada.
-
- \$100,00.00
 - Suicide Prevention



NyE Communities Coalition

- NyE Communities Coalition will partner with Lincoln County School District and Nye County School District, along with other partners, and local businesses to prevent the death of children in Nye, Esmeralda, and Lincoln Counties from suicide and access to lethal means. NyECC will utilize person-to-person education and a locally supported marketing campaign to provide awareness about protection from lethal means and suicide prevention. Community Health Workers and communications staff will develop or utilize nationally developed messaging regarding access to lethal means. Distribution of information and items to secure lethal means will occur through community meetings, events, and through partnering organizations and agencies. Locally trusted social media venues will be accessed to disseminate information and messaging to inform the community and protect children. This will include Facebook and Twitter accounts, local TV stations, and “happenings” pages. Local conditions, timing, and events will be considered as information is distributed. All messaging will be based on reliable sources including Nevada Child Death Review approved materials, such as: Centers for Disease Control (cdc.gov), Veterans Affairs, and Nevada Office of Suicide Prevention.
- \$24,795.25
- Suicide Screening



Suicide Prevention Network

- The core area of need is suicide awareness, prevention, and intervention education in order to prevent deaths of children by suicide. Among the major supporting aspects, mental wellness and resiliency are critical; people of all ages with mental health and resiliency challenges, including depression and lack of coping skills, are at a very high risk for suicide. This project will be an early intervention mental health community outreach effort with the primary goal being ***the prevention of suicide in children through a focus on emotional health and wellbeing of not only the children but their families (parents, grandparents, siblings) and supporting adults as well.*** This holistic approach centered on children and their families has an increased opportunity to help families better support children, understand and cope with challenging circumstances, and be an active and collaborative part of their community.
- Focusing on known risk and protective factors at the "front end" of the prevention process has been shown to be highly effective in reducing suicides. For example, young school-age children with disruptive or aggressive behaviors (and environments) are more likely to have later issues, including substance abuse problems, delinquency, and toxic relationships, all of which can be risk factors for suicidal behaviors. Building and strengthening *protective factors* can shield young people from destructive behaviors and promote positive development. Protective factors include: (1) strong family support and involvement; (2) individual coping and resilience skills; (3) interpersonal competence; (4) strong community ties; (5) knowing where to get help when needed, and (6) a positive school climate.
- \$50,027.90
- Suicide Prevention



UNLV Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy, Prevent Child Abuse Nevada

- In 2014, Prevent Child Abuse Nevada (PCANV) and Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Taskforce (CAN Prevention) began partnering to host the Nevada Child Abuse Prevention and Safety Conference. Although CAN Prevention does not exist anymore, PCANV continues to organize a statewide conference every other year. We are requesting support to be able to continue this conference in 2025. As youth and adolescent suicide is a growing public health concern in Nevada, there is need for professionals to receive continuing education about strategies for supporting safe, stable, nurturing environments for children so that they are at decreased risk for negative health outcomes. Current research priorities and recommended strategies to prevent suicide along with other intentional and some unintentional injuries focus on the need for “upstream” research and programs. Decreasing the amount and severity of risk factors for these situations while strengthening protective factors in youth is one of the most effective ways to approach especially at the population level. Additionally, the conference will align with the following priorities stated on the statewide strategic plan on the prevention of child abuse and neglect:
 - Increase protective factors while reducing child abuse and neglect risk factors
 - Integrate culturally competent and trauma informed practices
 - Increase supports that reduce stigma around receiving services
 - Execute data collection, progress monitoring, and program evaluation to increase equity and accountability
- \$20,000.00
- Community Education, Child Maltreatment Conference



Washoe County Human Services Agency

- WCHSA's SFY25 CDR project will concentrate efforts on targeting the community at large, areas of the County where deaths are more prevalent, children and families, and equipping first responders with education and tools to share the prevention message in the community. The project is a response to statistically relevant causes of child death in the County by focusing on the two prominent leading causes, as well as child fatality prevention overall. WCHSA will use a multiple approach for saturating the community with child fatality prevention awareness and education. The statistics and facts about child deaths are not common knowledge, even among professionals, and this project proposes to educate both professionals and community members. The project will target the universal population of Washoe County, as victims of unexpected child death often do not have a CPS history or recognizable risk factors. The selective population will be children and families who are at risk or vulnerable to circumstances that lead to unexpected child death. The County used local fatality data to design the scope of work for prevention messaging. In CY2023, Washoe County had 36 child deaths, with 24 non-natural, preventable deaths. Of the 36 fatalities, 15 deaths were under five years of age, three under the age of 10, 7 under the age of 15, and 11 deaths over the age of 15.
- \$96,600.00
- Suicide Prevention, Safe Sleep



Final Public Comment

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Adjournment

7. Adjournment- April Stahl, Division of Child and Family Services

- Thank you for your time and commitment to improving services for children and youth in Nevada.

