

# Not One More Child Meeting Notes

## September 18, 2017

### Unsafe Sleep Presentation – Krystal Grint, DHS Child Protection Manager

- In 2015 through September 2017, there have been 12 fatalities involving unsafe sleep practices. This issue is not limited to El Paso County; Denver has seen high numbers.
- The Coroner reports most child deaths to DHS as part of the investigation process. Not all are assigned for assessment. An example of a possible case assigned for assessment for possible abuse/neglect would be a situation involving drugs or alcohol.
- Most fatalities due to unsafe sleep situations were younger than 6-months-old; all were younger than 1-year-old.
- Demographic data on babies who die as a result of unsafe sleep is collected. Fatality reports, especially those involving law enforcement include many details.
- It's important to talk about safe sleep, and promote education among new parents, and caregivers.
- Several NOMC members will bring to the next meeting examples of the new-parents information packets they use.
- Peak Vista is exploring education during pre-natal care and wants to reinforce safe sleep habits after birth.
- Hospitals: Nurses are told to repeat information, including safe sleep, seven or more times to new parents.
- Nurse Family Partnership (DHS and Public Health) focuses on safe sleep and other safety issues during home visits with families.
- DHS is working on creating a brief safe sleep video that could be added or shown with the shaken-baby prevention video.
- Attached is the PDF of the presentation, which will also be posted to the NOMC website.
- Safe Sleep is central to the statewide Baby Box initiative by Rocky Mountain Children's Health Foundation. The Foundation is working with Bright by 3, Vroom, Mother's Milk and Denver health professionals on the project. Before receiving a box, new moms are required to complete online training on safe sleep.
- Rocky Mountain Children's Health Foundation is working on a public awareness campaign for Safe Sleep.
- Falcon Exchange Club/Kyndra's Hope has Baby Boxes for new parents (flattened to save space). If you need a small number of Baby Boxes, please contact Kerry MacIntyre ([kyndrashope@usa.com](mailto:kyndrashope@usa.com)).
- Here are some links ....
  - o Safe to Sleep materials are playing on the County's cable channel, and were also shared with the Colorado Springs city cable channel and the library channel. Those videos (and other materials by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services can be found online at <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/sts/materials/Pages/default.aspx>

## **Committee Updates ....**

### **Communication**

- NOMC Community Cards are being ordered (English). Spanish cards are available. Contact [kristinaiodice@elpasoco.com](mailto:kristinaiodice@elpasoco.com) if you would like some for your organization.
- DHS PIO will look into costs, options, and availability for Public Service Announcements in local media.
- DHS PIO will begin work to create a baby safety video that will include both safe sleep lesson points and child abuse/shaken baby prevention.
- Start thinking now about Child Abuse Prevention Month (April) ... the state is looking to embrace pinwheels.

### **Colorado Department of Human Services**

- CDHS is still looking for ways to continue the “it takes a community to prevent child abuse and neglect” and so asks organizations for stories that could be shared via social media. There are many ways to contribute to preventing child abuse and neglect. If you have someone to feature, contact Sarah Krcal, CDHS Public Awareness Communications Specialist, at 303.866.3258 or [sarah.krcal@state.co.us](mailto:sarah.krcal@state.co.us).

### **Data Committee**

- The mapping team created new maps to show the distribution of abuse reports in the infant to 5-year-old subgroup (approximately 18 percent of referrals).
- Data reinforces ongoing trends, higher density of cases in areas with high rates of poverty, crime illegal drug and tobacco use, and unemployment.
- Group will look at options to overlay abuse/neglect referrals over maps based on poverty levels/socioeconomic reports.
- The additional maps are posted online:  
<http://dhs.elpasoco.com/Pages/NOMCChildAbuseData.aspx>
- CDHS shares a lot of statewide data on the Community Performance Center:  
<http://www.cdhsdatamatters.org/>

### **Faith Based Community**

- Kyndra’s Hope has car seats, reflective safety items, and baby boxes. Contact Kerry MacIntyre ([kyndrashope@usa.com](mailto:kyndrashope@usa.com)).
- Look Ahead – Angel Trees coordinates gifts for foster children. This year, the program will focus on kinship families. In 2016, Angel Tree coordinated the giving of almost 10,000 gifts and gift cards.

### **Faith Based Community – CarePortal**

- Caseworkers make requests for families, and the churches use their congregation network to fill the request. Video: <https://vimeo.com/156324868>
- As of September 18th, CarePortal has served 852 children and saved DHS more than \$60,000.

- There are 20 active churches, with a goal of adding ten more.
- Mike Worley can be reached at 719-659-2781 or [mike@beautifulredemption.com](mailto:mike@beautifulredemption.com)
- CarePortal seeks additional churches to expand the reach and impact of the program.

### **Military**

- Fort Carson is seeing increased deployment numbers, which tends to result in an increase in the numbers of child neglect/abuse concerns. Post staff and organizations are working on prevention efforts.
- Boot Camp class for new dads continues to be very popular, and is a proven prevention technique (to date, no fathers who have gone through the class have been involved in neglect/abuse investigations).

### **Community Service Organizations – Be Smart/Moms Demand Action**

- The gun safety group was referred to NOMC be Safe Kids.
- Information and resources online at <http://besmartforkids.org/>

The Not One More Child large group will next meet at 9 a.m. **November 13**, in the Assessor's Training Room (1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Citizens Services Center, 1675 Garden of the Gods Dr.

Committees are encouraged to meet before then!

[Notonemorechild.net](http://Notonemorechild.net)