Checklist for First Responders

- ❑ **Explain the SIDS diagnosis.**
  - Always refer to the baby by name.
  - Make eye contact, when appropriate.
  - Make sure that the parents understand the diagnosis of SIDS does not occur until after the final results of the autopsy.

- ❑ **Ask the parents if there are other people they would like to call for support.**
  - Help where it is appropriate.

- ❑ **Ask about other children.**
  - Make sure they are cared for and someone is available to attend to their needs.

- ❑ **Treat the baby with care and respect.**
  - Hold the baby as you would if he/she were alive.
  - Wrap the baby in a blanket.
  - Do not leave the baby unattended.
  - Wrap the baby in a blanket and give parents a chance to hold the baby, if possible.*

- ❑ **Make sure parents have transportation to the hospital if needed.**
  - Assess their ability to drive.
  - Offer to call a friend or family member or a cab.

- ❑ **Provide SIDS information and resources.**
  - Give booklet A Loving Good-Bye: A Guide to Arranging the Funeral for Your Baby and the *SIDS Bookmark*.
  - Give the number of the local SIDS County Coordinator (PHN), and the California SIDS Program 800-369-SIDS (7437). Write the phone number of the PHN on the *SIDS Bookmark*.

* Do this in accordance with your local coroner's protocol.

CALIFORNIA SIDS PROGRAM
SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH BRANCH
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

Produced by the California SIDS Program under funding by the California Department of Health Services, Maternal and Child Health Branch

California SIDS Program
3164 Gold Camp Drive, Suite 220
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6052
916-266-SIDS (7437) • 800-369-SIDS (7437) • FAX 916-266-7439
info@californiasids.com • www.californiasids.com