



# California Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Advisory Council

## Minutes of the January 21, 2014, Meeting

### Members of the Council

**Thomas G. Keens, M.D.,**  
*Chair, Physician member.*

**Lorie Gehrke,** *Vice Chair,*  
*SIDS Parent.*

**Kitty Roche, R.N., P.H.N.,**  
**B.S.N., M.S.W.** *Secretary,*  
*Public Health Nurse*

**Kathleen Beichley,** *SIDS*  
*Parent*

**Dawn Dailey, R.N., P.H.N.,**  
**Ph.D.,** *Public Health*  
*Nurse.*

**Steven Durfor,** *Police/Fire*  
*First Responder.*

**James K. Ribe, M.D.,**  
*Medical Examiner.*

**Dennis H. Watt,** *Coroner.*

**Vacant,** *SIDS Parent.*

**Penny F. Stastny, R.N.,**  
**B.S.N., P.H.N.,**  
*President, Southern Calif.*  
*Regional SIDS Council.*

**Aline Armstrong, P.H.N.,**  
*President, Northern Calif.*  
*Regional SIDS Council.*

### Council Chairperson:

Thomas G. Keens, M.D.  
Division of Pediatric  
Pulmonology  
Children's Hospital Los  
Angeles  
4650 Sunset Boulevard,  
Box #83  
Los Angeles, California  
90027-6062  
Phone: 323/361-2101  
FAX: 323/361-1355  
E-mails:

[tkeens@chla.usc.edu](mailto:tkeens@chla.usc.edu)  
[tkeens@gmail.com](mailto:tkeens@gmail.com)



Kathleen Beichley Dawn Dailey Steve Durfor Lorie Gehrke Tom Keens James Ribe



Kitty Roche Rachel Strickland Dennis Watt Penny Stastny Susana Flores

### Members of the California SIDS Advisory Council. January, 2014.

- **Members Present:** Thomas G. Keens, M.D., *Chair*; Lorie Gehrke, *Vice Chair*; Kitty Roche, R.N., P.H.N., B.S.N., M.S.W., *Secretary*, Kathleen Beichley; Dawn Dailey, RN, PHN, PhD; Gwen Edelstein as an alternate for Steve Durfor; Susana Flores, P.H.N.; Karen Jackson as an alternate for Rachel Strickland; James K. Ribe, M.D., J.D.; Penny F. Stastny, R.N., B.S.N., P.H.N.; and Luz Arboleda-Babcock as an alternate for Dennis Watt.
- **Members Absent:** Steve Durfor; Rachel Strickland; and Dennis Watt.
- **State and California SIDS Program:** Abbey Alkon, R.N., P.N.P., Ph.D.; Annette Carley, R.N., M.S., N.P.; Carrie Florez; Susan Moore; Bobbie Rose, R.N., P.H.N.; and Guey-Shiang Tsay, R.N., M.S.N.; and Mimi Wolff, M.S.W.
- **Guests:** Luz Arboleda-Babcock, R.N., B.S.N., P.H.N.; Ifeyinwa Asiodu, R.N., M.S., I.B.C.L.C.; Claudia Benton, R.N., P.H.N.; Gwen Edelstein, RN, PNP, MPA; Lidia Escobar, L.C.S.W.; Stephanie Inyama; Karen Jackson, R.N., P.H.N.; Schsleen Lee, P.H.N., Michelle Scott, R.N., P.H.N.; and Sherylin Taylor, P.H.N.

- **Alternate Council Members:** In accordance with the Standing Rules of the California SIDS Advisory Council:
  - *Gwen Edelstein, RN, PNP, MPA*, was designated as the alternate for Council Member *Steve Durfor*, who could not attend today's meeting.
  - *Karen Jackson* was designated as the alternate for Council Member *Rachel Strickland*, who could not attend today's meeting.
  - *Luz Arboleda-Babcock* was designated as the alternate for Council Member *Dennis Watt*, who could not attend today's meeting.
- The meeting was held by telephone conference call. A quorum of greater than 2/3 of Council members was present. The meeting was called to order at 1:33 P.M., on January 21, 2014.
- **Introductions.**  
Council members, state staff, and guests introduced themselves.
- **California SIDS Advisory Council: Membership.**

*Rachel Strickland*, a SIDS parent from Temecula in Southern California, was appointed by California Department of Health Director, *Doctor Ron Chapman*, to fill the vacant SIDS parent position on the Council. We are thrilled to have *Rachel* join us, and we anticipate that she will be an enthusiastic and productive Council member.

The Presidents of the Southern and Northern California Regional SIDS Councils serve as ex-officio members of the California SIDS Advisory Council.

- The Northern California Regional SIDS Council held elections for their officers at their meeting on Friday, November 15, 2013. The new President of the Northern Council is *Susana Flores, P.H.N.*, who is the SIDS Coordinator for San Mateo County. She will serve as an ex-officio member on the California SIDS Advisory Council.
- The officers for the Southern California Regional SIDS Council remain unchanged through 2015. Therefore, *Penny Stastny, P.H.N.*, will continue to serve as President of the Southern Council and as an ex-officio member on the California SIDS Advisory Council.

The California SIDS Advisory Council thanks *Aline Armstrong, P.H.N.*, for four years of service as President of the Northern California SIDS Advisory Council and ex-officio member of the California SIDS Advisory Council.



**Rachel Strickland**



**Penny Stastny**



**Susana Flores**

- **State Report.**

*Guey-Shiang Tsay* presented a report of the California SIDS activities of the Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Division of the California Department of Public Health.

**California SIDS Advisory Council:** As most of you know, *Rachel Strickland* has been appointed by the Director of the California Department of Public Health to be a SIDS parent representative on the California SIDS Advisory Council. We welcome her as a member of SIDS Advisory Council.

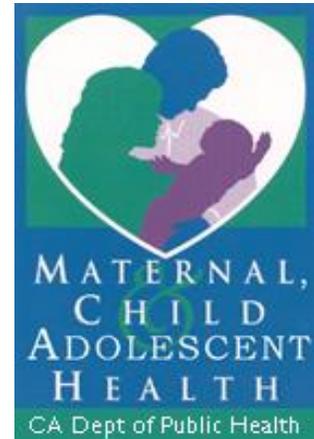
**California SIDS Program:** We have a new SIDS contractor in place for the *California SIDS Program*. The Program is run by the University of California, San Francisco, School of Nursing. *Abbey Alkon, R.N., P.N.P., Ph.D.*, and her team oversee the Program. They attended the Northern and Southern California Regional SIDS Council meetings and met most of the Council members. We look forward to working with *Abbey* and her team.

**SIDS Trainings and the 2014 Annual California SIDS Conference** are the top priorities for our SIDS Contractor. They have been working with the SIDS Coordinators and Council members to schedule Northern and Southern California SIDS trainings for public health professionals and emergency personnel.

**California SIDS Program Website:** The CDPH IT staff restored the old CA SIDS Program website and is currently working with UCSF staff to update the California SIDS Program website. This is an ongoing process and we hope we can update the website in a timely manner. The California SIDS Program website is: <http://californiasids.cdph.ca.gov>

**Northern California Regional SIDS Council** elected new officers. On behalf of MCAH, we thank *Aline Armstrong* and *Michele Scott* for their dedicated services as the President and Secretary of the Northern California Regional SIDS Council, and also thank *Lorie Gehrke*, who will continue serving as the vice president. We also thank the California SIDS Advisory Council, and Northern and Southern California Regional SIDS Councils for your support during this Contractor's transition.

*Carrie Florez* reported on Reporting/Documenting Suspected SIDS cases: Documentation required by both the Coroner's offices and the Local Health Departments for all suspected SIDS cases in 2014 will be sent to the SIDS Contractor. *Carrie Florez* worked with UCSF to update the new Coroner Notification Card and the Public Health Services Report form with the UCSF address on them.



**Guey-Shiang Tsay**



**Carrie Florez**

In 2011, 161 infants died from SIDS in California, and the SIDS rate was 0.32 deaths per 1,000 live births. You can locate the 2011 SIDS data and statistics and SIDS MCAH Bulletin 2011 at the CDPH website: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/SIDS/Pages/default.aspx>

*Doctor Tom Keens* raised the question of reporting SIDS, Undetermined, and Asphyxia Suffocation and Strangulation in Bed (ASSB) statistics in addition to SIDS. The reason is that the 2011 SIDS Summit showed that the way Coroners and Medical Examiners distinguish between these diagnoses is not consistent, though they are all trying to do the best job they can to determine a cause of death. Therefore, in order to truly assess the impact of public health campaigns, and to appropriately support families of babies dying suddenly and without a known cause, it would be useful to know the numbers of all of these deaths, and a summary SUID statistic. *Doctor James Ribe* expressed support for *Carrie's* idea of publicizing incidence and rate data for deaths certified as "SIDS", "Suffocation", and "Undetermined" as subcategories under the broad category of "SUID." He gathered that deaths reported as "SUID" would be reported under "SUID." He agreed with *Doctor Tom Keens* that the SIDS Summit revealed marked overlap between all these nomenclatures, and that they all mean the same thing to Coroners and Pathologists making the diagnoses. He did, however, say that in some California counties (i.e. Santa Clara County) and across the US, many forensic pathologists are diagnosing these unsafe-sleep deaths as "accidental suffocation," and take the view that this cause of death is diagnosed with medical certainty. Their reason is that, even though the deaths were unwitnessed, the cause of death is medically certain for two reasons: (A) The risk factors raise a high probability that suffocation occurred. (B) Autopsy and field investigation have ruled out every other cause of death --- Except congenital cardiac conduction defects, congenital CNS malformations of the Kinney type, and unknown other natural conditions.

The 2012 SIDS data has been completed and are in the approval process. We hope to release these data in the next few weeks.

## • California SIDS Program.

The Council welcomed *Abbey Alkon, R.N., P.N.P., Ph.D.*, Program Director; *Bobbie Rose, R.N., P.H.N.*, Nurse Educator; *Annette Carley, R.N., M.S., N.P.*, Nurse Educator; and *Mimi Wolff, M.S.W.*, Project Manager; for the California SIDS Program. They reported on activities of the California SIDS Program as follows:

- 1) Overview and Meetings we have attended (*Abbey Alkon*):
  - November 7, 2103, MCAH in Sacramento
  - November 15, 2013, Northern California Regional SIDS Council
  - November 21, 2013, Southern California Regional SIDS Council
- 2) Surveillance:
  - Coroner Reports (*Mimi Wolff*)
  - PHN Reporting Forms (*Bobbie Rose*):
    - a) Form has new address in fillable and pdf formats
    - b) Making it available by website, email, Webinar, request
    - c) We got our first report of a presumed SIDS death by mail



on Friday 01/17/2014.

3) Technical Assistance (*Bobbie Rose*):

- More than 35 emails and phone calls since we started. Topics include: conference and training planning, reporting procedures and forms, informational resources, educational resources, grief support and community collaboration.
- Set up distribution email lists for SIDS Coordinators, MCAH Directors and Advisory Councils.
- Website: New Domain Name: <http://californiasids.cdph.ca.gov> Good News and Bad News.... It's more secure and can't be hacked, is now in html so it will be easier to work on but it does not come up on a Google search yet.
- Website Updates: Home Page, new SIDS Coordinators. Others are on deck...
- Website: Collaborating with Kathy Sanchez and Guey-Shiang Tsay at MCHB on website changes
- Website: It is complicated California SIDS program staff will be able to update directly because we will have Remote Access Authorization. This is easier/faster than MCAH submitting an I/T ticket and waiting.
- Website: It is now in html instead of cold fusion so it will be easier to work on.
- Website: Long range possibility of combining the two websites with the friendliness of the current website, without duplication.
- Webinar: January 30, 2014: Target Audience is MCAH Directors and SIDS Coordinators. It will be in WebEx and facilitated by UCSF I/T and the nurses can access this by desktop, laptop, iPad, iPhone.
- We will cover: Introduction to the new SIDS Program Staff, updates to the website, how to submit reporting forms, upcoming training days, the annual SIDS Conference, and other TA and support that's available to SIDS Coordinators.



**Bobbie Rose and Abbey Alkon**

3) Training Days and Conference (*Mimi Wolff*)

- SIDS Training for Public Health Nurses: March 20, 2014, in Stockton
- SIDS Training for Public Health Nurses: April 9, 2014, in Santa Ana (Orange County DA office, 401 Civic Center Drive West) Thanks, Karen Jackson!
- 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual California SIDS Conference: October 17, 2014, in Sacramento

4) Community Collaboration (*Bobbie Rose*):

- Judy Burden DSS CCL Advocate met with her, plan to work on new brochure
- Lucy Chaidez from Emergency Medical Services Authority re: working with the Breastfeeding Coalition and the Disaster Preparedness Council on incorporating Safe Sleep messages.

- **SIDS Risk Reduction Education.**

- **Los Angeles County Infant Safe Sleep Campaign.**

*Stephanie Inyama*, updated the Council on the ICAN LA County Infant Safe Sleeping Campaign: Safe Sleep for Baby.

As presented during the prior October 1, 2103, California SIDS Advisory Council call, The ICAN LA County Infant Safe Sleeping Campaign: Safe Sleep for Baby spent the fall of 2013 promoting the Safe Sleep for Baby Campaign. Total collateral materials distributed from May, 2013-December, 2013 were 118,517. There were 417 organizations, 1768 providers, 1,240 parents, and 200 young adult students who received our Safe Sleep training from June, 2013 – December, 2013. This includes 613 individuals who participated in our e-learning course.

Total radio impressions from May, 2013-December, 2013 were 24,554,500. Total impressions on posters, bus and rail trails were 159,332,000. In 2013 we successfully obtained almost 184 million media impressions in all our markets.

Due to repeated requests from other counties and states wanting to enhance and or create their own safe sleeping campaigns, the campaign is in the process of creating a licensing agreement for our collateral materials. This agreement will preserve the integrity of the campaign message.

Campaign staff are currently working on year-end reporting. Campaign funding will end in March, 2014. ICAN Associates is focusing its efforts on securing continued funding for the campaign.

If the program continues in 2014, data indicates our focus should be on licensed child care facilities, as this is where we are seeing the increase of accidental infant deaths. We will also focus on hospitals. DCFS currently sponsors e-learnings at certain hospitals. The campaign anticipates adding the safe sleep e-learning campaign at those sites. This will support the campaign's efforts in determining where the impact is/is not happening.

ICAN would like to request all California SIDS Advisory Council Members that are interested in Partnering with ICAN, please e-mail us at [info@safesleepforbaby.com](mailto:info@safesleepforbaby.com). Additionally, Council Members are urged to e-mail or call ICAN [\(626\) 455-4585](tel:6264554585) for material requests. ICAN can accommodate both large and small scale material requests.

ICAN will continue developing Safe Sleep for Baby Partnerships (both new partnerships and existing partnerships.)

All Safe Sleep for Baby Training materials, including the Safe Sleep for Baby Training Tool Kit, e-learning course, Safe Sleep for baby PSAs and Safe sleep for Baby radio spots, pamphlets and more can be found online [SafeSleepforBaby.com](http://SafeSleepforBaby.com).



### **Child Care Safe Sleep Practices (Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing)**

*Gwen Edelstein, R.N., P.N.P., M.P.A.*, reported that the Health and Safety Regulatory Workgroup met on November 20, 2013, at the California Department of Social Services in Sacramento.

A statewide Health and Safety Regulatory Workgroup was convened as a stakeholder group to: 1) support best practices and improve child care health and safety standards in California; and 2) make recommendations to the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD) on regulatory reform for California's child care health and safety regulations. Safe sleep practices was identified as one of the areas needing to be addressed. A Safe Sleep Subgroup was then formed to gather and present the group's findings and recommendations to the California Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing Division (CDSS CCLD) in the form of a white paper. This document was presented to CDSS CCL in September 2012. The Regulatory Workgroup has been under the leadership of *Mary Beth Phillips, Ph.D.*, Director of Strategic Initiatives and Member Services, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network. At the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, a staff member from Community Care Licensing Division, California Department of Social Services, presented an update on their agency's progress with implementing safe sleep practices and the regulatory process. She stated that their agency has been working with their legal team to develop draft language for the regulations which will enforce the most current AAP safe sleep guidelines. It was hoped that the draft safe sleep regulations would be wrapped by the end of the 2013 however they are still with the CDSS legal team. Staff did not provide any further updates at this meeting but will advise the workgroup when further information is available.

*Lucy Chaidez* Emergency Medical Services Agency (EMSA) Child Care Training Program Coordinator also reported at the meeting that EMSA approved the legislative proposal to increase the hours for pre-licensing preventive health training. The proposal suggested that California adopt what other states do regarding child care provider training. Based on research data for the proposal *Lucy* shared that many other states require their child care providers have 32 hours of training per year. Usually, 16 hours of health and safety training is also required before all child care providers can provide care to children in licensed facilities (either child care homes or centers). Also 8 hours of first aid and CPR training every two years is required for all child care providers in most states. The EMSA training proposal will be reviewed by the Department of Finance. Upon their review there is an opportunity for EMSA to provide rebuttal to any of their concerns. The regulations do specify the topics to be covered. Safe sleep is a required child care preventive health training topic.

On January 2, 2014, *Lucy Chaidez* disseminated an email in which she reported that the EMSA proposal to increase the preventative health training requirements for licensed child care providers was not put forth for new legislation. Although the proposal was strong and included much data to support the needs for increased training, the only option for new legislation is for an advocacy group outside of EMSA to propose the changes and obtain support from a legislator who would be willing to sponsor such legislative change. *Lucy* noted that "EMSA can make slight changes to its current regulations in order to redistribute the course hours to gain more hours for the preventive health course, but this would be a minimal change and certainly not enough to greatly improve the care of our state's children who are in licensed child care." At this time, SIDS is already a topic that is **required** in EMSA child care provider training. Since

2012, *Lucy* has required child care training programs in California to include the AAP safe sleep guidelines as part of the current curricula.

- **SIDS, Undetermined, or SUID Diagnoses.**

There was no discussion on this issue.

- **Council's Role in SIDS Parent Support.**

*Kathleen Beichley* raised the question if SIDS Risk Reduction and Safe Infant Sleep information is available in other states, as she is aware of friends in other states who seem unaware of safe infant sleep recommendations. A number of individuals on the call mentioned many resources available on the web and to others anywhere in the United States.

- **Public Health Nurse Issues.**

*Dawn Dailey* and *Kitty Roche*, the Public Health Nurse representatives on the California SIDS Advisory Council, are continuing to support county SIDS Programs by contacting newly appointed SIDS Coordinators. The SIDS contractor notifies Dawn Dailey (Northern California) and *Kitty Roche* (Southern California) when a new county SIDS coordinator is appointed. This is a crucial activity to ensure that new coordinators are welcomed and informed of the statewide SIDS resources and council structure.

*Kitty Roche* mentioned that she will be retiring from her current job in March, 2014. However, she will still be a consultant to the San Diego Health Department on SIDS issues. On the subject of *Kitty's* upcoming retirement, *Doctor James Ribe* expressed the hope that *Kitty's* technique of getting hooked in directly to the local coroner's office for purposes of receiving immediate direct reports of cause-of-death determinations will be disseminated by her to all the other SIDS coordinators statewide, because this is a critically important technique.

- **First Responder/Coroner Investigator Issues.**

There was no discussion on this issue. At our previous Council meeting on October 1, 2013, *Dennis Watt* stated that the California State Coroners' Association is considering holding a second "SIDS Summit" to continue to address issues of the diagnosis of infants who die suddenly and unexpectedly in California. There are no definitive plans as to date or format of this conference.

- **Southern California Regional SIDS Council.**

*Penny F. Stastny, R.N., B.S.N., P.H.N.*, President of the Southern California SIDS Council, reported on the activities of the *Southern California Regional SIDS Council*.

- Our last *Southern California. Regional SIDS Council* meeting was held November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013. We had 13 members and guests present including: 5 of our current county SIDS Coordinators from Los Angeles (*Luz Babcock*), Ventura(*Claudia Benton*), San Diego (*Kitty Roche*) Riverside (*Deja Castro*), and the City of Long Beach(*Alisia Mejia*); 2 SIDS parents *Colleen Ma* and *Rachel Strickland*; former SIDS Coordinators *Penny Stastny* and *Danielle Sees*; *Dr. Jim Ribe* representing the Los Angeles County Coroner's office; *Drs. Tom Keens*

and Manu Raam from CHLA and USC. We were also joined by our new SIDS subcontractors Abbey Alkon RN; PNP; PhD and Bobbie Rose RN; PHN from the UCSF-School of Nursing.

- *Guey-Shiang Tsay* called in with the State Report and made two very important and exciting announcements. Guey announced that Rachel Strickland was our new SIDS Parent representative to the California SIDS Advisory Council!! Guey also announced and introduced our new SIDS contractor, Abbey Alkon, R.N., P.N.P., Ph.D., and Bobbie Rose, R.N., P.H.N., with the UCSF School of Nursing.



**Southern California Regional SIDS Council.  
November 21, 2013, Meeting**

The Council expressed our appreciation for Guey-Shiang Tsay for working so hard to secure a new Contractor for the State SIDS Program.

- **New California SIDS Program contractor from UCSF – School of Nursing.** We were so pleased to have the presence of our new California SIDS Program contractors, Dr. Abbey Alkon and Bobbie Rose, P.H.N. They shared the following information about themselves:
  - Abbey Alkon is a Public Health Nurse (P.H.N.) and Nurse Practitioner (P.N.P.). Her residency for NP was at UCSF, and she has been there since 1981. She also holds a Ph.D. in Epidemiology. Abbey has been involved with the CJ Foundation, worked on CCHP materials and policies for safe sleep, and has collaborated with Dr. Rachel Moon. Abbey has worked on many committees for children's health and safety, the physiological responses of children to stress, and a twenty-year project to reduce pesticide exposure to children on farms. Her varied experiences make her excited to be part of the State SIDS Program, she believes UCSF will be fully supportive.
  - Bobbie Rose is a Registered Nurse (R.N.) and a Public Health Nurse (P.H.N.). Bobbie has been at UCSF for nine years, experienced in child care education and outreach, health promotion and has a love for the Head Start Program. She has been working on new child care outreach materials based on the new AAP standards. She is part of a health and safety work group working on a SIDS Risk Reduction white paper. She also writes extensively on childcare.

Both Bobbie and Abbey and the staff members they work with are certain we will see good continuity for the Program. The staff is well equipped to plan for the 2014 State

Conference. They reported that Susan Moore is staying on board, Gwen Edelstein has been available to them, and she has been wonderfully helpful. UCSF affords them the ability to do webinars for training and conference calls, so they will take advantage of these technologies.

- **Penny Stastny gave the following President's report:**

- The goal for the Southern California Regional SIDS Council: To keep our Southern California Regional SIDS Council positive, visible, upbeat, and action oriented. We will continue to meet in person for all of the forthcoming meetings.
- Upcoming meeting dates set for the Southern California Regional SIDS Council: **February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014; May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014; August 14, 2014, and November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014.** All meetings will be held at the Edison Building in Huntington Beach, as confirmed with their meeting coordinator.

- **Community Reports:**

- **Kitty Roche, San Diego,** Kitty announced that she will retire from her current job in March, 2014. However, she will still serve as a consultant to San Diego County on SIDS issues.

Activities

1. Developing a Risk Reduction Video using First 5 funds to use for PSAs and Risk Reduction Education. This video will cover Safe to Sleep Guidelines and include Public Health Nursing, Medical Examiner, County Media and the Sheriff's Department.
  2. In addition to presenting the Risk Reduction Information to the SDSU WIC Registered Dietitians we provided them with a plexi-glass stand filled with Risk Reduction handouts, one for each office in the County of San Diego.
- **Deja Castro, Riverside.** Deja brought us each a Safe to Sleep grocery bag that she has created and is giving to new moms at local hospitals. It is fabulous!  
  
Deja has been educating obstetricians and MPH students about safe sleep so they in turn can educate their patients and clients. She is also going to childcare classes to teach SIDS risk reduction.
  - **Danielle Sees, Long Beach Head Start.** Danielle is doing trainings with early Head Start staff because there is a great need for training on maternal and child health. She is glad to keep this connection with the SIDS community.
  - **Luz Babcock, Los Angeles County.** 35 presumed SIDS, 70% bed sharing. October was SIDS awareness month, and Luz took full advantage of that to educate her community. She wrote letters to all local birthing hospitals with a flyer to include in the discharge paperwork about safe sleep. Each of the 3,659 county employees received a pay stub attachment acknowledging SIDS Awareness Month. Luz also contacted local area churches and had 345 churches insert Safe Sleep Practices into their bulletins and on websites.

- **Alisia Mejia, Long Beach.** Alisia is contacting child care providers to offer education. She has met face to face with 95 providers. Alisia has a family she is in contact with that is fearful, and she is trying to help them.
- **Rachel Strickland, Temecula.** Rachel is honored to have been named as the SIDS parent representative to the California SIDS Advisory Council. She looks forward to working hard with the Council and being a voice for parents. Rachel continues to hold parent support meetings. Her name is getting out in the community, and her meetings are growing in popularity. She even has opportunities to support parents through multiple causes of death. Rachel is also looking forward to getting involved with a brand new hospital that will open in her neighborhood in the next month.
- **Colleen Ma, Orange County.** The GISOC continues to meet and provide support to SIDS parents. We host monthly support meetings, but one-on-one meetings with parents seem to be more popular. Colleen has three parents she is actively supporting. It was suggested that Colleen supply the PHNs with handwritten notes to give to grieving parents, it might make the parents more inclined to contact the Guild. It was also suggested that we put GISOC flyers at County Vital Records. GISOC voted to give the \$2000 to CHLA through 5-East and to be used to purchase at least 2 TV-Video machines where the NICHD video can be placed and shown in all of the NICU cubicles for all of the NICU parents at CHLA.
- **Claudia Benton, Ventura County.** . She has the opportunity to present to the Ventura County breastfeeding board on healthy breastfeeding and the importance of not bed sharing. She hopes to do a great job and encourage women to breastfeed and put their baby to bed in a safe sleep environment. She plans to use the AAP guidelines as her model and the backing for her position. She is working on a multi-agency pamphlet to educate parents on support options available in her county
- **Children's Hospital Los Angeles (Tom Keens):**

Our Safe Infant Sleep group gave Pediatric Grand Rounds at Children's Hospital Los Angeles on January 17, 2014, on "Reaching the First Birthday: Safe Infant Sleep". This was an opportunity to train physicians (both faculty and physicians-in-training) about safe infant sleep. This was extremely well received.

We continue our Safe Infant Sleep campaign at CHLA with a pilot program on 5-East. We performed crib audits of hospitalized infants under 1-year of age, which initially showed that cribs were cluttered with clothes, stuffed animals, pillows, etc. We have educated nursing personnel, and repeat crib audits are much improved.

- **Northern California Regional SIDS Council.**

*Susana Flores, P.H.N.,* President of the Northern California Regional SIDS Council, reported on activities of the *Northern California Regional SIDS Council*.

Reporting on the Northern California Regional SIDS Council meeting held on Nov. 15, 2013, in Walnut Creek at the Contra Costa Crisis Center.

1. Aline Armstrong who was the President of the Northern California Regional SIDS Council at that time, reported to the group on the important items that were discussed by the

California SIDS Advisory Council on the call that was held on 10/01/2013. We want to thank Aline for the wonderful service she provided during her four years as the president of the Northern California Regional SIDS Council. She did an outstanding job!

2. Guey-Shiang Tsay thanked Aline Armstrong and Michelle Scott for their great work in keeping the council members informed about the development with the SIDS contract, as it unfolded. Guey was pleased to inform that **Rachel Strickland** has been appointed by the Director of the California Department of Public Health to be a **parent group representative** for the California SIDS Advisory Council. She also welcomed, along with the rest of the group, our new SIDS contractor from the University of California SF School Of Nursing. We were all very happy to meet Abbey Alkon, Mimi Wolff and Bobbie Rose. Abbey will oversee and lead the program, as many of you already know.



Northern California Regional SIDS Council,  
November 15, 2013.

3. Abbey introduced the members of her staff that were present, Mimi and Bobbie. She also handed out a very nice packet with of information which included their contact information, electronic newsletter information (CCHC), creating an environment for safe and healthy sleep in CCP, CA childcare health program brochure along with several other safe sleep pamphlets. They all shared their background, experience and expertise. We are very happy to have them join our council and we are looking forward to working with them and learning from their very rich background.
4. The council has started to plan for the upcoming SIDS training and conference. It was emphasized by Guey and the Abbey that those are the top priorities for the Council. Michelle Scott has volunteered to find a location in Stockton for the upcoming northern SIDS training to be held on 03/20/2014, and we hope to hear more about this at our next meeting this coming Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. Guey has secured the location at the CDPH in Sacramento for the SIDS Annual Conference on October 17, 2014.
5. I will share on a couple of important issues that were brought up by Devra Hutchinson in Alameda Co and Michelle Scott from San Joaquin County. Devra reported issues of non-adherence to SIDS protocols by their coroner's office. She shared that CNCs were not sent; cases were not referred and families were not contacted per SIDS protocol. These cases were never reported to the California SIDS Program. Alameda County SIDS coordinator was going to be meeting with Public Health nursing staff to ensure that the impacted families

receive acknowledgement of their loss and where possible, grief/bereavement support. In October, SIDS awareness month activities included for Alameda Co: issuance of the 2013 proclamation by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors for October as Sudden Infant death Awareness Month, and the facilitation of the African American Faith Based Grief and Bereavement training to address fetal, pregnancy and infant loss, which was held on October 11, 2013. The training is a by-product of the African American Faith Based Bereavement Initiative. In San Joaquin County, Michelle Scott reported that she attended the MCAH Action in October and found out that there were many MCAH Directors and SIDS coordinators that didn't know anything about our new SIDS Council members or that the SIDS council even existed in the North and South.

6. In regard to northern council updates, new officers were selected in November. **Lorie Gehrke**, SIDS parent, was elected as the vice president. **MarieJoy Supapo** from Solano County will be the secretary and I, **Susana Flores**, SIDS Coordinator for San Mateo County was chosen to be the president.
7. Lastly, the 2014 meetings dates are scheduled as follows: **Jan 24, March 21, May 9, July 18, Sept 12 and Nov 14.**

- **Council Meetings in 2014.**

The *California SIDS Advisory Council* holds four meetings per year. Three are by telephone conference call, and the fourth is in-person the day prior to the California SIDS Conference. The remaining meetings for 2014 will be:

- Meeting by telephone conference call: Tuesday, April 29, 2014, 1:30-3:30 P.M.
- Meeting by telephone conference call: Tuesday, August 19, 2014, 1:30-3:30 P.M.
- In-person Meeting: Thursday, October 16, 2014, 1:00-4:00 P.M., the day before the 33<sup>rd</sup> *Annual California SIDS Conference* in Sacramento, California.

By law, meetings of legislatively mandated advisory councils are open to the public. Therefore, anyone interested in participating in *California SIDS Advisory Council* meetings is welcome and encouraged to attend.

- **Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kitty Roche, R.N., P.H.N., B.S.N., M.S.W.  
Secretary, California SIDS Advisory Council

Thomas G. Keens, M.D.  
Chair, California SIDS Advisory Council



# California SIDS Advisory Council



Kathleen Beichley



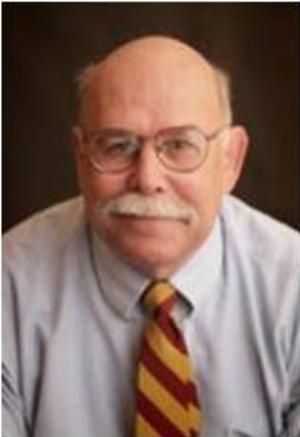
Dawn Dailey



Steve Durfor



Lorie Gehrke



Tom Keens



James Ribe



Kitty Roche



Rachel Strickland



Dennis Watt



Penny Stastny



Susana Flores

