



# California Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Advisory Council

## Minutes of the April 29, 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.*

**Rachel Strickland,** *SIDS*  
*Parent.*

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

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

**Susana Flores, P.H.N.,**  
*President, Northern Calif.*  
*Regional SIDS Council.*

### Council Chairperson:

Thomas G. Keens, M.D.  
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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. April, 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.; Rachel Strickland; Penny F. Stastny, R.N., B.S.N., P.H.N.; and Dennis Watt.
- **Members Absent:** Steve Durfor; and James K. Ribe, M.D., J.D.
- **State and California SIDS Program:** Abbey Alkon, R.N., P.N.P., Ph.D.; Sandra Bahn; Carrie Florez; Bobbie Rose, R.N., P.H.N.; Guey-Shiang Tsay, R.N., M.S.N.; and Mimi Wolff, M.S.W.
- **Guests:** Erica Alexander, P.H.N.; Luz Arboleda-Babcock, R.N., B.S.N., P.H.N.; Cynthia Braeboy, M.S.W.; Gwen Edelstein, RN, PNP, MPA; Lidia Escobar, L.C.S.W.; Kitty Gay, P.H.N.; Devra Hutchinson; Stephanie Inyama; Karen Jackson, R.N., P.H.N.; and Arce McIntyre.
- **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.
- 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 April 29, 2014.
- **Introductions.**  
Council members, state staff, and guests introduced themselves.
- **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.

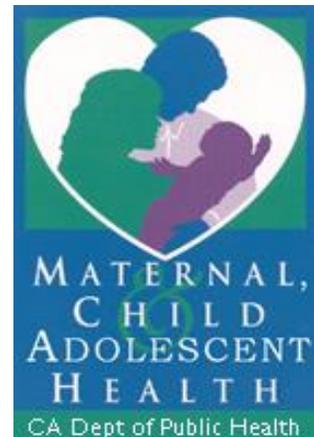
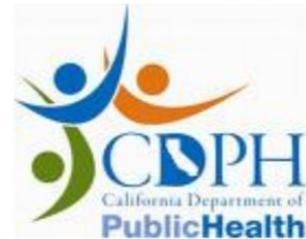
Northern and Southern CA SIDS Trainings on 3/20/14 and 4/9/2014: Thanks to SIDS parent panel, Dr. Keens, Dennis Watt, Penny Stastny, Michele Scott, Karen Jackson, Kitty Roche and UCSF SIDS Contractor staff for their efforts to provide the successful SIDS trainings for Emergency Personnel and Public Health Professionals.

California SIDS Program Website: The CDPH IT staff restored the old CA SIDS Program website and it is on the CDPH website. However, it is in a format that MCAH staff and the Contractor are unable to edit. MCAH staff attended IT training and learned how to re-establish the website in a new, editable format. This project will take some time to complete. In the meantime, MCAH staff is continuing to working with UCSF SIDS Contractor to update the current CA SIDS Program website with the assistance from ITSD staff.

MCAH's next budget year FY 2014-15: From what we currently know, there will be no change to the MCAH SIDS program allocation.

*Carrie Florez* reported that the 2012 SIDS data have been posted on the MCAH website. The 2012 bulletin and corresponding SIDS data tables are now available. The SIDS rate in 2012 was 32.6 per 100,000 live births, a slight increase of 1.6 percent from 2011. The rate represents 164 SIDS deaths in 2012.

New Coroner Notification Cards (yellow) have been mailed to all county coroners' offices with the new CA SIDS Program Contractor address. At this time we do not have an answer to what will happen if a county uses an old Coroner Notification Card (green). Current numbers of presumed SIDS cases may be off because the post office likely has notification cards that need to be picked up. I am trying to get in touch with the post office to pick up



Guey-Shiang Tsay



Carrie Florez

any cards and get an answer to what happens to an old notification card if it's mailed. Once I receive an answer I will forward the information.

• **California SIDS Program.**

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

***Presumed SIDS Deaths***

- There have been 25 presumed SIDS cases reported to the California SIDS Program from January 1 – March 31, 2014.
- For this reporting period, the California SIDS Program has received 20 Coroner Notification Cards and 13 PHSR Forms
- Based on the Public Health Services Reporting forms received without associated Coroner Notification Cards, five Coroners will receive compliance letters this quarter. Compliance for submission of CNCs is 80%.
- Based on the Coroner Notification Cards received without associated Public Health Services Reporting forms, 12 Public Health Nurses will receive compliance letters this quarter. Compliance for submission for PHSR forms is 52%.
- Public Health Services Reporting forms are available on the California SIDS Program Website.
- Coroner Notification Cards are in production and will be mailed from the MCAH Division. In the meantime, we are asking coroners to fax them to the California SIDS Program at 415-753-2161.



***SIDS Training and Educational Programs for Professionals***

- January 30, 2014, Webinar for SIDS Coordinators and MCAH Directors: 70+ attendees
- March 20, 2014, Northern California SIDS Training for Emergency Personnel and Public Health Professionals in Stockton

Stockton Training, March 20, 2014	Registered	Attendance from sign-in sheets
Public Health Professionals	102	96
Emergency Personnel	42	28

Evaluation score average: 4.58 (on a 5 point scale)

- April 9, 2014, Southern California SIDS Training for Emergency Personnel and Public Health Professionals in Santa Ana

Santa Ana Training, April 9, 2014	Registered	Attendance from sign-in sheets
Public Health Professionals	59	57
Emergency Personnel	7	6

Evaluation score average: 4.81 (on a 5 point scale)

6.5 CEUs were given to RNs

4.0 CEUs were given to EMTs

### ***New SIDS Coordinators***

Welcome letters were sent by email to the following new SIDS Coordinators: Anna Sutton, Yolo; Kimlin McDaniel, Santa Cruz; Stephany Ponce, Monterey; and Becky Thornburg, Alpine.

### ***Planning for Annual SIDS Conference in Sacramento, October 17, 2014***

- A working agenda was drafted at the March 21 Northern California Regional SIDS Council Meeting.
- Janet Childs and Dr. Tom Keens were contacted to speak. Both accepted the invitation.

### ***Consultation, Technical Assistance, and Communication***

Information, counseling and consultation were provided for 74 requests by phone and email. Most calls came from SIDS Coordinators and MCAH Directors.

- Most requests come by email. Of the 74 requests, there were 57 email requests and 17 phone requests.
- After hours crisis counseling is available through the Contra Costa Crisis Center.
- The kinds of technical assistance requested are as follows from most common to least common: Training Information, SIDS Educational/Risk Reduction Resources, SIDS Outreach Activities, Grief Support, Reporting Procedures, SIDS Advisory Council and Regional SIDS Council Meetings.
- SIDS Coordinators express a common concern about bed-sharing and are looking for strategies that offer alternatives to bed-sharing. Strategies include the following: CPSC approved play and pack portable cribs, room-sharing but not bed sharing, working with local First 5 to secure funding for sleep sacks and portable cribs, providing SIDS Risk Reduction training for hospital nurses, working with local pre-natal education programs, using the NICHD video.
- The first edition of the California SIDS Program electronic Newsletter was sent in March. Newsletter will be sent to the SIDS Advisory and Regional Councils and their associated mailing lists, SIDS Coordinators, MCAH Directors, Training attendees, and anyone else who requests to be on the list.



**Bobbie Rose and Abbey Alkon**

### ***New SIDS Risk Reduction Materials Identified***

- CPSC Materials on safe sleep are available in Chinese, Vietnamese, Spanish, and English.

- A fact sheet from the Department of Defense (DOD) for home visitors was identified for use by community health workers.

#### *New Articles*

- McDonnell, E., and R.Y. Moon, Infant Deaths and Injuries Associated with Wearable Blankets, Swaddle Wraps, and Swaddling. *Journal of Pediatrics*, 164: 1152-1156, 2014.

#### *Website*

- The California SIDS Program website is in the process of transitioning from the current format to a CDPH-supported platform.
- In the meantime, the new web address has been widely disseminated at the SIDS training, Webinar, in the electronic newsletter and by email. Updates that reflect the new contractor contact information have been made on many pages, including the Webmaster link on every page. We are making steady progress providing updates to CDPH staff for the California SIDS Program website.

#### *Other*

- MCAH has mailed the updated Coroner Notification Cards with an accompanying letter to coroners.
  - The MOU between UCSF School of Nursing (California SIDS Program) and Contra Costa Crisis Center regarding after-hours coverage for calls to the California SIDS Program's toll-free number has been executed.
- **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 call, The ICAN LA County Infant Safe Sleeping Campaign: Safe Sleep for Baby spent the last quarter of 2013 implementing the Safe Sleep for Baby Campaign. The campaign was launched on May 8, 2013 at California Hospital. Safe Sleep for Baby Campaign collateral materials were debuted including the 30 second Safe Sleep for Baby PSAs in English and Spanish, 60 second Radio Spots in English and Spanish and outdoor advertisements in English and Spanish. Campaign representatives also unveiled a new bilingual website, [www.safesleepforbaby.com](http://www.safesleepforbaby.com) and a new bilingual pamphlet.

Last year, advertising/media buy (outdoor, transit, radio) for the Safe Sleep for Baby campaign reached approximately 184 million people in LA County. Ads were heard on local radio stations including Power 106, KJLH and La Raza. Billboards were seen in communities throughout L.A. County. Metro placed ads on the interior and exterior of Metro transit vehicles. This exposure continued throughout the end of 2013, ICAN/ICAN Associates continued to partner with stakeholder agencies for the Safe Sleep for Baby Campaign Partnerships. Agencies were asked to partner with the campaign and use campaign materials to educate staff about infant safe sleeping practices and urge staff to share infant safe sleeping information and tips with the families they work with. Some partners included DPSS - 15,000 pamphlets and safe sleeping information were mailed to DPSS client families; Aspire Public

Schools - 1300 pamphlets were mailed to their families and distributed to other school districts;  
Libraries - partnered with 42 Family Place Libraries in L.A. County.

Overall, the campaign partnered with 51 agencies, provided 51 trainings, delivered 300 e-learning trainings, participated in 5 events/conferences, and distributed over 121,000 infant safe sleeping materials. Presentations were given to 420 organizations and a total of 3331 providers, parents/guardians and students became aware of the campaign. So far in 2014 we have conducted 10 presentations, participated in two conferences and have distributed approximately 4900 infant safe sleeping materials.

We are happy to announce there has been no infant unsafe sleeping deaths since 01/24/2014. We are hopeful and believe our campaign is making a difference, as providers, healthcare professionals are now able to educate their families on unsafe sleeping practices.

Officially, the campaign ends tomorrow, April 30, 2014. However we continue to seek funding opportunities with the hope that we will find ongoing support that allows us to continue bringing awareness to the community.

We are requesting that Council Members call ICAN ([626\) 455-4585](tel:6264554585) if you become aware of funding that would support the Safe Sleep for Baby campaign.

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 still be found online [SafeSleepforBaby.com](http://SafeSleepforBaby.com).



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

*Gwen Edelstein* reported that the Health and Safety Regulatory Workgroup has not met since November 20, 2013. Note: 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 Health and Safety Regulatory Workgroup remains under the leadership of *Mary Beth Phillips, Ph.D.*, Director of Strategic Initiatives and Member Services, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network. *Mary Beth* shared that *Nancy Lunardi*, Chief of the CDSS Child Care Policy and Support Bureau, discussed the safe sleep regulations at their quarterly meeting which took place on April 14, 2014. Due to staffing shortages and turnover of staff in the legislative unit, safe sleep was put on the “back burner” as staff needed to deal with other priorities. These have now been handled and CDSS CCL is in a position to move forward with the safe sleep regulations. Reportedly nine infant deaths occurred last year in licensed child care facilities, all due to unsafe sleeping situations. *Mary Beth* also shared that CDSS CCL is working on making it a requirement for all licensed child care providers who receive government subsidies to have safe sleep training by September 2014. Details concerning the training curricula, trainer provider and the funding source are not available at this time.

*Lucy Chaidez*, Emergency Medical Services Agency (EMSA) Child Care Training Program Coordinator, shared with Health and Safety Regulatory Workgroup members that the EMSA proposal to increase the preventative health training requirements for licensed child care providers was not put forth for new legislation. EMSA is going forth with their plan to increase preventive health training, but it is a plan still in its nascent stage. It must still be approved by the agency’s executive administration. In the meantime, EMSA training does offer SIDS training, as it has always done, and it was updated in 2012 to include the most recent AAP guidelines. But, that training is still only for the licensee--one person at each child care home or center, and it is only required for these people once in a lifetime!

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

There was no discussion on this issue.

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

- *Kathleen Beichley* raised the question about what to do if you see someone else’s child in an unsafe sleeping situation. There was brief discussion, but no resolution.
- Lorie attended the March 20, 2014 *SIDS Training for Emergency Personnel & Public Health Professionals* at the San Joaquin County Office of Education in Stockton, CA. Lorie participated on the parent panel, along with fellow SIDS parents, Darci & Robert Torres and John Mack. The panel was moderated by Susie Moore and helped participants understand the journey of grief in general and the experience of SIDS families, in particular.
- The California SIDS Program reported they are working with Joanni Horchler to bring copies of the *SIDS and Other Infant Death Survival Guide* to public health departments in the State. Lorie, on behalf of the SIDS Alliance of Northern California, also has a supply of the *Guide*, as well as many copies of Toke Hoppenbrouwers’ *SIDS* book. She will bring a supply to the next Northern Regional Council.
- Lorie requested an updated list of parent support groups available in the State. In the North, Lorie is aware only of a small, yet active, group in the Sacramento area. As she receives email inquiries from parents and families around the state, it would be very helpful to know if there are other groups still active *and/or* if there are parents or professionals willing and able to contact SIDS families looking for support. The Facebook group - SIDSLoop - is also

available as virtual support. SIDSLoop is a closed group, so while the group is visible, member posts are private. SIDS family members may request to join at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/sidsloop/>. The group is moderated by Lisa Sculley, Melanie Manley and Lorie Gehrke. If you have recommended someone to this site, it would be helpful to let one of the moderators know.

- **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. In addition, the Council recommended that the Presidents of the Southern and Northern California Regional SIDS Councils reach out to new SIDS Coordinators, inviting them to attend Regional Council meetings as an opportunity for education, networking, and support.

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

There was no discussion on this issue.

- **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 February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014, in Westminster at the Southern California Edison Company. We had 18 members and guests present including: 6 of our current county SIDS Coordinators from Los Angeles (Luz Babcock),



**Southern California Regional SIDS Council.  
February 6, 2014, Meeting**

Ventura (Claudia Benton), Orange (Karen Jackson), San Diego (Kitty Roche and Heather LaBelle), Riverside (Deja Castro), and the City of Long Beach (Alisia Mejia);

6 SIDS parents Colleen Ma, Maureen Chavez, Drew and Angela Skinner, Jeri Wilson, and our new State SIDS Council Representative Rachel Strickland; former SIDS Coordinators Penny Stastny and Danielle Sees; Dr. Jim Ribe representing the Los Angeles County Coroner's office; Dr. Tom Keens from CHLA and USC. We were also joined by our new SIDS subcontractors Dr. Abbey Alkon and Bobbie Rose from the UCSF- School of Nursing.

- We began our meeting by taking several minutes to thank and appreciate *Kitty Roche* for her many years of successful and dedicated services to the SIDS Community. Kitty shared that she will remain in San Diego as a consultant and continue to serve as the San Diego County SIDS Coordinator.
- **President's Report** As President of the Southern California Regional SIDS Council, I gave my President's report which included an update of our last State SIDS Council meeting January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014. I also included in that report the discussion of needing to remain visible to our SIDS Community and the public in general. Part of our visibility is to have our minutes completed very quickly. I will continue to push for a 2 week turnaround to allow the SIDS community, including the State and Northern councils the opportunity to review all of the creative ideas, goals and plans of the various SIDS Coordinators in their perspective counties. We have many new SIDS Coordinators, including new subcontractors who could benefit from viewing and reading our regional council's reports. This includes our goal of getting these minutes on the website if possible as soon as possible.
- **California SIDS Program** . Both Bobbie and Abbey came to our meeting and gave their reports which you have heard today. I will emphasize that the staff seems excited and equipped, along with the Northern California Regional SIDS Council to be planning the 2014 State Conference, which they say is well under way and that Guey has secured the location at the CDPH in Sacramento.
- They also reported that the 2 SIDS trainings for both PHNs and First Responders were also well under way. The Northern SIDS training was March 20<sup>th</sup> in Stockton and the Southern SIDS Training was April 9<sup>th</sup> in Santa Ana. **Side Note:** I will just say that I very much enjoyed being asked to give part of the day's training on the SIDS Home Visit 101 ... along with Michelle Scott for the Northern training and Kitty Roche for the Southern SIDS training. I was asked to give my experiences which we all know is based primarily on what we all learn from SIDS parents. For anyone who was not at the training and would like, I also wrote an article on the Home Visit 101 which was handed out at the trainings and is available for anyone online who would like a copy. I will bring copies to our Southern Council this Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- I will share on a couple of important issues that were brought up by members of the Southern Council.
- **First**, Dr. Ribe at the LA Coroner's office reported that at the beginning of the year he is suggesting to the new boss that they need to speed up the processing of SIDS cases in the office and that a computer mechanism needs to be devised so that the goal would be to close each SIDS case in 60 days or less. **Second**, DCFS continues to be an issue as with each new infant death case, whether possible SIDS or any other possible cause of death, DCFS

responds to all deaths. At this time there is no real solution except for the field PHNs to be aware so that they can explain the routine process of DCFS.

- **Luz Babcock with LA DPH.** Continues to work with churches. Large Buddhist temple with 20000 members using brochures and wanting them in Chinese and Japanese. Sunset and First temple using their social media to share about dangers of bed sharing. Letter to birthing hospitals with links to educate staff and patients. Luz works hard to tell her parents about the grief support meetings her department offers.
- **Rachel Strickland, Temecula.** Temecula Valley hospital doesn't have labor and delivery, but recently heard of a mom who delivered at 30 weeks stillborn and didn't get support. Meeting with Chaplain next week to discuss changes. Even used Christmas decorating of their home to tell community about support group and honor children who have died
- **Maureen Chavez, Riverside County:** Getting calls, but not much activity. Follows up on whatever she does get.
- **James Ribe, M.D., J.D., Los Angeles Department of Coroner:** Beginning of the year I suggested to new boss we need to speed up processing of SIDS cases in the office and we have put together a computer mechanism to give attention to baby deaths. The goal is to close each case in 60 days or less. They are working on being speedy. Neuropathology is backlogged and that doesn't help. Penny reminded us that DCFS is a huge problem in Los Angeles County. Kitty said that San Diego is not like Los Angeles, but there is good cooperation between departments.
- **Jeri Wilson: San Diego:** Chip Lindgren new President in May. New phone number is working and has service. Jeri not taking calls, but still attending meetings. Golf tourney on Feb 14. No support group, so using Empty Cradles support group already exists in SD area, but they don't know about SIDS so the Guild helps with peer contacts. National Social Workers conference may present with Kitty on SIDS
- **Kitty Roche: San Diego:** 25 presumed SIDS, still continuing to rise. 1 Influenza B but child was asymptomatic. 8 SIDS Natural. 1 Bedsharing. 5 SUID while bed sharing. 4 SUID undetermined. 2 Undetermined, bed sharing. Unsafe hospital situations. 1 referral. 3 hour long presentations in 24 hours – Nursing students Cal State San Marcos, Point Loma PHNs. MCH PHNs and Social Service Aids from County. Going to Spanish Head Start to educate parents. Texts for babies. Child Care providers for high school – really appreciative.
- **Karen Jackson: Orange County:** Orange County working on grants. Continue to meet with parents. Board meeting coming up soon.
- **Drew Skinner & Angela Amoroso: San Diego:** Redoing Isabella's Giraffe Club website Good Grief to Go starts in Feb, full house 18 pre registered. Monthly dinners at UCSD for parents of kids in NICU they are great. TIPS speaking March 20. Raised money to send family home to Chicago after being in NICU, awesome story of community chipping in. Siblings in GGtoG has art therapist, does a great job. Art & Earnest, therapy dogs help as well. 4 days at Kaiser helping with stillborn, anencephalic baby. Encourage families to be of service to other families and communities. Playground project raised \$26,000 with fun

run. Roadrunners helping out awesome. Called Partnering with angels. Working on American Girl fashion show March 8 and 9, 2014.

- Children's Hospital Los Angeles (Tom Keens):** On January 17, 2014, Dr. Sandy Gildersleeve (Pediatric Resident); Chris Lins (5-East Nurse); and Dr. Tom Keens gave Pediatric Grand Rounds at Children's Hospital Los Angeles on "Reaching the First Birthday: Safe Infant Sleep". The Grand Rounds was a tremendous success, and a great opportunity to educate physicians (faculty and trainees) at CHLA about safe infant sleep. We included some data from our "5-East Safe Infant Sleep Project", which highlighted some areas we need to focus in education, and improvements that have been made. I have to say that nurses have been leading the way in our campaign. We have educated nurses on 5-East, have implemented a hospital policy requiring that inpatients sleep in a safe environment, and that parents of inpatient are educated about safe infant sleep. Doctors Gildersleeve and Raam gave a Resident Education Conference on "Safe Infant Sleep" on April 15, 2014, which further increased physician education on this topic.



- Upcoming meeting dates set for the Southern California Regional SIDS Council: **May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014; August 14, 2014 and November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014.** All meetings will be held at the Southern California Edison Building in Westminster, as confirmed with their meeting coordinator. We will be starting the beginning stages of planning for the 2015 State Conference so will likely have 5 meetings scheduled in 2015.

- 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*.

The Northern California Regional SIDS Council Meeting met on March 21, 2014, at its usual location, the Contra Costa Crisis Center in Walnut Creek.

I want to express my gratitude to our Vice President *Lorie Gehrke* for calling the meeting to order by phone since I was running a little late that morning.

We are also grateful to *Bobbie Rose* for taking minutes for *Marie Joy Supapo* – Secretary, who was not able to attend.

It was wonderful to welcome *Kelly Borjian* into the group who is a new PHN with San Francisco Public Health; this was her first meeting. We are pleased to welcome back *Magali Leialoha*, SIDS parent returning after taking a two year break.

We heard the State report from Guey-Shiang Tsay and the Contractor Report from Abbey Alkon, which you all have heard today.

**President's Report:** At our last regional meeting on March 21, I had received one nomination for the Boatwright Award from the South only. In our meeting it was suggested by *Guey-Shiang Tsay* that since the Boatwright Award is such a high honor, it should be added to the May agenda, and in the meantime we should ask for more nominations.

Michelle suggested that we send information about the Boatwright award to the larger community, meaning all SIDS Coordinators and council members. It was decided that the Northern California Regional Council will vote for this year's recipient since the conference is in the north. The decision will take in consideration exceptional service on behalf of the SIDS Community.



**Northern California Regional SIDS Council,  
November 15, 2013.**

This month I have received another two more nominations, one from the South and one from the North. The award recipient will be decided in May once again, but in the meantime, nominations are still being solicited. Mimi Wolff from the California SIDS Program has already sent a request to SIDS Coordinators, and Council Members. We encourage everyone in the call, that if there are any more people that they would like to nominate, this is the time, since we are meeting to vote on May 9.

A large portion of our regional meeting was spent on planning for the SIDS Conference in October: Council members were given draft agendas to review. Dr. Tom Keens and Janet Childs have been invited to speak and both have accepted. Thank you Dr. Keens. There was further discussion about the conference agenda and how to make it "fresh". We are planning to have workshops in the afternoon. Some will be offered to parents, grand-parents and family members and the other one will be offered to health professionals.

The council decided on a theme for the conference: *Bridging the Gap between Research and Practice*

If there are any suggestions that want to be made, we are still in time to review. The agenda has not been finalized.

**County Community Updates:**

- **San Mateo County** reported that there have not been any deaths in San Mateo since more than a year ago. In regards to staffing, we are in the process of some big changes in the dept. AFLP will no longer hire a senior PHN which was left vacant a few months ago. There are two current PHN positions in AFLP that will be moved to NFP and General Field. P-3 will be opening a new senior position to absorb the numerous amounts of referrals that they receive in both their South and North Regions. They are going to be opening a central region and a Senior PHN position will open to cover the central region. We also have two PHN positions open under Measure A in P-3.
- **Contra Costa County** reported also, No SIDS cases. Contra Costa CDRT is collaborating with the UC Berkeley MPH Intern during the summer of 2014 to complete a CDRT Annual Report for 2014. Data will include all SIDS deaths for the last 5 years and other infant and adolescent deaths that meet the criteria for a CDRT.

Our next California Regional SIDS Council meeting, will be held on **May 9, 2014**, from **9:30 AM-12:30 PM**.

- **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, 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.

- **Postscripts (for fun).**

- **Safe Infant Sleep video:** The 5-East Safe Infant Sleep project at Children's Hospital Los Angeles produced a short video to motivate nurses and health care professionals to adhere to safe infant sleep recommendations for our hospitalized infants, and to educate their parents to continue this at home. It is called the *Safe Sleep Fairy*; and it is, by their own admission, a "low budget movie" taken using an iPhone, but it is cute, and I think you will enjoy it. It can be found on the web at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/va8aehbw5slgppl/Safe%20Sleep%20Fairy.mp4>

- **Prayer:** A poem by Dana Gioia, set to choral music by Morten Lauridsen. Morten Lauridsen writes: "Dana Gioia's beautiful poem, *Prayer*, was written in memory of his infant son, Michael Jasper Gioia, whose brief life was tragically ended by SIDS. Mr. Gioia served as Chair of the National Endowment for the Arts 2003-2010, and he has authored several books of poems, numerous anthologies, articles, essays, and three opera libretti. Among his many honors are the American Book Award, the Presidential Citizens Medal, and the Aiken-Taylor Award. He currently holds the Judge Widney Chair of Poetry and Public Policy at the University of Southern California. He is a national treasure."

*Prayer*

By Dana Gioia

Echo of the clocktower, footstep  
 In the alleyway, sweep  
 Of the wind sifting the leaves.

Jeweller of the spiderweb, connoisseur  
 Of autumn's opulence, blade of lightning  
 Harvesting the sky.

Keeper of the small gate, choreographer  
 Of the entrances and exits, midnight  
 Whisper travelling the wires.

Seducer, healer, deity or thief,  
 I will see you soon enough ---  
 In the shadow of the rainfall.

In the brief violet darkening a sunset ---  
 But until then I pray watch over him  
 As a mountain guards its covert ore.

And the harsh falcon its flightless young.

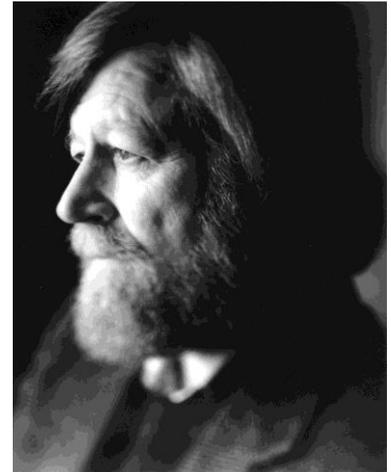
From *The Gods of Winter*, by Dana Gioia, ©1991.

Some of you know that Tom Keens sings in his church choir as a Baritone. He has had the great privilege of singing some of Morten Lauridsen's stunning choral music. His harmonies are haunting, and the spirituality he puts into his music is breath-taking (a word not used lightly by a pediatric pulmonologist). Lauridsen is the Professor and Chair of Composition at the Thornton School of Music at the University of Southern California. He is also a national treasure, in my opinion. He has set Dana Gioia's poem, *Prayer*, to music in a very moving, emotional, and spiritual choral work. You can hear this at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x1xr-aWsQEA>



Dana Gioia



Morten Lauridsen

- **Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 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



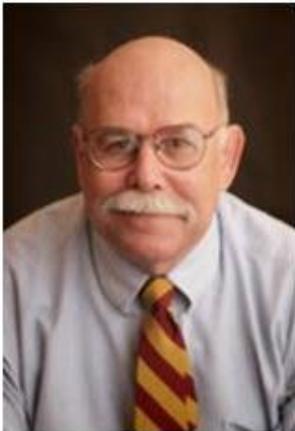
Dawn Dailey



Steve Durfor



Lorie Gehrke



Tom Keens



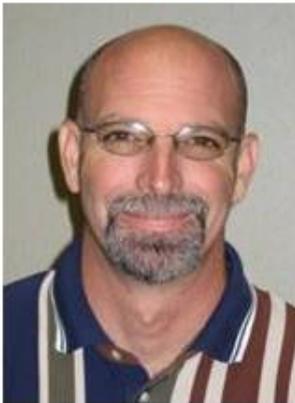
James Ribe



Kitty Roche



Rachel Strickland



Dennis Watt



Penny Stastny



Susana Flores

