



California Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Advisory Council

Minutes of the May 8, 2012, Meeting

Members of the Council

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

Lorie Gehrke, *Vice Chair,*
SIDS Parent.

Kathleen Beichley,
Secretary, SIDS Parent

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

Yolanda DeMello,
M.S.P.M., *SIDS Parent.*

Steven Durfor, *Police/Fire*
Department.

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

Kathleen Roche, R.N.,
P.H.N., B.S.N., M.S.W.,
Public Health Nurse.

Dennis H. Watt, *Coroner.*

Karen Jackson, 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
tkeens@gmail.com

Advisory to the



**California SIDS Advisory Council
Sacramento, California, October 27, 2011**

- **Members Present:** Thomas G. Keens, M.D., *Chair*; Lorie Gehrke, *Vice Chair*; Kathleen Beichley, *Secretary*; Aline Armstrong, P.H.N.; Dawn Dailey, RN, PHN, PhD; Yolanda DeMello, M.S.P.M.; Karen Jackson, P.H.N.; James K. Ribe, M.D.; Kitty Roche, RN, PHN, BSN, MSW; and Dennis Watt.
- **Members Absent:** Steven Durfor.
- **State and California SIDS Program:** Mark A. Damesyn, Dr.P.H.; Gwen Edelstein, RN, PNP, MPA; Carrie Florez; Cheryl McBride, RN; and Guey-Shiang Tsay, RN, MSN.
- **Guests:** Claudia Pineda Benton, M.S.W., R.N.-B.C., P.H.N.; Lydia Escobar; Catherine Farnham, R.,N., P.H.N.; Angel Hopson, R.N., M.S.N., P.H.N.; Devra Hutchinson; Mark Jamison; Colleen Ma; Danielle Sees, R.N., P.H.N., C.L.E., Jessica B. Spearman; Penny Stastny, R.N., B.S.N., Sr. P.H.N.; Deanne Tilton; and Robert Torres.
- The meeting was held by telephone conference call. The meeting was called to order at 1:33 P.M., on Tuesday, May 8, 2012.

- **Introductions.**

Council members, state staff, and guests introduced themselves.

- **California State Senator Daniel E. Boatwright (January 30, 1930 – April 27, 2012)**

I am sad to inform the California SIDS Community that *California State Senator Daniel E. Boatwright* died on April 27, 2012, at the age of 82-years. He was an effective and influential California legislator, serving 8-years in the Assembly and 16-years in the Senate. However, he will be forever known and beloved by the California SIDS Community for his visionary *Boatwright Bills of 1989*, which transformed SIDS services, education, and research in California.

In the mid-1980's, 800 babies died per year from sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) in California. Services to families of infants dying from SIDS were rudimentary. Public education was non-existent. Most families had never even heard of SIDS until their baby was found dead. First responders were unaware of SIDS. It was common for SIDS parents to be arrested at the scene of their baby's death, and led out of their homes in handcuffs, often in front of their own children, neighbors, and friends. Despite the large number of SIDS deaths in California, little research was being performed to capitalize on this rich resource. Loosely organized Southern and Northern SIDS Advisory Councils attempted to improve this situation, but they had little power or influence, and the situation remained largely unchanged. These were, indeed, dark times.

In 1988, *Kevin Brokaw*, the infant son of *Senator Boatwright's* chief legislative aide, died from SIDS. *Senator Boatwright* quickly realized that little was known or being done about SIDS in California. *Kevin's* death energized this productive senator, who quickly brought SIDS to the attention of the State legislature. *Senator Boatwright* wrote, and ultimately passed, four key legislative bills. These laws provided increased funding for services to SIDS families; increased SIDS public education, especially to first responders; established a California SIDS Advisory Council; and established a uniform autopsy and death scene investigation protocol to improve the accuracy of the diagnosis of SIDS and to stimulate research. These laws propelled California's SIDS services, education, and research to a level that would not have been possible without them. *Senator Boatwright's* legacy to the SIDS community lives on in these pioneering and profoundly visionary laws.

The SIDS scene in California is now very different because of *Senator Boatwright*. The general public is aware of SIDS, as well as a number of changes parents can make in their infant's sleep environment to reduce the risk of SIDS occurring. First responders know about SIDS, and they are usually appropriately gentle, supportive, and knowledgeable when arriving on the scene of a



Senator Daniel E. Boatwright
1930-2012

SIDS death. California has made monumental contributions to SIDS research, because the *Boatwright Bills* stimulate research. And the California SIDS Program now leads the nation in providing SIDS services and education, and in supporting SIDS research. All of these advances are due to the actions of one productive California Senator, *Daniel E. Boatwright*.

Since 1991, the California SIDS Community keeps *Senator Boatwright's* memory alive when it established the *Senator Daniel E. Boatwright Award*, "for extraordinary public service on behalf of Californians touched by sudden infant death syndrome." It is appropriate that *Senator Boatwright* was the first recipient of this, the most prestigious and important public service award given annually by the California SIDS Community. By the end of 2011, a total of 20 individuals have been honored with this award: including SIDS parents who pioneered SIDS peer support, public health nurses who created paradigms for supporting SIDS families and advanced public education, and SIDS researchers who strive to end this tragedy.

These advances are *Senator Boatwright's* living legacy to the California SIDS Community. Anything we have achieved and any advances we have made are due to the vision of *Senator Daniel E. Boatwright* over 20-years ago. To the family and friends of *Senator Daniel E. Boatwright*, the California SIDS Community extends our deepest sympathy and our most profound gratitude.

On behalf of the California SIDS Community, a floral arrangement was provided to the family at the Senator's funeral service with a memorial tribute recognizing this stellar statesman for "his extraordinary public service on behalf of Californians touched by SIDS."

- **SIDS Risk Reduction Education.**

California SIDS Program: Updates with new American Academy of Pediatrics Revised Recommendations, 2011.

The American Academy of Pediatrics published its revised recommendations for SIDS risk reduction on October 17, 2011¹. These recommendations update the previous AAP recommendations published in 2005². The new recommendations largely support the 2005 recommendations, but the new ones expand and clarify some issues. The changes were reviewed by the Council at its October 27, 2011, meeting, and by the principal author, *Doctor Rachel Moon*, at the 31st Annual California Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Conference in Sacramento, on October 28, 2011. The 2011 recommendations include information about unsafe infant sleeping environments in order to prevent deaths due to suffocation, strangulation, or entrapment. This is not to say that



¹ Moon, R.Y., R.A. Darnall, M.H. Goodstein, and F.R. Hauk. American Academy of Pediatrics Task Force on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome: SIDS and other sleep-related infant deaths: expansion of recommendations for a safe infant sleeping environment. *Pediatrics*, 128: 1030-1039, 2011.

² Kattwinkel, J., F.R. Hauck, M.SE. Keenan, M. Malloy, and R.Y. Moon. . American Academy of Pediatrics Task Force on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome: The changing concept of sudden infant death syndrome: diagnostic and coding shifts, controversies regarding the sleeping environment, and new variables to consider in reducing risk. *Pediatrics*, 116: 1245-1255, 20015.

SIDS is the same as suffocation, strangulation, or entrapment. However, the goal of the recommendations is to reduce the number of sleep -related infant deaths from any cause. Some infants are dying in unsafe sleeping environments, and it is important to include education to avoid these unsafe sleeping situations. These recommendations were reviewed in more detail at the *Council's* October 27, 2011, meeting. For details, please see the Minutes of the October 27, 2011, meeting at <http://www.californiasids.com/Universal/MainPage.cfm?p=122>

At its October 27, 2011, meeting, the *California SIDS Advisory Council* officially recommended to the California Department of Public Health, that these new recommendations be the basis of SIDS Risk Reduction and Infant Safe Sleep education and campaigns in California. A handout, *Safe Sleep Environments for Infants: Reducing the Risk of SIDS and Other Sleep Related Infant Deaths* was developed by the California SIDS Program. The California SIDS Advisory Council recommended that this document be approved by CDPH MCAH as a tool for health care professionals providing SIDS risk reduction and safe sleep educational interventions.

Gwen Edelstein shared that the new handout has been added to the California SIDS Program website replacing the Safe Sleep Top Ten messages and is available as a PDF to download and disseminate along with the published 2011 AAP Policy Statement and Technical Report. SIDS Coordinators were advised of the new SIDS risk reduction guidelines via an article in the April 2012 Director's Message. The new recommendations have been incorporated into the training curriculum for emergency personnel and public health professionals. The Program collaborated with the Department of Social Services (DSS) Community Care Licensing staff to include the new messages in their educational outreach to licensed childcare providers. The California Childcare Health Program in consultation with the California SIDS Program developed bilingual handouts with the new AAP SIDS risk reduction/safe sleep guidelines. These handouts include: *Safe Sleep for Infants in Child Care Programs: Reducing the Risk of SIDS and SUID*; *Safe Sleep Policy for Infants in Child Care Programs* and a parent fact sheet *Safe Sleep: Reducing the Risk of SIDS*.

Gwen shared that she along with *Guey-Shiang Tsay* and *Doctor Connie Mitchell*, CDPH MCAH Division were selected to participate on March 7th in the National Institute of Child Health and Development (NICHD) online telephone discussion group. The purpose of the call was to identify feasible ways to promote infant safe sleep recommendations and for NICHD to obtain feedback on potential campaign logos to be used in the Back to Sleep Campaign. New safe sleep materials from NICHD are in the process of being developed and are expected to be available early this summer. In the interim, the current NICHD Back to Sleep Campaign materials with the Safe Sleep Top Ten messages can be used for educational outreach activities.

Los Angeles County Infant Safe Sleep Campaign.

Los Angeles County Supervisor *Mark Ridley Thomas* became aware of infants dying in unsafe sleeping environments. He initiated the *Los Angeles County Infant Safe Sleep Task Force* on June 14, 2010. *First Five Los Angeles* was awarded a \$1.5-million grant to work with the *Task Force* on safe infant sleep. The Task Force has contracted with an organization which has expertise in campaigns to change public behavior.

Deanne Tilton, ICAN Executive Director in Los Angeles County, and *Jessica Spearman*, Program Director of the Los Angeles County Infant Safe Sleep Task Force, summarized the activities of the *Los Angeles County Infant Safe Sleep Task Force*. The Infant Safe Sleeping

Campaign has spent the first quarter of 2012 planning and developing focus groups and community forums for the Los Angeles County Infant Safe Sleeping Campaign.

Focus groups highlighting the target audiences will be completed by May 30, 2012. *ICAN Associates* and *First 5 Los Angeles* have collaborated with marketing agency, *Rogers Finn Partners*, to determine focus groups demographics, agree on recruitment strategy and participant questionnaires, as well as developing focus group agendas and concepts to be tested. Members of the Infant Safe Sleeping Task Force have been contacted as well as 12 Community Child Abuse Council Chairpersons requesting aid in community forum preparations. This has included inquiries about potential forum venue sites, locations with built in audiences, and community leaders to connect the campaign to target audiences. *ICAN Associates* and the marketing agency expect to finalize development of the campaign messages once focus groups have been conducted and will use information derived from community forums to further develop and influence campaign messages, audiences, and marketing tactics. During this period the Infant Safe Sleeping Task Force will reconvene to discuss the campaign message, and aid with community forum preparation. The remaining quarters of 2012 will be spent conducting community forums, developing pilot training for county agencies, and generating a campaign and marketing plan for 2013.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Public Health

The goal is to reach all of L.A. County with the Safe Sleep message, keeping the focus group campaigns broad. Focus Group selection will be completed by the end of May, presented to the Task Force for coordination and broadest outreach, then followed up with development of a specific media blitz within the next year and out to the public by year two. Evaluation of the campaign will be done by *First Five* who monitors on a monthly basis. Additionally, there will be a pre and post test questionnaire given to the focus groups. The California SIDS Program website is also available as a resource for disseminating information. *Sylvia Drew Ivy* has been included as a valuable resource for funding sources and provided 10 of the 13 focus groups determined thus far for outreach.

A video featuring *Doctor Carol Berkowitz* and *Denise Bertone*, Los Angeles County Coroner Investigator, has been produced by DCFS for the purpose of training hospital staff and parents of newborns regarding infant safe sleeping and shaken baby prevention.

Preventing Unsafe Infant Sleep Workgroup

Rachel Zerbo returned to the CDPH Safe and Active Communities (SAC) Branch in May, 2012, but she was unable to join today's call. *Gwen Edelstein* presented an update of the Workgroup activities since the last Council Meeting.

- The major focus has been safe sleep activities targeted at DSS licensed child care centers. A Health and Safety Regulatory Workgroup is being led by *Mary Beth Phillips, PhD, California Military Child Care Liaison* who is funded by the Department of Defense. Other members include *Lucy Chaidez*, California Emergency Medical Services Agency, and *Nathan Salomonis*, SIDS Parent.

- The workgroup is incorporating ways to incorporate the new 2011 AAP risk reduction/safe sleep recommendations into DSS CCL policies, regulations and standards. They have researched the current California regulations and identified those which are out of date and potentially “harmful” such as drop-down side cribs and the use of bumper pads. They have also reviewed regulations from other states which have safe sleep requirements such as Minnesota and Colorado. The workgroup is proposing revisions to the regulations for licensed child care centers so they exemplify the current AAP safe sleep recommendations including educational materials to meet the mandates of AB757. Since regulatory changes do not require legislative approval this approach is more feasible than pursuing revisions to the mandates. A teleconference is scheduled on May 9, 2012, to continue work on drafting DSS CCL safe sleep guidelines, and identifying strategies and resources for educating licensed child care center staff.
- On May 21, 2012 the CDPH SAC Safe Sleep Policy Workgroup led by *Rachel Zerbo* will reconvene via a teleconference.
- **Disparities in the Accuracy and Consistency of SIDS, Undetermined, or SUID Diagnoses.**

Educating the SIDS Community in light of *SIDS Summit 2011*.

In California, there has long been a disparity in the consistency of the diagnosis of infants who die suddenly and unexpectedly without an obvious cause. In some jurisdictions, such infants may have a cause of death signed out as "SIDS", in some "Undetermined", in still others "Sudden Unexplained Infant Death", etc. *The California State Coroners' Association (CSCA)* sponsored a *SIDS Summit* at the West Coast Training Conference, held in Studio City on October 19, 2011. There were 32 participants including coroners and medical examiners from major California counties. They engaged in the discussion of cases, common ground, and differences with enthusiasm. The *SIDS Summit* was summarized in the October 27, 2011, Minutes of the California SIDS Advisory Council. For more details, please see the Minutes of the October 27, 2011, meeting at



<http://www.californiasids.com/Universal/MainPage.cfm?p=122>

It is clear that pathologists and coroners are doing the best job they can to determine the cause of death in these infants. However, the less classical nature of SIDS (due to Back to Sleep) and the availability of more information (due to the uniform autopsy and death scene investigation protocol) have resulted in a disparity in the way diagnoses are made. Thus, it appears that different diagnoses will remain a reality in California. However, it appears that in the minds of the pathologists, the diagnoses of SIDS, SUID, and undetermined are intended to refer to the same thing. Therefore, it will become the responsibility of the *California SIDS Advisory*

Council to educate the California SIDS Community that these diagnoses are the same, and they are not intended to cast blame on SIDS parents.

Dr. Keens suggested that a document be developed to explain the shift in diagnosis whereby SIDS, SUID and undetermined are used interchangeably. *Dr. Keens* agreed to draft a document to address this issue and will collaborate with *Lorie Gehrke* and *Gwen Edelstein*.

Coroners Should Send the Names of All Sudden Unexpected Infant Deaths to their County Public Health Nurses so the Families can Receive Services.

A consequence of babies receiving different causes of death in California is that families may not receive education and grief support services depending on the diagnosed cause of death. The first step to insure that all families receive these services is for the Coroners to inform the County Public Health Nurses of the families of all infants who die suddenly and unexpectedly, regardless of the diagnosis. *Doctor Keens* will work with *Dennis Watt*, former President of the California State Coroners' Association, to begin planning a way to encourage all California Coroners to do this.

County Public Health Departments Should make Public Health Nurse Visits to the Families of all Infants Dying Suddenly and Unexpectedly Regardless of the Diagnosed Cause of Death.

A consequence of using different diagnoses for infants dying suddenly is that not all Counties may provide Public Health Nurse visits. California legislation requires that Public Health Nurse visits be made to families of babies dying from SIDS, for education and grief support. However, families of infants with diagnoses other than SIDS (Undetermined, SUID, etc.) are not specifically covered under the law. The *California SIDS Advisory Council* strongly believes that families of all infants dying suddenly and unexpectedly should receive these essential services.

Catherine Farnham, RN, PHN, suggested to include into the CDPH MCAH letter encouraging PHNs to visit families with a SUID, SID, Undetermined diagnosis, a phrase such as, "this request would not markedly increase the number of family visits needed (i.e., costs to the Public Health Departments) as the increase in SUID and "undetermined" diagnoses was reflected by a decrease in the number of SIDS diagnoses; thus, we PHNs would be continuing to serve the same population group."

Concerns were expressed that a consolidation of terms may have credibility issues in different counties due to the differences in names for the same condition. The goal is to consolidate the terms through a defining document without affecting the State definition of SIDS, yet allowing other terms to be part of the definition. Then the document with the new interpretation could be disseminated around the State with hopes that eventually counties, the public and most importantly, parents will accept the varying terms as having the same meaning as SIDS. PHN's would take the lead in creating an action plan to accept all the various diagnoses with the document in hand.

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

There is difficulty providing support for SIDS families who do not live near an active SIDS Parent Support organization. Therefore,



Yolanda DeMello

Lorie Gehrke

discussion arose about providing such support on line. *Yolanda DeMello* holds monthly online meetings by Skype and on Facebook with other SIDS parents. She has reached out not only from SIDS parents in her immediate area, but from parents worldwide. She has accommodated the time change for online chat with international parents by reaching out at all hours of the day and night. *Yolanda* indicated that this approach is working well. It is cost effective, and it allows people to communicate in the privacy of their homes. *Yolanda* believes that this allows a first step, and when the SIDS parents are ready to face people, they can then more comfortably attend group support meetings. Parents from all over the country participate in the monthly telephone support group.

Yolanda stated she needs help with supporting newly bereaved SIDS/SUID families. She is currently supporting families from Georgia and Southern California including Ventura and Long Beach. *Gwen* shared that four parents and a grandmother were trained as peer contacts in Los Angeles on January 17th and eight parents attended the April 20th Peer Contact Training in Walnut Creek. The online daily bereavement support sessions available from *The Compassionate Friends* may be an option for families unable to attend support group meetings or in those areas where grief resources are not available. The *California SIDS Program* website has been updated to designate all state and national grief organizations which offer social media networking options such as Facebook, blogs, and Twitter. Local SIDS parent support organizations and SIDS Coordinators can also contact the *California SIDS Program* to obtain names of trained peer contacts, who will provide individualized support to bereaved families.

Lorie Gehrke shared an online support network, the *SIDS Loop*. She advised everyone to please encourage families to join. Professionals are also welcome. Send request to join by searching for SIDS Loop on Facebook. She reported she has a new supply of *SIDS and Infant Death Survival Guides* in English and Spanish for parents or PHNs.

- **Public Health Nurse Issues.**

The California SIDS Advisory Council wished all of the nurses on the call a *Happy Nurse's Week*.

The Advisory Council PHNs have conducted a survey of Coordinators in order to determine current Safe Sleep Outreach Practices and to identify specific needs on the parts of the Coordinators. The California SIDS Program worked collaboratively with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Division and State SIDS Advisory Council to send a survey to the SIDS Coordinators for the purpose of identifying strategies to meet the educational and training needs of SIDS Coordinators throughout the State. The California SIDS Program emailed the survey report to Advisory Council members on May 7th and to all SIDS Coordinators and MCAH Directors on May 8th. There are plans to present a two hour afternoon workshop at the 2012 Annual SIDS Conference for SIDS Coordinators. *Kitty Roche* will facilitate the workshop and will coordinate a conference call with *Karen Jackson*, *Angel Hopson*, *Danielle Sees*, and *Gwen Edelstein*, to plan this session. The survey results will be used to identify topics/issues for this session.



Gwen Edelstein

Kitty Roche

Work will continue in this area in order to increase support for California's PHN County SIDS Coordinators.

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

These issues were addressed under "Disparities in the Accuracy and Consistency of SIDS, Undetermined, or SUID Diagnoses" (see above).

- **Southern California Regional SIDS Council.**

Karen Jackson, P.H.N., President of the Southern California Regional SIDS Council and Orange County SIDS Coordinator, reported on the activities of the *Southern California Regional SIDS Council*. The Southern California Regional SIDS Council is planning the *32nd Annual California SIDS Conference*. The Conference will be held at the *California Endowment Center* in downtown Los Angeles, on Tuesday, October 30, 2012. The keynote speaker will be internationally renowned SIDS researcher, *Doctor Hannah Kinney* from Harvard University. *Doctor Kinney* has produced the most exciting SIDS research of the past few decades. The *Southern California Regional SIDS Council* is busy meeting every 2-months to plan a memorable event.



Hannah Kinney

The SIDS parent subcommittee has done tremendous pre-planning on their monthly Friday afternoon teleconferences. *Angela and Drew Skinner, Jeri Wilson, Colleen Ma, and Yolanda DeMello* are planning the Welcome reception and Memorial Service part of the conference. A Grandparent Workshop has been added in the afternoon, at the request of *Rachel Strickland*. She also offered to facilitate. She said it is invaluable as many grandparents attend the conference, but they often do not feel that the parent or professional workshops meet their needs. This feedback came from conference evaluations.

A room block has been arranged at the *Kyoto Hotel and Gardens*. The hotel is within walking distance of the *California Endowment Center* (If you are a vigorous walker); otherwise, the *Kyoto* offers a shuttle service.

The *California SIDS Advisory Council* meeting will be Monday, October 29, 2012, at the *California Endowment Center*. Our Council Chair, *Tom Keens*, will hold his traditional and highly ceremonial walk to *Cielito Lindo* on Olvera Street (the site of *El Pueblo de Nuestra Señora de los Angeles de Porciúncula*, where Los Angeles was founded on September 4, 1781), to buy and eat arguably the World's Greatest Taquitos.

- **Northern California Regional SIDS Council.**

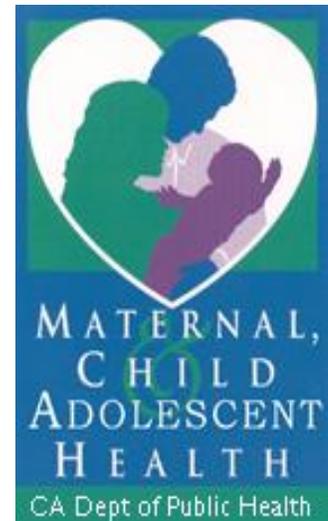
Aline Armstrong, P.H.N., President of the Northern California Regional SIDS Council, reported on the activities of the Northern California Regional SIDS Council. Some of the Coordinators are collaborating with *First 5* to get the message out regarding Safe Sleeping as well as doing presentations in their communities and with hospital staff. In San Francisco, an MCAH Health Educator saw an ad against secondhand smoke on TV showing a woman smoking and the

smoke drifting down to the baby. The baby was in a crib on its back with a blanket that was scrunched up and not tucked in at the sides. The ad was called “Secondhand Sally”. This information was brought to the attention of the State of California Tobacco Control Program media unit. Most recently, *Aline Armstrong* was contacted to provide feedback on a new ad the California Tobacco Control Program CDPH is drafting regarding secondhand smoke effecting children. She recommended to them that they review the California SIDS Program website with the guidelines and recommendations. She provided them with the email address. They responded with much appreciation. The African American Faith Based Initiative (AAFBI) on grief and bereavement curriculum can be accessed/downloaded from the National Center for Cultural Competence website. <http://nccc.georgetown.edu/>

- **State Report.**

Guey-Shiang Tsay presented a report of the California SIDS activities of the Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Section of the California Department of Public Health.

- We are saddened by the loss of Senator Daniel Boatwright. We are grateful for his contributions to improve SIDS services, education, and research in California.
- We thank Susan Moore for the two peer contact trainings she provided and also to the SIDS parents attending the trainings in January and April this year. We also extend our appreciation for the assistance of training provided by Angel Hopson in January.
- The Southern California SIDS Training in San Diego on March 22, 2012 was very successful. We had 93 Public Health Professionals and 14 Emergency Personnel attend the training. Thanks to all of the guests including the speakers and SIDS parents participating in this training. Big thanks to *Doctor Tom Keens, Gwen Edelstein, Cheryl McBride, Dana Gary, and Kitty Roche* for their hard work.
- From what we currently know, there will be no change to the MCAH SIDS program allocation.



- **California SIDS Program Report.**

Gwen Edelstein submitted a detailed written report of California SIDS Program activities for January 1 to March 31, 2012, that was distributed to all Council members and will be posted on the Program’s website. She also provided the Council with the handout *Safe Sleep Environments for Infants: Reducing the Risk of SIDS and Other Sleep-Related Infant Deaths*, which outlines the newly approved 2011 AAP safe sleep messages for educational outreach in California. *A Report of SIDS Training Survey Among California MCAH Local Health Jurisdictions* was disseminated to the Council and discussed as part of the PHN agenda item.

Gwen reported on the California SIDS Program Southern California SIDS training for emergency personnel/public health professionals held on March 22nd in San Diego at the San Diego County Office of Education. She acknowledged the SIDS parents who participated in the morning panel including *Angela Amoroso, Drew Skinner, Colleen Ma* and *Jeri Wilson*. *Kitty Roche* and *Dr. Keens* played a major role in the making the training a huge success. The Northern California SIDS training will be held on June 7th in Richmond (Contra Costa County) at the CDPH facility. *Lorie Gehrke* and *Nathan/Heather Salomonis* have volunteered to serve on the SIDS parent panel.

Gwen acknowledged *Dawn Dailey* and *Kitty Roche* for their support in welcoming newly appointed SIDS Coordinators. *Kitty* contacted the Coordinator from Sacramento County during this report period.

Gwen reported on the 2012 Annual SIDS Conference and stated plans are moving ahead to finalize the agenda and speakers. A logo has been designed for this year's theme, *Hearts United in Healing*.

Cheryl McBride prepared a complete report of Compliance Monitoring for this report period which was provided to the Council and will be posted on the Program's website in the State SIDS Advisory Council section.



- **The 2012 International Conference on Stillbirth, SIDS, and Infant Survival.**

The 2012 International Conference on Stillbirth, SIDS, and Infant Survival, sponsored by First Candle and the International Society for the Study and Prevention of Infant Deaths, will be held in Baltimore, Maryland, on October 5-7, 2012. The site of the conference will be the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel. Information about the conference can be found at its website:

<http://www.firstcandle.org/internationalconference/>

For those who have never attended an international SIDS research conference, they present a rare opportunity to network with SIDS parents, program professionals, and researchers from around the world who are dedicated to improving SIDS support, education, and research.

- **Council Meetings in 2012.**

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 2012 will be:

- Telephone Conference Call: Tuesday, August 14, 2012, 1:30-3:30 P.M.
- In-person Meeting: the day before the 32nd Annual California SIDS Conference on Monday, October 29, 2012, 1:00-4:00 P.M., at the *California Endowment Center* in Los Angeles, 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. For information how to access the telephone conference call meeting, please contact *Guey-Shiang Tsay* at Guey-Shiang.Tsay@cdph.ca.gov

• **Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:27 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

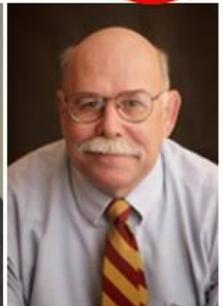
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