

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

December 5, 2008

MEMORANDUM

<u>What's Inside:</u> New Safe Sleep Practices form, CD-117

TO: REGIONAL EXECUTIVE STAFF, CIRCUIT MANAGERS, AND
CHILDREN'S DIVISION STAFF

FROM: JAMES C. HARRISON, ACTING DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: SAFE SLEEP PRACTICES FORM

DISCUSSION:

Unintentional suffocation is a leading cause of injury and death in infants and toddlers. Most infant deaths due to suffocation are directly related to unsafe sleep practices. These practices include:

- The child becoming wedged against bumper pads, pillows, & comforters.
- Adults sleeping with infants or toddlers and rolling over on them.
- Unaccustomed tummy sleeping (the infant being placed on or rolling into the tummy position when this is not a position in which the infant typically sleeps.)

The Children's Division is adopting the Safe Sleep recommendations as identified by the American Academy of Pediatrics and will discuss Sleep information that is listed on the Safe Sleep Practices form with resource parents during the initial home visit with the resource parent applicants. All resource parents, including respite providers, will be asked to review and sign the Safe Sleep Practices form, [CD-117](#). Staff need to have all currently licensed resource parents sign the form at their next quarterly home visit and place it in the forms section of their case file. Staff will ensure that the CD-117 is signed and placed in the case file by June 30, 2009.

A [Safety Tip](#) regarding Safe Sleep was issued September 18, 2008. There are two new links on the CD [intranet page](#):

- PowerPoint training
- An instructional page addressing Safe Sleep.

Staff should remember to share this information with parents with whom they work who are expecting a child or have infants or very young children.

Additional information on safe sleep may be reviewed at the [Children's Trust Fund](#) web site and their web [Brochure](#).

NECESSARY ACTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review this memorandum with all Children's Division staff. 2. Review revised Child Welfare Manual chapters as indicated below. 3. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to: 	
PDS CONTACT Elizabeth Tattershall 573-522-1191 Elizabeth.Tattershall@dss.mo.gov	PROGRAM MANAGER Melody Yancey 573-522-4062 Melody.Yancey@dss.mo.gov
CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS Section 5 chapter 1 subsection 6 Section 6 chapter 3 attachment A	
FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS Safe Sleep Practices CD-117	
REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES Safety Tip Children's Trust Fund Children's Trust Fund Brochure	
RELATED STATUTE N/A	
ADMINISTRATIVE RULE N/A	
COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION (COA) STANDARDS N/A	
CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW (CFSR) N/A	
PROTECTIVE FACTORS Parental Resilience NA Social Connections NA Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development Concrete Support in Times of Need NA Social and Emotional Competence of Children NA	
FACES REQUIREMENTS N/A	