

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: ALL CHILDREN'S DIVISION STAFF  
FROM: DAVID KURT, CHILDREN'S DIVISION DIRECTOR  
SUBJECT: SAFE SLEEP FLYER, CD-278

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform all Children's Division staff of an update to Section 2, Chapter 4 (Non-Child Abuse/Neglect Referrals), Subsection 4- Newborn Crisis Assessments, requiring all staff to educate families of safe sleep practices by discussing and distributing the Safe Sleep Flyer, CD-278 during the course of a Newborn Crisis Assessment. Despite ongoing efforts to inform families and caretakers of the importance of safe sleep for infants, the number of infants who die due to sleep related issues remains a statewide and national issue.

Some of the common concerns identified as unsafe sleeping environments consist of:

- Co-sleeping with a caretaker and/or sibling
- Sleeping on soft surfaces
- Utilizing soft items, blankets and bumper pads in sleep spaces
- Placing an infant on their stomach to sleep
- Cribs that have a drop down side
- Allowing an infant to sleep in a car seat, baby seat, or swing

As such, during the course of any Newborn Crisis Assessment, Children's Division staff will now be required to distribute the Safe Sleep Flyer, CD-278, at the time of the initial face to face contact with the mother, father, and/or other caretaker. Staff should allow for a thorough conversation related to safe sleep recommendations identified in the flyer. The distribution of the flyer, as well as the conversation with the parent/caretaker regarding safe sleep, must be documented in the narrative section of FACES.

Attached is the Safe Sleep Flyer, CD-278, as well as the Spanish version, CD-278-Spanish, which can be accessed through E-Forms.

<b>NECESSARY ACTION</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review this memorandum with all Children’s Division staff.</li> <li>2. Review revised Child Welfare Manual chapters as indicated below.</li> <li>3. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to:</li> </ol>	
<b>PDS CONTACT</b>	<b>MANAGER CONTACT</b>
Tara Goins 573-526-9587 Tara.Goins@dss.mo.gov	Tasha Toeppen 573-526-3899 Tasha.Toebben@dss.mo.gov
<b>CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS</b>	
Section 2, Chapter 4 (Non-Child Abuse/Neglect Referrals), Subsection 4 – Newborn Crisis Assessments	
<b>FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS</b>	
Safe Sleep Flyer (CD-278) and Safe Sleep Flyer-Spanish (CD-278-Spanish)	
<b>REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES</b>	
N/A	
<b>RELATED STATUTE</b>	
N/A	