The tragedy of infant death touches hundreds of Kansas families every year. The Kansas Infant Death and SIDS Network (KIDS) supports individuals who have experienced such a loss, as well as organizations working to reduce the risk of infant death through education, training, and research. A major focus of the network’s outreach is promoting safe sleep practices. This is achieved through multiple innovative initiatives, including: Safe Sleep Community Baby Showers; Cribs for KIDS; safe-sleep education for new and expectant parents via hospital, home visit, or birthing center; and safe-sleep training for healthcare, and child care providers.
“Delivering Change is thrilled to have the KIDS Network in our community.”

KIDS Network educates both providers and community members on the importance of safe sleep.

KIDS NETWORK GRANT

Strategies

Education
To reduce the risk of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and sleep-related deaths, infants should be put to sleep alone, on their back, in a crib free from clutter. All caregivers need to understand the importance of these risk-reduction strategies, and how to overcome barriers following them. Lack of awareness — and lack of funds — put babies at risk.

Resources & Equipment
Provide cribs and wearable blankets to families in need.

Outreach

3,854 PARENTS
2,588 CARE PROVIDERS
100 COUNTIES

KIDS Network initiatives broadcast the message about safe sleep practices to the widest possible audience, providing up-to-date education and approved accessories and equipment.

Programs include:
- Training healthcare providers
- Training child care providers
- Community baby showers
- Hospital and home visits
- Supporting research into SIDS
- Infant products for needy families

HOW WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Spotlight on Geary County

In 2011, Geary County’s infant mortality and morbidity rates registered as one of the highest in the state at 10.4 infant deaths per 1,000 births between 2007 and 2010.

Today, due to the efforts of Delivering Change: Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies, working in close partnership with KIDS Network, Geary County’s infant mortality rate has significantly dropped.

10.4 per 1,000 births (2011) 6.6 per 1,000 births (2015)
**KIDS Network Grant**

Blueprint Building Block: *Healthy Development*

**Sources of Funding**
- Private
- CIF

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**Total Operating Budget:**
- $242,988

**CIF Funding:**
- $96,374

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**Areas of Impact**

*Aligned to the Blueprint*
- Ensure outreach, education, and ongoing support for pregnant women (particularly underserved populations)
- Promote safe, stable, and nurturing relationships to ensure children have strong, healthy starts
- Promote cross-sector partnerships to support comprehensive needs of families
- Engage non-traditional stakeholders
- Promote the facilitation of peer-to-peer support opportunities
- Promote public-private partnerships

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**Accountability Scores**

1. **Quality of Evaluation**: 100

2. **Evidence-Based Practice Score**
   - Level 1: Emerging Programs & Practices

3. **Direct Services to Children**
   - Concrete Support: 293
   - Family Engagement and Referrals: 86

4. **Population Served**
   - Prenatal to 2
   - Ages 2-5
   - Parents
   - Professional Development
   - 293  50  3,854  2,588
KIDS Network Grant
Highlights and Goals

Looking back

Highlights of 2015

Statewide Safe Sleep Instructor Training

Statewide expansion of Safe Sleep Community Baby Showers

Peer-reviewed publications and national and international professional conferences

Statewide expansion of Fetal Infant Mortality Review

Looking forward

Goals for the coming year

Continuing to educate expectant parents about safe sleeping conditions

Ongoing research into causes of infant death

Closing the disparity between population groups in terms of infant mortality

Continued expansion of the statewide infrastructure for safe sleep education and promotion

The death of an infant is both an individual tragedy — for the family involved — and a crucial indicator of the larger population’s health and well-being.

In addition to offering grief and bereavement services for those who have endured the loss of a child, the KIDS Network strives to reduce the incidence of infant death by eliminating the risks we know about, and supporting research into causes yet to be identified.