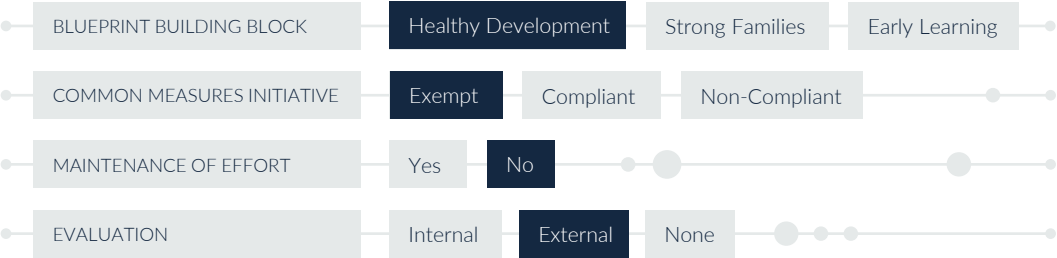


# KIDS Network

Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)

## Kansas Infant Death and SIDS Network

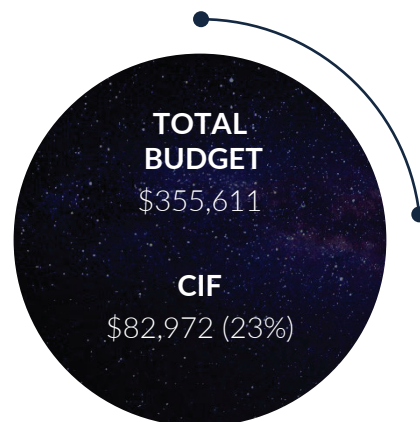
The tragedy of infant death touches hundreds of Kansas families every year. The Kansas Infant Death and SIDS (KIDS) Network supports individuals who have experienced such a loss, as well as organizations working to reduce the risk of infant death through education, training, and research. A major focus of the Network’s outreach is promoting safe sleep practices through such initiatives as: creating a statewide Safe Sleep Infrastructure, Safe Sleep Community Baby Showers, Cribs for Kids collaboration, safe sleep education for new and expectant parents, and safe sleep instructor training for health and child care providers.



# KIDS Network

## THE NEED

The death of an infant creates a ripple effect, taking a tremendous toll on the parents, as well as their network of family and friends. Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is the leading cause of death in the United States for infants between the ages of one month and one year, but there are ways families can decrease the risk. KIDS Network works to prevent the risk of SIDS by providing education on safe sleep practices, offering cribs to families in need, and supporting research on the underlying causes of infant mortality.



## OUR SOLUTIONS



### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Providers and parents receive training to understand the importance of sleep-related deaths including SIDS risk-reduction strategies, and learn how to overcome barriers to implementation.



### FAMILY SUPPORT

Infant products (such as cribs and wearable blankets), along with hospital and home visits, help needy families practice risk-reduction strategies.



### RESEARCH

Research on sleep-related deaths including SIDS, both behavioral and physiological, leads to informed care and safer practices.

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*“The infant mortality rate in the state has been on a statistically significant decline over the past 10, 12 years... and I can’t imagine where those numbers would be if the KIDS Network was not here and doing the programs they are doing.”*

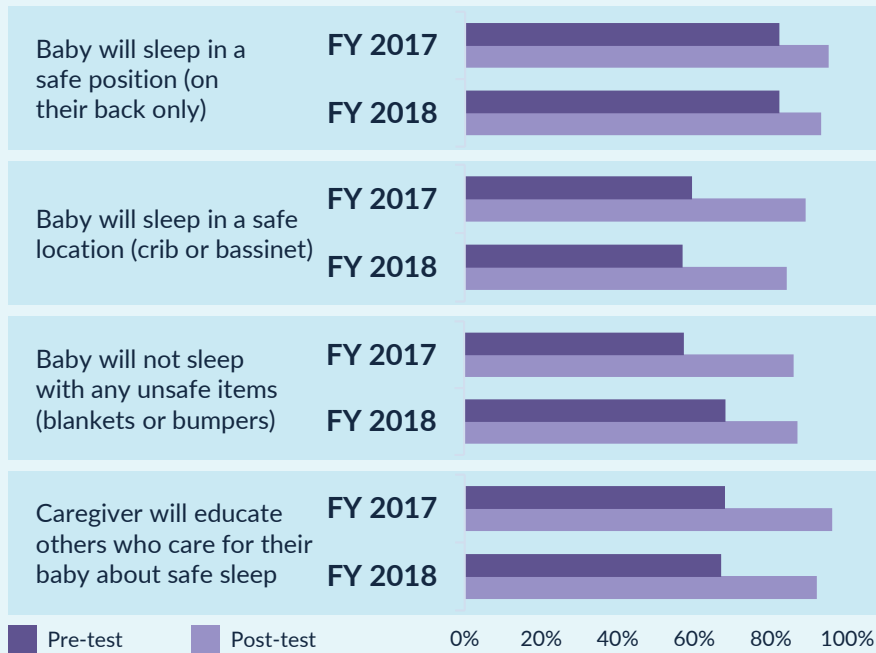
~ Carolyn Ahlers-Schmidt, PhD., University of Kansas School of Medicine, Wichita

# KIDS Network

## OUTCOMES



### Mother self-report before and after attending a community baby shower



The outcomes remained statistically significant in fiscal years 2017 and 2018

FY 2017 n = 811  
FY 2018 n = 870

## FY 2018 POPULATION SERVED

Total Children	3,893
Prenatal to Age 2	3,843
Ages 2-5	0
Ages 5-12	50
Ages 12-18	0
Ages 18+	0
Caregivers	6,533
Professional Development	8,831



# KIDS Network



## LOOKING BACK

WHAT WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED

Strengthened partnerships and worked more directly with KDHE's Tobacco Use Prevention Program to train tobacco treatment specialists to support breastfeeding and tobacco use cessation among pregnant women and new mothers

Began developing Safe Sleep certification

Developed strategies to streamline service tracking to enhance evaluation efforts and explore longitudinal trends

## LOOKING FORWARD

WHERE WE'RE HEADED

Continue to provide consistent safe sleep messaging and resources throughout the state to support families

Support and educate obstetricians in promoting safe sleep with families

Continue collaboration with foster care and Family Preservation contractors to embed safe sleep instructors within the agencies

**Evaluation Practices:** The KIDS Network contracts with the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita to conduct an annual evaluation to measure the knowledge and behavioral changes of safe sleep, service delivery, and outcomes. Data are collected at various points depending on service delivery setting during the continuum of care for parents/caregivers, child care providers, and medical professionals. Evaluation findings inform program changes for continuous quality improvement and service delivery. Findings are disseminated in publications, the website, conferences, and board meetings.

**Evidence Base: Innovative Program.** KIDS Network is actively working to establish an evidence base for their practices by conducting rigorous research using appropriate comparison methodologies, and submitting findings to peer-reviewed journals.