



Public Health Division

County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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OCTOBER IS SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH

Santa Cruz County, Calif. – October is Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Awareness Month. During this month and beyond, public health nurses in Santa Cruz County advocate for and encourage safe infant sleep to help raise awareness about SIDS. As part of a countywide SIDS awareness effort, Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency is pleased to announce the launch of our new SIDS Program Website.

[Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Program \(SIDS\) \(santacruzhealth.org\)](http://santacruzhealth.org)

The new website offers SIDS statistics, the most updated risk reduction strategies, grief support resources, and specific pages for families, caregivers, health care, and childcare providers. Resources are in both English and Spanish and include infographics, videos, and printable brochures.

CDC reports show that each year there are about 3,600 sudden unexpected infant deaths in the United States. This number translates to 10 deaths per day or one death every 2-3 hours. Through education and outreach, Public Health Nurses aim to prevent as many sleep-related infant deaths as possible.

Santa Cruz County participates in the Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Program, in accordance with the State of California Health and Safety Code, Chapter 268, Statutes of 1991, that ensures coordination, follow-up of all reported county SIDS cases with Public Health Nursing.

Public Health Nurses in Santa Cruz County provide bereavement support, information, resources, and follow-up services to assist families and caregivers who have experienced the loss of an infant from SIDS or Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID). If you have questions or need more information about the SIDS program, call: (831) 454-4339 or Toll-Free (888) 598-0728.

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