



Clearinghouse on Supervised Visitation Phone Conference Agenda



February 19, 2020

12PM/11CT

Discussion

1. Welcome and Announcements – Everyone is invited!
2. Check the listings on the website to ensure your program information is up to date and correct for the quarterly report. If you need to add or change anything email Lyndi Bradley at lbradley2@fsu.edu
3. **NEW REQUIREMENT** for A&V Report: “Do you have a child support case with the State of FL Child Support Services?”
4. Questions from Directors
5. Overview of FL Child Abuse Death Review Report
6. Post-Traumatic Growth
7. Poisoning Prevention Handout



New Supervised Visitation Database Question!

Please note that a new **mandatory** question has been added to Florida's Supervised Visitation Database. This question:

Do you have a child support case with the Florida Child Support Program?

is being included to help determine how many supervised visitation clients also have Florida Child Support Program agreements. Please choose either YES / NO / Don't Know to answer the question. It is not mandatory that clients answer YES, only that they do answer the question.

The new question will appear on the Client Information page for a Visitor and Custodian as seen in the picture below.

Client Update for Case '2004-1-JonesMarion'

[<< Back to Clients Listing](#) [<< Back to Cases Listing](#)

Client Type:

Last Name: First Name: MI:

Date of Birth (YYYY-MM-DD):

SSN Last 4:

Gender:

Race/ethnicity of this Client

(Check all that apply)

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Black/African American
- White
- Hispanic
- Other Races - If you are A and V funded, you can not choose this category.
- Asian
- Pacific Islander
- Two or More Races

Relationship to Child(ren)

If relationship is different for different children, please indicate separately for each child.

Last	MI	Date of Birth	Relationship to Child	
Jones	Jason	M	2000-03-02	Mother (Biological or adoptive)

Do you have a child support case with the Florida Child Support Program? Yes No Don't know

Client lives Out of state In state (indicate county and city)

County of Residence:

City of Residence:

Annual income - all sources (to be recorded separately for each custodian & visitor)

If you have any questions regarding the new variable, please contact Kelly O'Rourke, Database Manager at kes2523@my.fsu.edu

We received a few questions regarding the expectations for completing the new data and wanted to share the below updates to assist with implementing this new requirement.

- SAV programs do not need to re-submit quarterly reports to DCF for the Oct – Dec 2019 service period.
- Guidance received from the federal program about the new requirement was that the existing child support data element for the SAV grant has changed from “optional” to “mandatory.” A simple yes or no to the child support question is all they are asking for at this time.
- SAV programs will need to be sure that any cases with services from Oct 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020 have the new question answered in the database for Visitors and Custodians.
- For all existing cases, during the reporting year it is acceptable for programs to make changes in the database about the child support question even though the case was accepted earlier. This may include updating older or even closed cases in the database.
- The goal is to have a complete report by September 30, 2020 to indicate whether or not there is child support involvement in every case entered that year.
- FSU is working on revising the database report and expects to have it reconfigured for the next reporting cycle (January – March 2020). Once they have the new report configured, the report will show red errors where this question is missing which should help the SAV programs identify cases that need to be updated, if any.
- SAV programs may want to consider adding the child support question to their intake form to obtain the information.
- FSU staff are available to the SAV programs for any questions and/or technical assistance with the new data reporting. In addition, the FSU Clearinghouse reviewed this topic on their last statewide monthly conference call for SAV programs and plan to include this topic again on their call next month. FSU contacts are Kelly O’Rourke at kes2523@my.fsu.edu or (850) 222-3845 and Karen Oehme at koehme@fsu.edu or (850) 644-6303.

Thank you for your assistance with this new requirement.

A stylized map of Florida is shown in a light gray color. Overlaid on the map are several human figures. Five teal-colored figures are arranged in a line across the top and middle of the state, holding hands. A white figure is positioned in the lower right portion of the state, appearing to be in a protective or supportive stance. The background of the page features a large teal vertical bar on the right side and several thin teal vertical lines.

Child Abuse Death Review Committee

Working to eliminate preventable
child abuse and neglect deaths in Florida

ANNUAL REPORT
DECEMBER 2019

Executive Summary

Analysis of the 2018 case review data reveal that regardless of maltreatment verification status, children under the age of five have the highest number of child deaths called to the Florida Abuse Hotline. The three leading causes of child death in 2018 CADR cases are:

1. **Sleep-related Infant Death:** Sleep-related infant deaths represent 40.3% of all preventable child fatalities called into the Florida Abuse Hotline. Children placed to sleep on adult beds, couches and other soft surfaces are at significant risk of suffocation. An infant sharing a sleep surface with another child or an adult also poses a risk for sleep-related death.
2. **Drowning:** is the second leading cause of preventable child death, representing 21.8% of all preventable child death cases. Drowning primarily affects children under the age of five. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, nearly 70% of child drowning occurs during non-swimming activities. For handouts about water safety in English and Spanish see these two links: [Water Safety \(English\)](#) and [Water Safety \(Spanish\)](#)
3. **Inflicted Trauma:** is the third most frequent cause of preventable child death, representing 8.3% of child fatalities called into the hotline. Inflicted trauma includes abuse to a child by way of bodily force, such as the use of fists, hands and feet or by the use of weapons and firearms

Prevention Recommendations

The following prevention recommendations developed by the State CADR Committee provide an overview of strategies and approaches intended to address preventable child fatalities in Florida:

- ❖ Continue efforts to relay timely information to caregivers regarding the safety of children. The Governor's Office of Adoption and Child Protection (OACP) has utilized monthly statewide webinars to highlight health, safety, education and employment topics to increase awareness and promote action within local communities.
- ❖ Develop strategies to ensure consistent and coordinated prevention-related messaging across local and state agencies. The Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida (The Ounce) is a leader of statewide child abuse prevention campaigns including abuse prevention, water safety, safe sleep, look before you lock and coping with crying. The Ounce works with state agencies, including DOH, DCF, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice and the Governor's Office on prevention messaging. Regular prevention meetings are held to ensure that all agencies are coordinating messages with evidence-based methods and recommendations informed by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), CADR and other reliable sources.
- ❖ Expand efforts to collect data related to co-occurring substance abuse and mental health disorders
- ❖ Increase messaging around appropriate supervision and barriers of protection as primary factors in drowning prevention. Local CADR Committees around the state provide the following;
 - Outreach to pool supply companies to provide water safety educational materials for new customers.
 - Distribution of water-safety educational materials to families engaged in local social services.
 - Participation in community events, providing water-safety education to the public.

- Use of social media campaign to further advance public awareness of drowning prevention
- ❖ Continue to support programs and practices that enhance parenting skills and coordinate services provided to expectant mothers and partners. Circuit 12 CADR developed and implemented an educational outreach program, "Healthy Pregnancy and Child Safety Training," designed to provide valuable information to Recovery Pod Inmates at the Manatee County Jail. This program provides two hours of training and education to male and female inmates covering topics including the impact of substance use and abuse during pregnancy and substance exposed newborns. Additionally, this program educates inmates on general child maltreatment, prevention of sleep-related infant death, and child death due to inflicted trauma.

Statutory Authority

Section 383.402, Florida Statutes (Appendix A)

PROGRAM PURPOSE

- Develop a community-based approach to address child abuse deaths and contributing factors.
- Achieve a greater understanding of the causes and contributing factors of deaths resulting from child abuse or neglect.
- Identify gaps, deficiencies, or problems in service delivery to children and families by public and private agencies that may be related to child abuse deaths.
- Develop data-driven recommendations for reducing child abuse and neglect deaths.
- Implement such recommendations, to the extent possible.

State Child Abuse Death Review Committee

A representative of DOH, appointed by the State Surgeon General, serves as the committee coordinator.

In addition to DOH, the State CADR Committee is composed of representatives from the following departments, agencies, or organizations:

- Department of Legal Affairs
- Department of Children and Families
- Department of Law Enforcement
- Department of Education
- Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association, Inc.
- Florida Medical Examiners Commission, whose representative must be a forensic pathologist

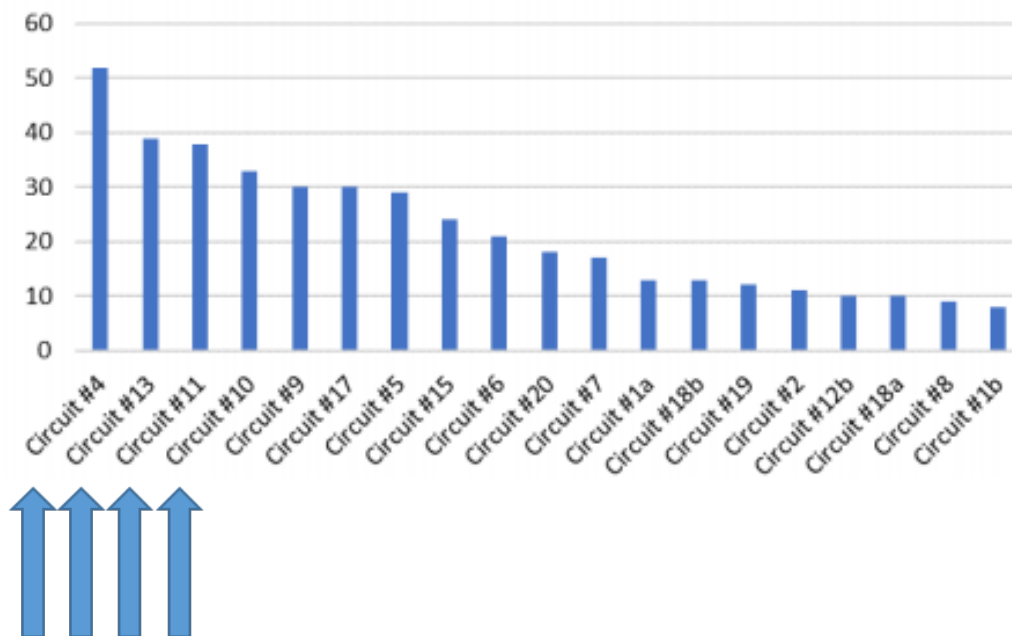
Case Review Statistics

This report includes information on closed child fatality cases which have been reviewed and entered into the National Center for Review and Prevention Case Reporting System.

Table 1: Child Fatality Cases Reviewed and Case Review Status Across Local CADR Committees

	Total Cases (Child deaths called into hotline)	Cases Not Available for Review (Open Investigation/Case in Processing)	Cases Available for Review	Review Completed	Verified Maltreatment Cases Reviewed	Not Substantiated Maltreatment Cases Reviewed	No Indicators Maltreatment Cases Reviewed
Circuit #1a	13	2	11	11	0	0	11
Circuit #1b	8	0	8	8	0	1	7
Circuit #2	11	0	11	11	1	1	9
Circuit #3	5	0	5	4	1	2	1
Circuit #4	52	1	51	47	10	12	25
Circuit #5	29	11	18	17	4	2	14
Circuit #6	21	3	18	18	4	1	12
Circuit #7	17	4	13	9	1	7	1
Circuit #8	9	1	8	4	1	1	2
Circuit #9	30	1	29	29	7	3	19
Circuit #10	33	1	32	32	11	2	19
Circuit #11	38	6	32	17	4	6	6
Circuit #12a	8	0	8	7	2	0	4
Circuit #12b	10	3	7	7	1	2	4
Circuit #13	39	9	30	29	7	5	17
Circuit #14	7	3	4	3	2	0	1
Circuit #15	24	3	21	11	5	1	5
Circuit #16	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Circuit #17	30	5	25	23	12	8	3
Circuit #18a	10	0	10	10	3	1	6
Circuit #18b	13	3	10	8	1	0	7
Circuit #19	12	1	11	8	3	2	3
Circuit #20	18	2	16	12	3	1	8
Totals	438	60	378	325	83	58	184

Figure 1: 2018 Child Death Cases Reported to the Hotline (N=438)



Summary Points

As of October 15, 2019, 438 child fatalities for 2018 were called into the Florida Abuse Hotline.

Of these child death incidents:

- 394 were closed by DCF
- 44 were still open or recently closed, therefore case information was unavailable
- Of the 394 closed cases for which the information was available for review, 325 reviews were completed, with the remainder of cases (69) scheduled for review after October 15, 2019. Please note that this report applies only to the 325 cases reviewed. Findings are qualified by this fact and may change once all referenced child fatalities are reviewed. Consideration will be given toward supplemental analyses of the remaining 2018 fatalities (113) upon case closure and review.
- There were seven Local CADR Committees with 25 or more child fatality cases called into the hotline in 2018. These include: Circuit 4 (52), Circuit 13 (39), Circuit 11 (38), Circuit 10 (33), Circuit 9 (30), Circuit 17 (30), Circuit 5 (29).
- Of the 83 verified maltreatment deaths reviewed, 60 (72.2%) were the result of neglect, and 23 (27.7%) were the result of abuse.

Location of Childs Death

In this report, the word “county” refers to where the incident took place, not necessarily the county where the death occurred or the county of a child’s residence. Use of the incident county provides more meaningful data regarding the death event. Additional information on the location of child death is available in Appendix F. Of the top three primary causes of death regardless of verification status:

- 68 of 131 (51.9%) of all sleep-related deaths occurred in five counties: Broward, Duval, Hillsborough, Orange and Polk. Duval County alone accounted for 24 of 131 (18.3%) of

- all sleep-related deaths
- 34 of 71 (47.9%) of all drownings occurred in five counties: Broward, Duval, Hillsborough, Pasco and Volusia
- 27 deaths due to inflicted trauma occurred across 15 counties, with 4 occurring in Orange County (14.8%)

Figure 8: Incident Sleep Place for Sleep-Related (n=131)



Current Issues Affecting Florida's Children and Families

- **Co-occurring disorders;** involving both mental health issues and substance abuse have a continued prevalence throughout Florida and a significant impact on the well-being of children in our state. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) reports almost all persons struggling with substance abuse are also dually diagnosed with mental health disorders including Post-Traumatic Stress disorder (PTSD) and a variety of depressive and anxiety related disorders.
- **Opioid crisis;** it continues to have a severe impact on the welfare of Florida's children including an increase in the number of children born addicted to opioids.
- **Suicide;** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) identified suicide as the eighth leading cause of death in the state of Florida, identifying death by suicide as a serious public health issue.



State of Florida
Department of Children and Families

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Secretary

Child Protection Team Home Safety Checklist

Infants Less Than 6 Months Old

Although much child protection work focuses on the problem of abuse, unintentional injuries resulting from negligent care actually cause twice as many infant and child deaths each year. Negligent supervision of children and hazardous conditions in the home also cause numerous non-fatal injuries. Many parents are unaware of the dangers to children present in the home. You can help them to identify these dangers and prevent future injuries and deaths.

Safe Sleep: *Unsafe sleep conditions are the most common cause of preventable death in infants less than 6 months old.* Bed-sharing with adults, sleeping on the stomach and sleeping in places not intended for safe sleep are all common causes of death in infants. In 2017, 119 infants less than 6 months old died as a result of the unsafe sleeping arrangements described below.

Observation	Rationale
<input type="checkbox"/> Crib, Bassinet or Playpen: In good repair. free of toys, blankets, bumper pads, stuffed animals and away from hanging window cords. Mattress fits snugly against rails.	Cribs, bassinets and playpens are the safest places for infants to sleep. Any object in the sleeping area is a suffocation or strangulation hazard.
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent expresses an understanding of the importance of placing the infant down to sleep on his/her back.	Infants who sleep on their stomachs are more likely to die in their sleep of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent expresses an understanding of the importance of the infant sleeping in a crib, bassinet or playpen and not in bed or elsewhere with an adult or older child.	Parents sleeping with their babies often suffocate them as they sleep. In Florida in 2017, 77 infants less than 6 months old died from bed-sharing. Sleeping in the same <u>room</u> is good, but not the same bed.
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent expresses an understanding of the importance of the infant sleeping in a crib, bassinet or playpen and not on a sofa, couch or chair.	Babies sleeping on couches, futons and chairs often get their faces wedged in places where they suffocate. This happened to 11 babies less than 6 months old in Florida in 2017.

Fall Prevention: Although household falls rarely cause death, they cause many bumps, bruises, broken bones and even skull fractures. Many parents first find that their baby has learned to roll over when he or she is hurt falling off of a bed, couch or changing table.

<input type="checkbox"/> Parent expresses an understanding of the and importance of never leaving the infant on any raised surface from which he or she could fall.	Even young infants can scoot squirm and can fall from beds, couches and changing tables.
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Burn Prevention: Many infants suffer burns from hot liquids, hot objects and cigarettes handled carelessly around them.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | Parent expresses an understanding that he/she should not smoke or drink hot coffee or tea while holding the infant. | Babies wave their arms and kick their legs and may cause spills or come in contact with hot things. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Parent expresses an understanding that the hot water heater should be set to a temperature no higher than 120 degrees. | If the hot water heater is set at a hotter temperature, scald burns can happen in seconds. Parent, friend or landlord can adjust. |

Automobile Safety: Many serious injuries and fatal accidents to infants and children occur when the car or truck they are riding in is involved in a collision.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | Parent has a car seat and knows how to install it and the baby correctly. | Improperly restrained infants in improperly installed car seats are not protected. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Parent expresses an understanding that the infant must be restrained in the car every time he or she travels. | You can never predict when a car accident will happen. It is never safe to carry an infant in one's arms or otherwise unrestrained in a car. |



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Infants 6 – 12 Months Old

Although much child protection work focuses on the problem of abuse, unintentional injuries resulting from negligent care actually cause twice as many infant and child deaths each year. Negligent supervision of children and hazardous conditions in the home also cause numerous non-fatal injuries. Many parents are unaware of the dangers to children present in the home. You can help them to identify these dangers and prevent future injuries and deaths.

Safe Sleep: *Unsafe sleep conditions are the most common cause of preventable death in infants less than 12 months old.* Bed-sharing with adults and sleeping in places not intended for safe sleep are common causes of death in infants in this age group. In 2015, 140 infants, 21 of them 6-12 months of age, died as a result of the unsafe sleeping arrangements described below.

Observation	Rationale
<input type="checkbox"/> Crib, Bassinet or Playpen: In good repair. free of toys, blankets, bumper pads, stuffed animals and away from hanging window cords. Mattress fits snugly against rails.	Cribs, bassinets and playpens are the safest places for infants to sleep. Any object in the sleeping area is a suffocation or strangulation hazard.
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent expresses an understanding of the importance of the infant sleeping in a crib, bassinet or playpen and not in bed with an adult.	Parents sleeping with their babies often suffocate them as they sleep. In Florida in 2017, there were 93 bed-sharing deaths. Of these, 14 were 6-12 months old.
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent expresses an understanding of the importance of the infant sleeping in a crib, bassinet or playpen and not on a sofa, couch or chair.	Babies sleeping on couches, futons and chairs often get their faces wedged in places where they suffocate. In Florida in 2017, 3 infants 6-12 months old died in this manner.

Fall Prevention: Infants in this age group are very mobile. Not only can they roll over, but most will be crawling and some will be cruising or walking before they are a year old.

<input type="checkbox"/> Parent expresses an understanding of the importance of never leaving the infant on any raised surface from which he or she could fall.	There is no maybe: Infants in this age range <u>will</u> fall and get hurt if they are left on beds and couches.
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent has barrier gates on steps or stairs to prevent falls.	Infants in this age range can start crawling up or down stairs and can fall, hurting themselves.
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent is not putting the infant in an infant walker.	Infants in walkers suffer more falls and injuries. They are also slower learning to walk. Stationary infant play stations are safer.

Drowning Prevention: Because they are starting to move around and cannot recognize danger, infants in this age range will drown if given a chance to get into water.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | Parent expresses an understanding that the infant should never be left in a bath either alone or with another child. | In Florida in 2017, 3 infants 6-12 months old drowned when they were left unsupervised in bathtubs. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Parent expresses an understanding that buckets of water are a drowning danger for children in this age group. | Infants who can crawl will sometimes pull up on the side of a bucket of water and fall in head first. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | If there is a swimming pool of any kind on the property, there are doors or gates with secure locks and latches on them separating the living areas from the water. | Smart, mobile infants will find a way to get to water very quickly when a parent's back is turned. |

Poisoning Prevention: Infants learn about the world by tasting it. They may eat or drink anything they can get their hands on.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | Kitchen, bathroom and other cabinets all have child-proof latches on them. | Insecticides, drain cleaners and other things stored in these locations can cause severe injuries or death. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | All medications, both prescription and over-the-counter, are kept in their child-proof containers. | Many medications look like candy. Infants will eat them if they can get them. |

Choking Prevention: Infants in this age range are moving around the house. They will put anything they find in their mouths. They may choke to death.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | The floor and furniture are free of small objects that would fit in the infant's mouth, including older children's small toys. | Small objects choke children. In Florida in 2017, six children died from choking. Of these six children, 2 were 6-12 months old. |
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Burn Prevention: Many infants suffer burns from hot liquids, hot objects and cigarettes handled carelessly around them. Adults and children alike may die in home fires, often from smoke inhalation.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | Parent expresses an understanding that He/she should not smoke or drink hot or tea while holding the infant. | Babies wave their arms and kick their legs and may cause spills or come in contact with hot things. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The home has smoke alarms with working batteries to provide early warning of fire. | When homes catch fire, infants and children often die in back bedrooms while adults are driven out by flames and smoke. |

Automobile Safety: Many serious injuries and fatal accidents to infants and children occur when the car or truck they are riding in is involved in a collision. Some infants approaching a year of age may be outgrowing their infant car seats.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | Parent has a car seat and knows how to install it and the baby correctly. | Improperly restrained infants in improperly installed car seats are not protected. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Parent expresses an understanding that the infant must be restrained in the car every time he or she travels. | You can never predict when a car accident will happen. It is never Safe to carry an infant in one's arms or otherwise unrestrained in a car. |



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Child Protection Team Home Safety Check List

Toddlers 12 – 24 Months Old

Although much child protection work focuses on the problem of abuse, unintentional injuries resulting from negligent care actually cause twice as many infant and child deaths each year. Negligent supervision of children and hazardous conditions in the home also cause numerous non-fatal injuries. Many parents are unaware of the dangers to children present in the home. You can help them to identify these dangers and prevent future injuries and deaths.

Drowning Prevention: *Drowning is the leading cause of preventable death in children in Florida.* In 2017 in Florida 67 children died as a result of negligent supervision around water, inadequate locks and gates to keep them in the home, or inadequate barriers around water. Of the 67 children reported, 3 were between 12-24 months of age. Active toddlers will find a way to get into water if not protected.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | Parent expresses an understanding that buckets of water are a drowning danger for children in this age group. | Toddlers will sometimes fall head first into half-filled buckets of water and drown. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Parent expresses an understanding that the child should never be left in a bath tub either alone or with another child. | In Florida in 2017, 3 infants drowned when they were left unsupervised in bath tubs. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | If there is a body of water of any type nearby, the parent expresses an understanding that doors to the outdoors and barrier gates must be kept closed and latched. | Doors, gates and latches do no good if they are not secured. Older toddlers may learn to open latches, they can reach, so additional higher latches may be needed. In Florida in 2017, 40 children drowned after getting out of the home undetected. Caretakers were usually sleeping or distracted. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | If there is a body of water of any type, the parent expresses an understanding that when the child is outdoors there must be constant eyes-on supervision of the child. | Children can drown in minutes if they are not watched constantly around water when outdoors. In Florida in 2017, 43 children drowned while not being supervised outdoors. Of these, 14 children were between 12-24 month of age |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | If there is a body of water of any type (pool, retention pond, river, lake or ocean), there are fences and gates with secure locks separating the living areas from the water. | It is difficult to keep active toddlers in sight every moment. There must be effective barriers to keep them away from water when the parent is busy cooking or in the bathroom. |

Choking Prevention: Toddlers are constantly on the move and will put anything they find in their mouths. They may choke to death. They do not have a full set of chewing teeth and can choke on some foods and candies.

- The floor and furniture are free of small objects that would fit in the child's mouth, including older children's small toys. Small objects choke children. A good rule of thumb is that if something will fit through a toilet paper roll it is too small for a toddler to play with.
- The parent expresses an understanding that foods given to the child must be cut up in small pieces or soft enough that the child can safely swallow them without chewing. Chunks of hot dog, whole grapes and hard candies are common causes of choking deaths in small children.

Burn Prevention: Toddlers exploring their environments are especially likely to be burned by hot objects left where they can touch them.

- The parent expresses an understanding that flat irons and curling irons should always be put away immediately after use. Many toddlers are burned by hot irons left on the floor or bed or that they pull down off an ironing board.
- The parent expresses an understanding that a playpen can be used to keep the child from being burned while meals are being prepared. Toddlers may be burned when they pull pots from the stove or touch open oven doors.
- There are plugs in all accessible electrical outlets. Toddlers like to put wet fingers and metal objects into outlets.
- The home has smoke alarms with working batteries to provide early warning of fire. When homes catch fire, infants and children often die in back bedrooms while adults are driven out by flames and smoke.

Poisoning Prevention: Toddlers explore the world by tasting it. They may eat or drink anything they can get their hands on.

- Kitchen, bathroom and other cabinets all have child-proof latches on them. Insecticides, drain cleaners and other Things stored in these locations can cause severe injuries.
- All medications, both prescription and over-the-counter, are kept in their child-proof containers. Many medications look like candy. Toddlers will eat them if they can get them.
- The parent has access to the Florida Poison Control Center phone number, 1-800-222-1222. (Provide a copy.) Parents should have this on hand just in case the child gets into something despite precautions.

Fall Prevention: Toddlers are very mobile and like to climb.

- Parent has barrier gates on steps or stairs to prevent falls. Toddlers typically like to crawl up and down stairs and may fall.

Automobile Safety: The American Academy of Pediatrics now recommends that for maximum protection toddlers stay in rear-facing car safety seats until they are 2 years old or reach the maximum height and weight of their seat.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | Parent has a car seat and knows how to install it and the child correctly. | Improperly restrained toddlers in improperly installed car seats are not protected. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Parent expresses an understanding that the infant must be restrained in the car every time he or she travels. | You can never predict when a car accident will happen. It is never safe to carry an infant in one's arms or otherwise unrestrained in a car. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Parent expresses an understanding that the child should ride facing backwards until he or she is 2 years old or gets too big for their car seat. | This position provides more support for the head and neck in the event of a collision. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The child does not exceed the maximum height and weight limits printed on the seat. | A car seat cannot provide good protection for a child who is too big for it. |



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Child Protection Team Home Safety Check List

Pre-School Children 2-6 Years Old

Although much child protection work focuses on the problem of abuse, unintentional injuries resulting from negligent care actually cause twice as many infant and child deaths each year. Negligent supervision of children and hazardous conditions in the home also cause numerous non-fatal injuries. Many parents are unaware of the dangers to children present in the home. You can help them to identify these dangers and prevent future injuries and deaths.

Drowning Prevention: *Drowning is the leading cause of preventable death in children in Florida.* In 2017 in Florida, 67 children died as a result of negligent supervision around water, inadequate locks and gates to keep them in the home, or inadequate barriers around water.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> If there is a body of water of any type (pool, retention pond, river, lake or ocean), there are fences and gates with secure locks separating the living areas from the water. | It is difficult to keep active children in sight every moment. There must be effective barriers to keep them away from water when the parent is busy cooking or in the bathroom. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> If there is a body of water of any type, the parent expresses an understanding that doors to the outdoors and barrier gates must be kept closed and latched. | Doors, gates and latches do no good if they are not secured. In Florida in 2017, 32 children between 2-6 years of age drowned after getting out of the home undetected. Caretakers were often sleeping or distracted. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The parent expresses an understanding that at any gathering near water where children are present, an adult not using alcohol or drugs must be responsible specifically for watching the children. | Children often drown while adults are nearby but distracted by party activities. In Florida in 2017, 43 children drowned while not being supervised outdoors. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The parent expresses an understanding that it would be desirable for the child to take swimming lessons. | Children who know how to swim less likely to drown – but they still need to be watched carefully! |

Burn Prevention: Pre-school children are curious about adult activities like cooking, smoking and fire-starting. They like to imitate adults in doing these things and may get burned.

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|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The home has smoke alarms with working batteries to provide early warning of fire. | When homes catch fire, infants and children often die in back bedrooms while adults are driven out by flames and smoke. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Matches and cigarette lighters are safely stored where the child cannot get them. | Children will play with matches and lighters if given a chance. |

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | The parent expresses an understanding that flat irons and curling irons should always be put away immediately after use. | Many children are burned by hot irons left on the floor or bed or that they pull down off an ironing board. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The parent expresses an understanding that a playpen can be used to keep the child from being burned while meals are being prepared. | Children may be burned when they pull pots from the stove or touch open oven doors. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | There are plugs in all accessible electrical outlets. | Children like to put wet fingers and metal objects in outlets. |

Poisoning Prevention: Children may eat or drink anything they can get their hands on. In this age group, medications belonging to parents and grandparents are a special danger.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | Kitchen, bathroom and other cabinets all have child-proof latches on them. | Insecticides, drain cleaners and other Things stored in these locations can cause severe injuries. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | All medications, both prescription and over-the-counter, are kept in their child-proof containers. | Many medications look like candy. Toddlers will eat them if they can get them. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The parent has access to the Florida Poison Control Center phone number, 1-800-222-1222. (Provide a copy.) | Parents should have this on hand just in case the child gets into something despite precautions. |

Automobile Safety: After age 2 years, children can ride in forward-facing car safety seats. As they outgrow seats, appropriate new restraints must be used.

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|--------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Parent has a car safety seat appropriate for the child's age and weight and knows how to use it. (Check limits printed on seat.) | Improperly restrained children in improperly installed car seats are not protected. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Parent expresses an understanding that the child must be restrained in the car every time he or she travels. | You can never predict when a car accident will happen. It is never safe to let a child be unrestrained. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | If the child is too big for a car safety seat, a belt-positioning booster seat is used. | Car seat belts should go over child's lap or pelvis and chest, not over the tummy, face or neck. |



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

SAFE SLEEP AWARENESS MONTH IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, Florida is committed to helping our families and youth reach their full potential and lead healthy lives; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's research indicates that there are approximately 3,500 sleep-related deaths among babies every year; and

WHEREAS, since suffocation is the leading cause of unintentional injury-related death for infants in Florida under the age of one, safe sleeping environments are critical; and

WHEREAS, unexpected infant deaths can be prevented by implementing safe sleep practices, including placing the baby alone on his or her back in a crib in the parent's room for the first year of life; and

WHEREAS, additional safety tips include using a firm sleeping surface with only a fitted sheet, removing all soft objects, and prohibiting smoking around babies;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend my support to all observing October 2019 as *Safe Sleep Awareness Month in Florida*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 1st day of October, in the year two thousand nineteen.


Governor



RON DeSANTIS
GOVERNOR

WATER SAFETY MONTH IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, Floridians recognize the vital role that swimming and aquatic-related activities play in good physical and mental health and the enhancement of the quality of life; and

WHEREAS, efforts to educate the public about water safety prevent drownings and recreational water-related injuries; and

WHEREAS, there are many contributions made by the recreational water industry in developing safe swimming facilities, aquatic programs, home pools and spas; and

WHEREAS, Floridians understand the vital importance of communicating water safety rules and programs to families and individuals of all ages, whether they are owners of private pools, users of public swimming facilities, or visitors to waterparks.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing May 2019 as *Water Safety Month in Florida*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 1st day of May, in the year two thousand nineteen.


Governor



POISONING PREVENTION

BEST WAYS TO PREVENT A CHILD'S ACCIDENTAL POISONING

Children are at risk of ingesting anything they are able to reach, thus putting them in danger of accidentally eating or drinking a poisonous product.



Child-Proof Locks on Cabinets

Keep insecticides, drain cleaners and other products stored in kitchens, bathrooms etc. locked away. These products can cause severe damage.



Child-Proof Containers

All medication must be kept in child-proof containers because they look like candy, and children will eat them if they can reach them.

Resources

Florida Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222

Emergency Services: 911

For more information visit <https://www.cdc.gov/safecild/poisoning>

Contact the Clearinghouse

850-644-1715

