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2017 Strategic Plan

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Brain Injury Awareness Month

March is the National Brain Injury Awareness Month. According to the Brain Injury Association of America, each year an estimated 2.5 million of Americans, including 475,000 children, in the United States sustain a traumatic brain injury (TBI), and about 75% of Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBIs) that occur each year are concussions or other forms of mild traumatic brain injury (MTBI).

Safety Tips

- Always make sure your child always wears a helmet and that it fits properly when biking, skating or skateboarding.
- If your child plays sports, learn the signs and symptoms of a concussion. This is even more important if you are a coach.
- Install window guards in your home and use approved safety gates on stairs.
- Secure televisions and furniture so that kids cannot tip them over.
- Always use a car seat when traveling in a car. Every ride, every time.

Safe Kids Oregon Contact Information

Safe Kids Oregon is housed at the Oregon Child Development Coalition
9140 S.W. Pioneer Court Suite E
Wilsonville, OR 97070 http://safekidsoregon.org

Safe Kids Oregon encourages readers to share their news. If you have an issue you would like to see covered in the statewide Safe Kids newsletter, or if you know of an article, event, or other item of interest, we would like to hear from you.

Contact:
Safe Kids Oregon
Phone: (503) 570-1110
FAX: (503) 682-9426
Email: safekidsoregon@ocdc.net
This year, March 19-25, 2017, the Oregon Poison Center is participating in National Poison Prevention Week (NPPW). NPPW is a nationally designated week to highlight the dangers of poisonings and how to prevent them. Preventable poisonings happen too often, in fact according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), poisoning is the leading cause of injury deaths in the United States. Each year, the Oregon Poison Center answers a little over 50,000 calls regarding poisonings. The Poison Center also provides community outreach to prevent poison emergencies.

The Poison Center provides free, expert information and treatment advice, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. We invite you to join the movement by getting involved in Poison Prevention!

3 Ways to get involved:

- **Learn about Poison Prevention.** Take the Oregon Poison Center's online training. It’s 100% free and you can complete it online. Once you finish the training, you will have access to a useful resource library. Check out the training: [poisontraining.ohsu.edu](http://poisontraining.ohsu.edu)

- **Follow the Oregon Poison Center on Social Media.** The Poison Center will share poison prevention tips this week and will share the latest poisoning hazards on social media. Facebook handle: Oregon Poison Center of Oregon, Alaska and Guam & Twitter handle: ORpoisoncenter.

- **Donate to your Poison Center.** If you or a loved one has ever called the Poison Help line, please consider investing in your local Poison Center. Please take a few minutes during #NPPW17 to donate to the Oregon Poison Center. Visit [www.oregonpoison.org](http://www.oregonpoison.org) to learn more on how to donate.
The State Medical Examiner’s office investigates, through scene investigation and autopsy, all of the children who die at home. Karen Gunson, Oregon State Medical Examiner, looked at all infants, under 9 months, who died under our jurisdiction in 2015.

We had 52 deaths. Eleven fell in the “natural” category and of these, 7 would have been called “SIDS” in years past. The other 4 died either of infectious disease or complications of congenital abnormality. Three deaths were due to homicidal abuse. Fifteen deaths were called “accidental” and all of them were attributed to positional or compression asphyxia while sleeping in an unsafe environment. In 21 deaths, the manner was “undetermined”. The doctor could not tell whether the deaths were due to positional asphyxia or natural because the baby was sleeping with an adult in bed or on a couch. So the bottom line is 36 infant deaths out of 52 were related to an unsafe sleeping environment!

What constitutes an unsafe sleeping environment? An infant sleeping in an adult bed with an adult is most common. This is especially true if the adult is intoxicated, smoking or extremely tired. An infant sleeping in any environment with pillows, comforters, bumpers, or stuffed toys is dangerous. Infants sleeping on couches or chairs where than can become wedged is dangerous.

——— Safety Observation Calendar ———

- Focus on Safe Sleep and Suffocation Prevention
- Poison Prevention Week 03/19—03/25
- Brain Injury Awareness Week (Sports Concussion Prevention)
- Medication Safety
The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has approved a new federal mandatory standard intended to improve the safety of infant sling carriers and prevent deaths and injuries to young children.

The mandatory standard contains several requirements for sling carriers including:

- loading to ensure that the sling can carry up to three times the manufacturer’s maximum recommended weight,
- structural integrity to ensure that after all testing, there are no seam separations, fabric tears, breakage, etc., and
- occupant retention to prevent the child being carried from falling out of the sling during normal use.

In addition, the standard requires sling carriers to come with warning labels and instructional literature. These requirements include:

- pictures to show the proper position of a child in the sling,
- a warning statement about the suffocation hazard posed by slings and prevention measures,
- warning statements about children falling out of slings, and
- a reminder for caregivers to check the buckles, snaps, rings and other hardware to make sure no parts are broken.

--- Upcoming Training ---

**Child Passenger Safety Technician Certification Courses**
May 3-5 2017 Sisters– Camp Sherman RFPD, Sisters OR.

**Child Passenger Safety Technician Renewal Course**
April 10 2017 Legacy Emmanuel Medical Center, Portland OR.

**CEO Workshop**– Safety Travel for All Children: Transporting Children with Special Healthcare Needs