



Fetal, Infant, Child Mortality and Prevention Newsletter

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Introducing MCH’s new FICMR Coordinator



Lori Rowe—New FICMR/Prevention Coordinator

Lori Rowe joined the Family and Community Health Bureau Team on June 18th as a Health Education Specialist and the State FICMR/Prevention Coordinator. Lori is no stranger to the PHSD as she worked as a Health Education Specialist for the Immunization Program for 5 years working with childcare providers, schools, private providers, and county health to help

raise awareness and improve immunization rates in Montana.

Glendive, MT was home until 1986 when her family moved to Helena. Lori graduated from Carroll College majoring in Sociology with special interest in Medical Sociology and Gerontology. She also received a degree in Business Administration, with an area of concentration in Business Management.

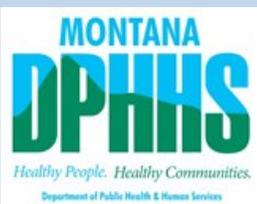
“I am so excited to be a part of the Maternal Child Health Program. I can’t wait to learn about FICMR and help implement some prevention activities.” Lori stated. “I look forward to meeting and working with everyone!”

**Welcome to Team
FICMR Lori!**

What’s New in FICMR?

A new tool was developed on obtaining out of state death certificates. This quick reference sheet shows how the process works, who to contact, and some helpful hints when requesting the certificate. Visit the [FICMR website](#) and click on “Obtaining Out of State Death Certificates”.

Continue to look back at the FICMR website for new tools and information in the coming months!



Helpful Tips when Obtaining a Death Certificate in Montana

When you need to obtain a death certificate for Montana, here are some helpful tips.

- ◆ All Fetal Death Certificates, for deaths that occurred in Montana, will be sent to you by the FICMR Coordinator.
- ◆ Death Certificates are public record in Montana and should be available within 10 days following a death from your County's Registrar/Clerk and Recorder.
- ◆ Parents can request a "Certificate of Still Birth" for fetal death occurring at or after 20 weeks gestation.
- ◆ Establish a relationship with your Registrar/Clerk and Recorder and check in with them on a monthly or quarterly basis.
- ◆ To obtain an out of state death certificate, you will need to contact the State FICMR Coordinator at 444-3394.



Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and Bed-Sharing in Montana, 2003-2010

*Life is but one continual
course of instruction,
The hand of the parent
writes on the heart of
the child the first faint
characters which time
deepens into strength so
that nothing can efface
them.
-unknown author*

In August, the Vital Statistics Analysis Unit/ Office of Epidemiology and Scientific Support (OESS) completed a report on SIDS and bed-sharing in Montana. They reviewed 586 death certificates of infants less than one year of age who died between January 1, 2003 and December 31, 2010. OESS then reviewed manually 168 records (29% of all infant deaths) for evidence of SIDS and other causes of death associated with bed-sharing.

There has been an average of 11 SIDS deaths in Montana each year since 2003, plus an average of 6 additional deaths due to Sudden Unexpected Death in Infancy (SUID) or unintentional smothering. The fact that nearly 1 in 6 of these deaths were associated with, if not caused by, bed-sharing, suggests that bed-sharing might be a preventable risk factor.

To read the entire SIDS and Bed-Sharing in Montana Report, go out to the State of Montana [FICMR website](#).



**Have you seen the new webpage for the National
SUID/SIDS Resource Center?**

[Click here](#) to check it out!

“Look Before You Lock” Campaign

In early August the Children’s Safety Network sent out a message from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) about children dying from heat stroke after being left in unattended vehicles.

The ACF is taking an active role and has teamed up with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and Safe Kids USA to promote the “Look Before You Lock” Campaign. Since August 2, 2012 there have been 15 children who have died from being left unattended in a hot vehicle. It is so important that communities across the state raise awareness by sharing the message of double checking cars, vans, and buses for children that may have been left behind. On the [campaign website](#) you will find prevention tips, downloadable news release, factsheet, PSA’s, and lots of other various materials.

Back in late July, the NHTSA wrote a report on *“Reducing the Potential for Heat Stroke to Children in Parked Motor Vehicles: Evaluation of Reminder and Technology.”* The purpose of this study was to evaluate the products that are designed to prevent children up to 24 months old from being left behind in unattended parked vehicles. It was found that across different evaluations, the devices were inconsistent and unreliable in their performance. To read the entire report visit the [NHTSA website](#).



FICMR Trivia:

How many core members are you required to have on your FICMR review team?

MCA 50-19-403 states that mortality review teams must have at least 5 core members.

Kids Safety: Walking To and From School

With school starting soon, it is time to put your community in action about kids getting to and from school safely. Walking to school is a great way for kids to get the exercise they need before sitting in the classroom all day. But children walking to and from school face an increased risk for pedestrian injuries.

Here are some safety tips for the community and kids who are on foot.

- Cross the street at a designated crosswalk and look both ways when crossing.
- Be careful at intersections, where drivers may fail to yield the right of way to pedestrians while turning onto another street.
- Walk on the sidewalk, unless there is no sidewalk, stay close to the curb facing traffic.
- Never walk alone. Use the Buddy System.
- Never get into a vehicle by someone you don’t know.
- Those who are driving, **“Slow Down in School Zones and Residential areas.”**



Visit the CDC website for more resources and information on [Pedestrian Safety](#).

“Parents Are The Key” Campaign

Car crashes are the number one killer of teens, which take about 3,000 young lives every year in the United States. All of these deaths happen because of driver inexperience.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has developed a campaign called **“Parents Are The Key”** where they are asking parents to lead their teen by setting a good example when they are behind the wheel. CDC states, “Leading experts believe parents play a key role in preventing teen car crashes and death, by talking to teens about staying safe behind the wheel.”

For those of you who like to plan ahead for National Teen Driver Safety Week in mid October, check out the CDC website for the “Parents Are The Key” campaign, they have several **posters and fact sheets** that are free to order. Those of you who are getting into the social media advertising, the CDC has also developed several free badges, buttons, e-cards, podcasts, and videos for **spreading the word online** about teen driving.

Eight Danger Zones for Teens

Behind the Wheel:

1. Driver Inexperience
2. Driving with Teen Passengers
3. Nighttime Driving
4. Not Using Seat Belts
5. Distracted Driving
6. Drowsy Driving
7. Reckless Driving
8. Impaired Driving



A Few Things to Remember

- ✓ All **2011 FICMR** Case Reports are due December 31, 2012! Get your teams together before the holidays arrive!
- ✓ Continue to check the FICMR website for updated information and new materials.
- ✓ Spread the word about “Look Before You Lock” Campaign. We don’t want to have any little ones left unattended in a vehicle in the Montana heat.
- ✓ Get parents, community, and schools involved and take action about teen driving. Consider holding some type of event during the National Teen Driver Safety Week in mid October.
- ✓ If you have done an injury prevention event and would like to share about it, please send your story and photo (if available) to **lowe@mt.gov**.