



Georgia Safe to Sleep Campaign Shelter Program

We all want babies to be born healthy and thrive.

Each week, on average, three infants die in Georgia due to sleep-related causes. Together we can reduce this number by helping expectant moms and families with newborns learn about and practice safe infant sleep. The risks for sleep-related infant death are known, but it is possible to reduce those risks by following safe sleep recommendations.

The Georgia Safe to Sleep Campaign is a statewide initiative that provides tools and resources to strengthen policy, provide consistent education, and **change infant sleep environments to achieve four primary objectives:**

- Prevent infant sleep-related deaths in Georgia.
- Empower professionals in multiple disciplines to educate parents about safe sleep environments and ensure proper sleeping practices are modeled.
- Disseminate accurate and consistent messages that empower families to make informed decisions about infant sleep.
- Increase access to resources that support safe sleep behaviors to protect infants.

The Georgia Safe to Sleep Campaign is offering portable cribs with bassinets to be used in family shelters (for domestic violence survivors and the unhoused) to ensure babies have a close but separate and safe sleep space. Participating shelters will receive up to 10 cribs and “Safe Sleep Baby Bundles” which include a “This Side Up” onesie and a wearable cotton blanket. There is no cost to the shelter. When families move to a more permanent living arrangement, they may be provided with a portable crib and a baby bundle to take with them if their infant is less than 6 months old.

Cribs and baby bundles will be resupplied based on need and as requested by the participating shelter. A simple form that uses dates (no names) will track distribution of the cribs and bundles and will need to be filled out prior to additional cribs and bundles being sent. Free trainings and educational materials will be provided for caregivers, shelter staff and volunteers, as requested.

Program participants agree to support the ABC's of Safe Sleep (Baby sleeps Alone, on his or her Back, and in a Crib) and promote the following recommendations:



Eligibility:

- Applicants must be an established shelter providing services to residents of the State of Georgia.
- Applicants must agree to promote the American Academy of Pediatrics 2016 Recommendations for Safe Infant Sleep which include room sharing. Room sharing allows the infant to be next to the parent/caregiver while also maintaining their own safe sleep space. All recommendations are for infants newborn to 12 months; after that time, recommendations no longer apply. By applying for this program, you are agreeing to promote the safe sleep recommendations and to encourage shelter residents to practice the recommendations.
- Applicants must agree to follow the manufacturer instructions on the portable crib with bassinet.
- Applicants must provide a primary point of contact who will submit requests for more items and track distribution of materials via a short de-identified Google form. View it here at: <https://forms.gle/HwPP2deodZH5M3SX8>

Selection Criteria:

- Only one completed application from each location will be accepted for consideration (application link below).
- Award selection will be at the discretion of the Georgia Safe to Sleep Campaign.

Other Information

- Application will remain open until we reach program capacity.
- The Shelter Program will continue as long as funding is available.

Ready to apply and join the Safe to Sleep Campaign Shelter Program?

Follow this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SafeSleepShelters>

Have additional questions?

Contact Terri Miller at, terri.miller@dph.ga.gov or contact, georgiasafetosleep@dph.ga.gov