



Thursday, April 2, 2020

Dear ICAN Friends and Partners,

I write this letter hoping that all of you are well and finding ways to stay productive in this unusual and trying time. We at [ICAN](#) continue our mission, though much of our activity has moved to a virtual setting. I want to first thank our dedicated social workers, medical professionals and all first responders who continue to bravely serve our local communities. I also want to provide you with a brief update to share our latest schedule, venue and date changes for our upcoming ICAN related activities.

- Child Abuse Prevention Month - on March 31, ICAN joined the LA County Board of Supervisors in supporting Supervisor Barger's motion to proclaim April as Child Abuse Prevention Month: [Proclamation of April 2020 as child abuse prevention month in Los Angeles County](#).
- Children's Poster Art Contest - This year's children poster art contest, designed to raise awareness of child abuse, took place as planned, thanks to the commitment of ICAN Associates, staff and devoted partners. The reception, which recognizes the finalists and winners from each supervisorial district had to be postponed. We will keep you notified of the new date, but we invite you to view some of the finalist's art work via the link below:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1Vx9NOpwYV4mCyoI9waYRwTG9CcqTHjSX>

Note: The ICAN Associates board continues to be active and dedicated to supporting ICAN, currently focusing on developing public awareness campaigns on infant safe sleep and no hit zones.

- ICAN Monthly Meetings - Upcoming meetings will be postponed until such time as the shelter in place order is lifted in L.A. County.
- ICAN's Annual Policy Committee Meeting - This annual meeting which reviews the state of child abuse in LA County, was originally scheduled for June 2020, it has now been postponed until further notice.
- Childhood Grief and Traumatic Loss Conference - Originally scheduled for March 19, 2020, this training conference was postponed, with a tentative future date of January 19, 2021. We continue to work on securing an earlier date if possible. We realize the ongoing need for certified training and are therefore looking into developing webinars prior to our next training conference. We ask that you stay tuned.



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- Nexus XXV Training Conference – This training conference is scheduled for November 4, 2020. A call for papers will be sent out sometime in July. For more information on our training conferences, please contact Nancy Urquilla by email at urquina@dcsf.lacounty.gov or you can visit our website for further notices on upcoming events.
- Child Abduction Task Force Meetings and Trainings – The meeting scheduled for April has been cancelled. The Child Abduction Training for Law Enforcement that was scheduled for May 7th has been postponed until further notice. We are working to set a new date and will keep everyone notified when it has been selected. Skype and/or Zoom meetings are being considered for events in May and June.
- Child and Adolescent Suicide Review Team (CASRT) - The April 27th meeting has been cancelled. The May 18th meeting, our last scheduled meeting for this academic year, is being considered to be taking place on a Skype or Zoom call if needed. We expect to reconvene on Sept. 28, 2020 as normal.
- Data Committee - In February the Data Committee held its final face-to-face meeting in preparation for the 2019 State of Child Abuse Report for LA County. The committee continues to work remotely, via email, on the remaining agency reports needing review.
- Hospital Network Project – Will continue to operate remotely via weekly Zoom meetings. The team is currently preparing recently acquired hospital reporting data for LA County, years 2015-2019. A statewide Child Death Review Team Directory is also being prepared and will be available soon on the ICAN website. For further information on the Child Abduction Taskforce, CASRT, and the Hospital Network Project, you can reach Tom Fraser at fraset@dcsf.lacounty.gov.
- Child Death Review Team (CDRT) - CDRT has selected several compelling cases for review for upcoming meetings. While the April CDRT meeting has been postponed, we will keep you informed of our next meeting date. We are currently working on the Child Death Review Team report and look forward to sharing our findings with you. For any questions or concerns please contact Susana Montanez at montas@dcsf.lacounty.gov.
- Safe Sleep Campaign - The Safe Sleep Campaign has been making progress with exciting new developments that we look forward to sharing



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with you at our next meeting which is yet to be determined. Please contact Susana Montanez at montas@dcfs.lacounty.gov for more information

- CDRT Training Work Group - The group is organizing a Child Death/Critical Incidents Multi-Agency Symposium tentatively scheduled for July 15, 2020 at Almansor Court in Alhambra. A follow up meeting with each agency's identified representative to the Antelope Valley will be held following the July symposium. If you have further questions, please email Marianne Yamato at chavem@dcfs.lacounty.gov or call (562) 324-5282.
- Child Abuse Councils - The next Child Abuse Councils meeting is on May 18th, 2020 from 12:30-2:30 pm. The meeting is tentatively scheduled to take place at Children's Bureau, Magnolia Place (1910 Magnolia Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90007). Due to COVID-19, please email Sara La Croix at: saralacroix@all4kids.org prior to the meeting to confirm that the meeting location has not been changed.
- Guidelines for Effective Response to Domestic Violence (GERDA)- The group continues working to finalize training materials and launch training initiatives in participating agencies. Future meetings will take place via phone conference. As training development wraps up, we will be working on updating the Protocol and moving some concerns in the response to domestic violence identified in our work outside of the GERDA arena.
- Family and Children's Index (FCI)- The FCI Leadership Team will continue to have bi-weekly phone conferences. There is no FCI Program Manager's meeting scheduled at this time. For further information on GERDA or FCI, please contact shuled@dcfs.lacounty.gov
- Safe Surrender- We continue to track data for safely surrendered infants. For more information, to request material e.g. brochures, safe surrender packets and posters please visit babysafela.org.

To the extent possible, ICAN clerical support staff will be available Monday thru Friday to answer your calls at 626-455-4585 and you can always find general information on our website at ICAN4Kids.org. Also, to report or consult on matters related to child abuse and neglect please call 1-800-540-4000.

The coronavirus has imposed life changes, impacting everyone in LA county, creating a wide range of pressures on families and children. In this time of heightened isolation



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and social stress, the ICAN mission to improve the lives of children and families at risk is more important than ever. We appreciate your important work and your continued support as we face these challenges together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deanne Tilton-Durfee".

Deanne Tilton-Durfee, Doc.hc
Executive Director of the Los Angeles County
Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN)

