



August 25, 2020

Dear ICAN Friends and Partners,

These days, we often hear the phrase “in these challenging times.” And yes, they are indeed challenging times. It's a time that has tested the limits of courage and humanity, particularly for those on the front lines. Now, in the seventh month of our COVID-19 crisis, our brave firefighters are challenged by record fires leaving acres of devastation as families evacuate their homes, many losing precious belongings and beloved pets. We send our heartfelt appreciation to these heroes who are facing unimaginable challenges, and sympathy to families experiencing heartbreaking loss.

We remain concerned for the many at-risk children who do not have the vigilant eyes of teachers, doctors, and counselors. We join our partners in a common mission to improve the lives of children and families at risk - the health professionals, social workers, firefighters, law enforcement officers and community providers who work so hard to ensure children's safety. Friends, family and neighbors complete the child protection team, and we count on them to be our eyes, ears and family support system. Especially during these times.

For those who are working from home, these times also are challenging. But they offer an opportunity to adapt to new ways of carrying out our daily tasks, expanding our “tech” knowledge and learning to be productive, despite distractions. We can use this time for random acts of kindness, like an encouraging call to an anxious friend, or writing a note to an elderly neighbor, or simply embracing time with our loved ones, at home. After all, for many years, we've spent so much time away from them stuck in traffic and working long hours at the office. And when guidelines allow us to gather in person again, we will be back, grateful and better than ever.

As we continue our mission of improving the lives of children and families at risk, you'll notice our projects look a bit different, function a bit differently, but we're here and we've held tight to our goal of staying connected with you, to offer you valuable information, and opportunities to enhance the lives of children. For example, ICAN will soon be releasing a ground breaking thirty-year retrospective data report on child abuse fatalities, a 15-part video series of expert presentations on identification and prevention of severe and fatal child abuse, and a “No Hit Zone” campaign. Also soon to be released are ICAN's three major reports: The State of Child Abuse in Los Angeles County, Child Death Review Team Report, and Report on Safely Surrendered and Abandoned Infants.



INTER-AGENCY COUNCIL ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT County of Los Angeles



Please click on the tabs below for updates on our current projects:

[Child Death Review Team](#)

[Infant Safe Sleep Campaign](#)

[State of Child Abuse in Los Angeles Data Report](#)

[Child and Adolescent Suicide Review Team \(CASRT\)](#)

[Child Abduction Task Force](#)

[Hospital Network Project](#)

[No Hit Zone Campaign](#)

[ICAN Expert Series](#)

[Child Abuse Councils](#)

[AB 2994 Contracts \(County Children's Trust Fund\)](#)

[GERDA \(Guidelines for Effective Response to Domestic Abuse\)](#)

[Family and Children's Index \(FCI\)](#)

[Safe Surrender Program](#)

[Training Conferences-Nexus XXV and Childhood Grief and Traumatic Loss](#)

Finally, I want to thank you for your comments on our monthly messages and for your ongoing commitment to our shared mission to keep children safe. We encourage you to visit our Website, and please reach out to us with your ideas and suggestions.

With respect and appreciation,

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)

