

# SID Network of Ohio



Providing support, compassion,  
education and research

## SUDDEN INFANT DEATH NETWORK OF OHIO NEWSLETTER

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**Third Annual  
7 Days for SIDS  
June 13—19, 2005**

**To learn more contact:**

**[www.7daysforsids.com](http://www.7daysforsids.com)**

## Reducing Unsafe Bedding Practices Aim of Giveaway...In Hopes That Free Cribs May Help Save Lives

A Hamilton County program has begun to purchase 250 cribs for low-income families as a result of receiving funds from the Sudden Infant Death Network of Ohio. The SID Network is partnering with the Hamilton County Family and Children First Council, in hopes of reducing the number of infants dying because of inappropriate bedding practices, especially babies sleeping on adult beds or on couches where loose blankets or pillows can suffocate them.

Monies designated for this program were raised in the Cincinnati area through the *Laura Elizabeth Pease Golf Outings* held annually in Wyoming, Ohio, by Tara and Charles Pease in loving memory of their daughter, Laura. The Network is extremely grateful to Tara and Charley for their most generous gift of monies to support this project.

Unsafe bedding practices were a factor in 12 infant deaths last year in the Greater Cincinnati area. This figure was up from 8 in 2002, according to the Hamilton County Child Fatality Review Team, which documents the cause of death of all children in the county 17 or younger. Those numbers have been fairly consistent in the past five years. In many of these cases, the parents could not afford cribs.

Although the free-crib program is aimed at helping the poor, all parents should get the message: ***Put your baby to sleep alone, on his/her back and in an empty crib.***

"I can't tell you how many kids we see sleeping in playpens, couches and adult beds," said Patty Eber, executive Director of the Hamilton County Family and Children First Council, a group of 80 public- and private-sector social agencies. Money for the cribs became available in *(continued on page 6)*













