KCNC

Kern County Network for Children

*Our Children. Our Community.*

# Child Abuse Prevention Services

*"Protecting and enriching the lives of children and youth in Kern County through the commitment of all community partners. "*

# KCNC's Primary Roles

- **Kern's Child Abuse Prevention Council**
  - Coordinate community efforts to prevent and respond to child abuse and neglect
- **Kern's Coordinating Council for Child & Family Services**
  - Provide and oversee funding for intensive family preservation programs
- **Planning, administrative & oversight body for Kern's child abuse prevention funds**
  - Act as the administrative body for Differential Response services and Parents as Teachers

# What is Child Abuse?

- **Welfare and Institutions Code 18951 states:**
  - Serious physical injury inflicted upon the child by other than accidental means
  - Harm by reason of intentional neglect, malnutrition or sexual abuse
  - Going without necessary and basic physical care
  - Willful mental injury, negligent treatment, maltreatment of a child under 18 years old
  - Any condition that results in the violation of the rights of physical,  mental or moral welfare of a child

# Did You Know?




- Children ages zero to five are most vulnerable and most likely to die of a child abuse and neglect homicide.
- **13,512** Kern County children were suspected of being abused or neglected - an average of **37** children each day in 2024.
- **2,570** - an average of **7** Kern County children everyday, were found to be victims of abuse or neglect in 2024.
- In 2024, **3** child fatality was determined to be a result of abuse/neglect by law enforcement or the coroner; and **26** children sustained severe/serious injuries due to abuse or neglect.
- In 2024, **8** children were identified as victims of Abusive Head Trauma (Shaken Baby Syndrome) as determined by the Suspected Child Abuse & Neglect Team.

*https://kern.org/kern-county-network-children/reportcard/*

# Kern's Prevention Services

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Monthly campaigns focused on prevention education & community resource information.

CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC
HENRIETTA WEILL MEMORIAL

FREE basic parent education, anger management & failure to protect classes & Parent Empowerment Program (post-reunification) services. PAT Central Hub.
***(661) 393-5836***
*Classes for parents with special needs and for parents who have children with basic needs are available.*

Kern County Differential Response

In home, supportive services for families at-risk of child abuse and neglect.

# Est. 2008

The Dream Center, named by the founding foster youth who helped design service delivery, is Kern County's only one-stop resource center for current and former foster youth up to the age of 25.

**1801 19th Street**

**Bakersfield, CA 93301**

**Phone: 661-636-4488**




**Monday - Friday**

**Open 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

# Did you know?

According to Research studies, statewide:

- Over 1/3 of foster youth earn **neither a high school diploma or GED**
- **Fewer** than 1/2 **were employed** 12 to 18 months after aging out
- 1/3 who age out **evidence mental health problems** (PTSD, substance abuse, major depression)
- About 1/4 **will be incarcerated** within the first 2 years after they leave the system
- 25% will be homeless within first 4 years of leaving care (Only 4% of nonfoster 18-26 homeless)
- Only 3% achieve a **4-year degree** by age 26 (Compare to 50% of nonfoster peers)

Like all youth, their brains are developing until age 25.

# Dream Center Youth

**948** unduplicated youth visited during FY 24-25

Some are:

- in high school/college
- in job training programs
- working
- homeless
- all of the above.

# ASK US!




- Housing Services for Homeless Youth
- FREE clothes, food, hygiene items, cleaning supplies, household and baby items
- Help with getting a job or enrolled in school or a vocational training program
- Bus passes for job interviews and important appointments
- Linkages to substance abuse treatment, mental health, health services, CalFresh and MediCal
- Use our computers, mailing address, and phone
- Showers and laundry
- Support, encouragement and advocacy
- Help with getting a Driver's License and vital docs
- Two vehicle giveaways a year
- Something not on this list…. ASK US!



FY 24-25 The following essentials were provided:

- 9,608 -Snack Bags
- 1,465 -Hygiene Kits
- 5,335 -Clothing Items
- 772 -Emergency Food Bags
- 348 –BHRS/TAY Services
- 210 –College Enrollment & FASFA
- 947 –CalFresh/Medical Enrollment
- 818 –Probation Officer or Social Worker

# Together Creating Possibilities for Current & Former Foster Youth

## Our Partners...

KERN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES

KERN COUNTY GROUNDED & BOUNDLESS

KERN COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & RECOVERY SERVICES

FOSTER YOUTH SERVICES Coordinating Program

CVAF CALIFORNIA VETERANS ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION

KCSOS Kern County Superintendent of Schools

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF KERN

KERN COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Kiwanis CLUB OF WESTCHESTER, BAKERSFIELD

KERN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH Grounded in Health

Bakersfield - Kern BKRHC REGIONAL HOMELESS COLLABORATIVE




Dream Center youth participate in April Child Abuse Awareness activities by creating chalk art




**Visit the Dream Center Website:**
***kern.org/kcnc/dream-center/***

**Like and Follow the Dream Center Facebook:**
**facebook.com/dreamcenterkerncounty**

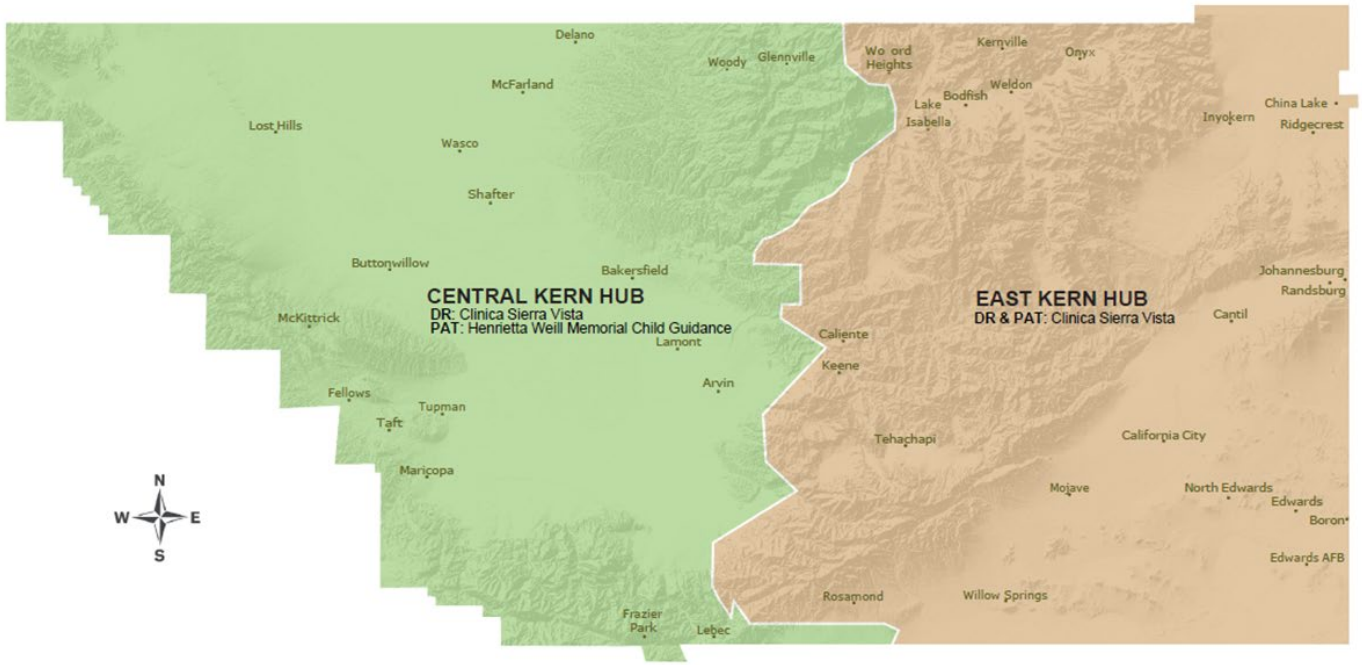
# Differential Response (DR)




- DR is an alternative method used by Child Protective Services to respond to reports of child abuse and neglect.
- DR is not to be used as an alternative when a reported child abuse/neglect case is severe in nature.
- Referrals are sent by DHS Phone Room & CPS Social Workers (Path 1, 2, and 3 referrals)
- Parents/Families referred to DR benefit from intervention and resources
- Case Managers offer voluntary Differential Response case management services



# Where is Differential Response?




## 2024-2025 Kern County Data

**5,173** families received direct services from DR programs

**1,600** families received comprehensive DR Case Management

# What does Differential Response Provide?

- Homeless Assistance
- Utility Assistance
- Job Lead/Unemployment Assistance
- Food/Clothing/Basic Resources
- Mental Health Services
- Substance Use Support
- Connection to Medical Care
- Clean Home Education
- Linkage to DHS Welfare Services (CW/CF/MC/WTW)
- Personal Hygiene Items
- Childcare Referral
- Parenting Skills Education
- Diapers & Wipes
- Car Seats/Installation Support
- Pack n Play with Safe Sleep Education
- Referrals to Search and Serve
- Referrals to Kern Regional Center

# Parents As Teacher (PAT) Services

The Evidence-Based Home Visiting Model is the comprehensive parent education model used by Parents as Teachers affiliates. The model provides a wide array of services to families with children from prenatal through kindergarten and offers deep insights into early childhood development.

- Substantiated Referrals
- Moderate to High Risk
- Children ages 0-5 years old and Kindergarten Grade
- Up to 2 years of services
- Case managers are called Parent Educators
- Curriculum Based
- Referrals come from SW & Judges




Central Hub

Henrietta Weill Memorial Child Guidance Clinic & Adult Behavioral Health

East Kern Hub

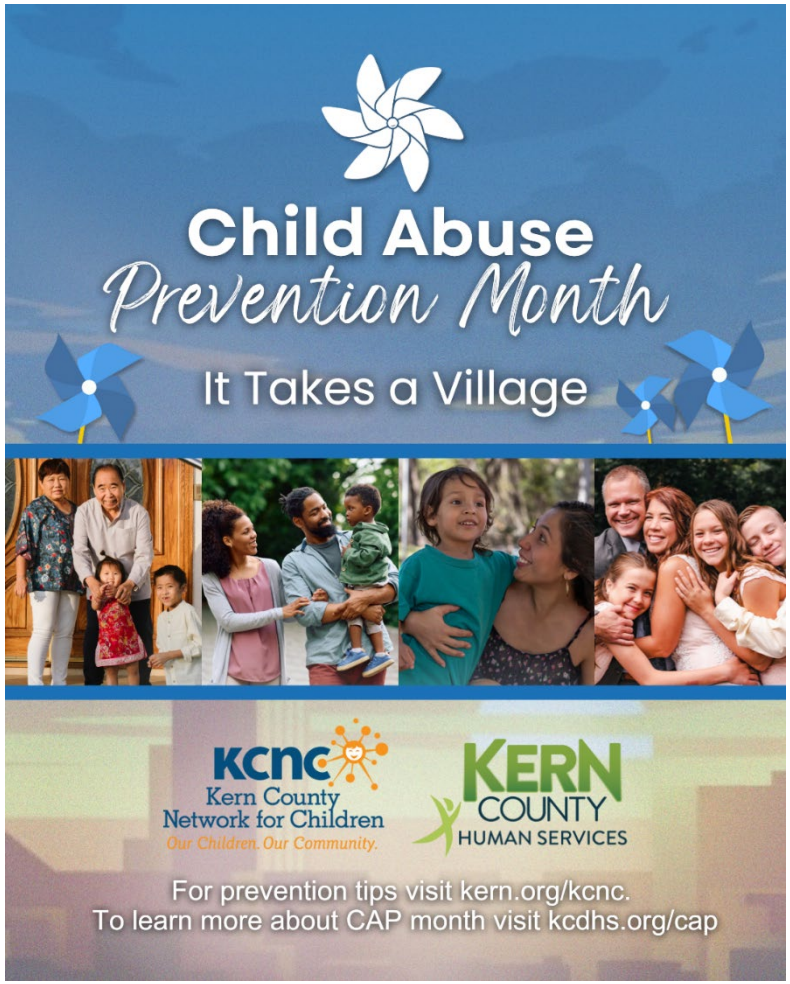
Clinica Sierra Vista

## 2024-2025 Kern County PAT Data

**285** Number of parents referred for PAT Services

**171** parents received comprehensive PAT Case Management

# April National Child Abuse Prevention Month







https://kern.org/kern-county-network-children/child-abuse-prevention/

# KCNC Monthly General Collaboratives

- **January 16, 2025**
  - Presenters: KCPH (STI & HIV Awareness), KCDHS (Employment and Financial Services), In the Waiting Doula Services
- **February 20, 2025**
  - Presenters: CASA of Kern County, Full Spectrum Doula, Noel Alexandria Foundation, KCDHS (Safe Surrender Baby Law)
- **March 20, 2025**
  - Presenters: Kern Healthcare Systems, Kern County Mosquito & Vector Control, UFW Foundation
- **April *(Child Abuse Prevention Month)***
  - Annual Activity: ACAPM Spirit Week, Wear Blue April 4,
- **May 15, 2025**
  - Presenters: BrightLife Kids, Anthem Blue Cross & Psychiatric Wellness Center Mobile Unit, Kern County Library
- **June- *Dark in Observance of Juneteenth Holiday***
- **July 17, 2025**
  - 2025 KCNC Leadership Graduation
- **August 21, 2025**
  - Presenters: Mother Against Drunk Driving, Dignity Health Mercy & Memorial Hospitals (Community Health Initiative Programs), ECM  Koinonia Family Services
- **September 18, 2025**
  - Presenters: MET 101 Overview, ROWI Teen & Parent Wellness Center, Save A Life Today
- **October 16, 2025**
  - Presenters: Kern County Child Support Services, Links for Life, La Vida Nueva
  - ***Dark in November & December***

***To Receive Collaborative Info Join Our Email WWW.KCNC.ORG***







# KCNC Monthly Trainings

- **February**
  - Training: 2/18/25, Kern County Sheriffs Department “Human Trafficking Prevention, Internet Safety, and Predator Awareness with emphasis on Teen Dating Violence Awareness”
- **March**
  - Training: 3/12/25, Bakersfield Police Department “Community Safety Training”
- **April** ***(Child Abuse Prevention Month)***
  - Training: 4/03/25, Kern County Department of Human Services “Domestic Violence & Mandated Reporting”
  - Training: 4/09/25, Colette Katuala, LCSW “Before Reasonable Suspicion” & “Impact After Reporting”
  - Training: 4/22/25, DR & PAT Programs “Cost of Poverty Experience (COPE)”
- **May**
  - Training: 5/22/25, Angela Look, PsyD “Grief & Loss Impact On Mental Health”
- **June**
  - Training: 6/17/25, Bakersfield Police Department “Gun Violence Prevention and Crisis Intervention Training”
- **July**
  - Training: 7/24/25, City of Bakersfield and American Red Cross “Water Safety & CPR Training”
- **August**
  - Training: 8/27/25, Bakersfield Police Department “Back-to-School Safety 101”
- **September**
  - Training: 9/11/2025, Kern County Superintendents of Schools “Suicide Awareness and Prevention Training”
- **October**
  - Training: 10/09/2024, Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery Services “Opioids and Narcan Training”
- ***Dark in November & December***

***Other Training:***

- DR/ETO & NCFAS Trainings as needed. KCNC Annual Symposium will be held on November 7, 2025.
- Abusive Head Trauma (AHT)/Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS) & Safe Sleep/ SIDS Education
  Training Offered at Bakersfield Pregnancy Centers, Family Resource Centers, Differential Response Kern County Public Health, and Parents As Teachers Sites.







# Family Resource Centers & Local Collaboratives

The Family Resource Centers offer support by helping parents, families, and children locate and use services within their communities.

***https://kern.org/kern-county-network-children/collaborative/***

Collaboratives are a collection of organizations and people representing businesses, government, nonprofits, schools, and community residents, all of whom are passionate about children. Meeting dates vary.

Visit the link: **https://bit.ly/2025OctoberResources**




KERN COUNTY NETWORK FOR CHILDREN — OCTOBER 2025

## Family Resource Centers & Collaboratives

### Highlights / Events / Collaboration

**ARVIN FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER**
300 FRANKLIN STREET
ARVIN, CA
661-854-6565
- Social Security Application
- VITA- United Way
- Housing Application Assist.
- Medi-Cal & EDD Services
- First 5 Nurturing Parenting Education
- Local Resource Referrals
- www.arvinschools.com/family-resource-center

**BUTTONWILLOW COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER**
42600 HWY. 58,
BUTTONWILLOW, CA
(661) 764-9405
- Case Management/Home Based for families 0-5 children
- Nurturing Parenting Classes
- Medi-Cal, Covered California, EDD Services
- Food Commodities every 3rd Friday of the month
- Emergency Food
- Local Resources Referrals
- www.buttonwillow.k12.ca.us

**DELANO COMMUNITY CONNECTION CENTER**
1842 NORWALK ST.
DELANO, CA
(661) 721-7036
- Nurturing Parenting Classes
- Food Distributions
- HEAP Assistance Referrals
- Car Seat Distribution Delano PD
- School Readiness
- www.duesd.org/domain/63

**EAST KERN FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER**
15662 K STREET
MOJAVE, CA
(661) 824-4118
- Case Management
- Washers On Site
- Food, Clothing, & More
- First 5 Services
- HEAP and VITA Assistance
- HMIS Homeless Services
- School Readiness Pre-K
- www.facebook.com/EastKernFRC/

**GREENFIELD FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER**
5400 MONITOR ST.
BAKERSFIELD, CA
(661) 837-3720
- Families Enrichment and Nutrition Classes
- Food, Utility Assistance, and Health Insurance Referral Services
- Immunization Clinic, Medical Enrollment, & Health Screenings
- www.facebook.com/greenfieldfrc

**KERN COUNTY NETWORK FOR CHILDREN DREAM CENTER**
1801 19TH ST,
BAKERSFIELD, CA
(661)636-4488
- Kern Regional Center
- Renter's Rights
- Foster Youth Services (16-24-year-olds)
- Food, Clothes, & More
- www.facebook.com/dreamcenterkerncounty/

**KERN RIVER VALLEY FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER**
2810 NUGGET AVE.
LAKE ISABELLA, CA
(760) 379-2556
- Early Child Home Visiting Program (0-5) & School Referrals Case Management
- Lice Treatments
- Community Classes: Anger Management, Nurturing Parent, Parent Project/Loving Solutions, KFHC Healthy Living/Diabetic, Shaken Baby Syndrome, Protective Factors
- MediCal Enrollment & Renewal
- www.kernvilleusd.org

**LESD FAMILY SUCCESS CENTER**
7915 BURGUNDY AVENUE,
LAMONT, CA
(661) 845-2724
- Resource & referral services Monday to Friday 8am-7pm
- Classes for families and adults: Parent Project, Parents on a Mission, Court Mandated, ESL, High School Diploma, Computers, Family Literacy, Workshops, and More! Call to Register!
- www.facebook.com/lesdfamilies

**LOST HILLS FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER**
14823 OFFICE LANE
LOST HILLS, CA
(661) 797-3042
- Food Commodities 3rd Friday of the Month
- Abusive Head Trauma/ Shaken Baby Syndrome Trainings
- School Readiness Pre-School
- Medi-Cal Enrollment Service
- Local Resource Referrals
- www.losthills.k12.ca.us

**MCFARLAND FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER**
410 EAST PERKINS AVE
MCFARLAND, CA
(661) 792-1883
- Case Management
- Parent Education Classes
- Center-Based Activities
- Utility Assistance
- Emergency Food Baskets
- www.mcfarlandusd.com/District

**MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER**
3015 MT. PINOS WAY, #201
FRAZIER PARK, CA
(661) 245-4303
- Family Success Coaching
- One-stop for Resources & Referrals
- Emergency Food/Hygiene
- Senior Services
- Children's Circle every Wednesday 11am-12pm
- www.facebook.com/fp.mcfrc

**OASIS FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER**
814 N. NORMA STREET
RIDGECREST, CA
(760) 248-3221
- Emergency Food and Hygienic Necessities
- Nurturing Parenting Classes
- School Readiness
- Case Management Services
- HEAP and VITA Assistance
- Local Resource Referrals
- www.facebook.com/CAPKOasis

**Kern County Collaborative Meetings**
*Contact the collaborative coordinator for virtual link or for in-person location information.*

- **KCNC General Collaborative Meeting** 3rd Thursday monthly, 8:30 am DARK Nov. & Dec. Yadira Vargas (661) 636-4920
- **34th St. Neighborhood Partnership** Next Meeting: September 3, 2025 Juan Avila (661) 633-9133
- **Buttonwillow Collaborative** 4th Monday, 1:30 pm (Sept., Nov., Feb., & April) Serena Garcia (661) 764-9405
- **Delano Neighborhood Partnership** 1st Tuesday monthly, 9:30 am Linda Hinojosa (661) 721-7036
- **East Kern Collaborative** 3rd Tuesday monthly, 2:00 pm Anna Saavedra (661) 824-4118
- **Greenfield H.E.L.P.S. Collaborative** 2nd Thursday monthly, 9:00 am Jordan Green (661) 837-3720
- **Indian Wells Valley Collaborative** 3rd Wednesday monthly, 10:00 am Kandi Smith (760) 375-4357
- **Kern Disability Collaborative** 2nd Wednesday monthly, 1:00 pm Bernadette Madrid or Rebecca Core-Turner (661) 237-3686
- **Kern River Valley Collaborative** 3rd Tuesday monthly, 9:30 am Melissa Vittoria (760) 379-2556
- **Lost Hills Collaborative** (Sept. 4, Jan. 9, May 8) 20951 Pavilion Way Lost Hills, CA Leticia Limon (661) 797-3025
- **McFarland Community Collaborative** 2nd Tuesday monthly, 2:00 pm Margie Perez (661) 792-1883
- **Mountain Communities Collaborative** 3rd Thursday, 10 am Virtual: Mar. 21, July 17, Nov. 21 In Person: May 16, Sept. 18 Claudia Cuba (661) 245-4303
- **Oildale Community Partnership** 3rd Wednesday bi-monthly, 8:30 am Jodi Graham (661) 392-2110 x1159
- **Richardson Special Needs Collaborative** 2nd Thursday quarterly, 2:00 pm Ana Gomez(661) 336-5481 Wesley Neal (661) 636-4831
- **Shafter Collaborative** 3rd Wednesday monthly, 9:00 am Adam Alvidrez (661) 746-8690

# KCNC Youth Action Board & Parent Advisory Board

## YOUTH ACTION BOARD

### WHAT IS IT?

Youth Action Board (YAB) is a group you can be a part of to help better the lives of homeless youth.
You can make real changes in the community while gaining experience in the business world.

### CAN YOU JOIN?

- Ages 18 -24
- Currently or previously homeless
- Want to earn a giftcard, gas card, or bus pass?



# Connect With KCNC

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## Join Our Email List

**Stay informed about Collaborative Meetings, Family Resource Center updates, KCNC Monthly Trainings, valuable resources, and more—all supporting our shared commitment to child abuse prevention and strengthening families in our community.**

WWW.KCNC.ORG

*Scroll to the bottom of the page and complete the 'Join Our Email List' section with your information.*





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FOLLOW US ON
**FACEBOOK**

*SCAN ME*

@KernCountyNetworkforChildren

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# ABUSIVE HEAD TRAUMA (AHT)

## SHAKEN BABY SYNDROME (SBS)



# WHAT IS THE PURPOSE?

*THE SIMULATORS TRAINING IS INTENDED AND DESIGNED TO HELP RAISE AWARENESS OF THE DANGERS OF SHAKEN BABY SYNDROME, AND TO HELP PREVENT THIS TRAGIC FORM OF CHILD ABUSE.*

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# What Is Abusive Head Trauma (AKA Shaken Baby Syndrome)?



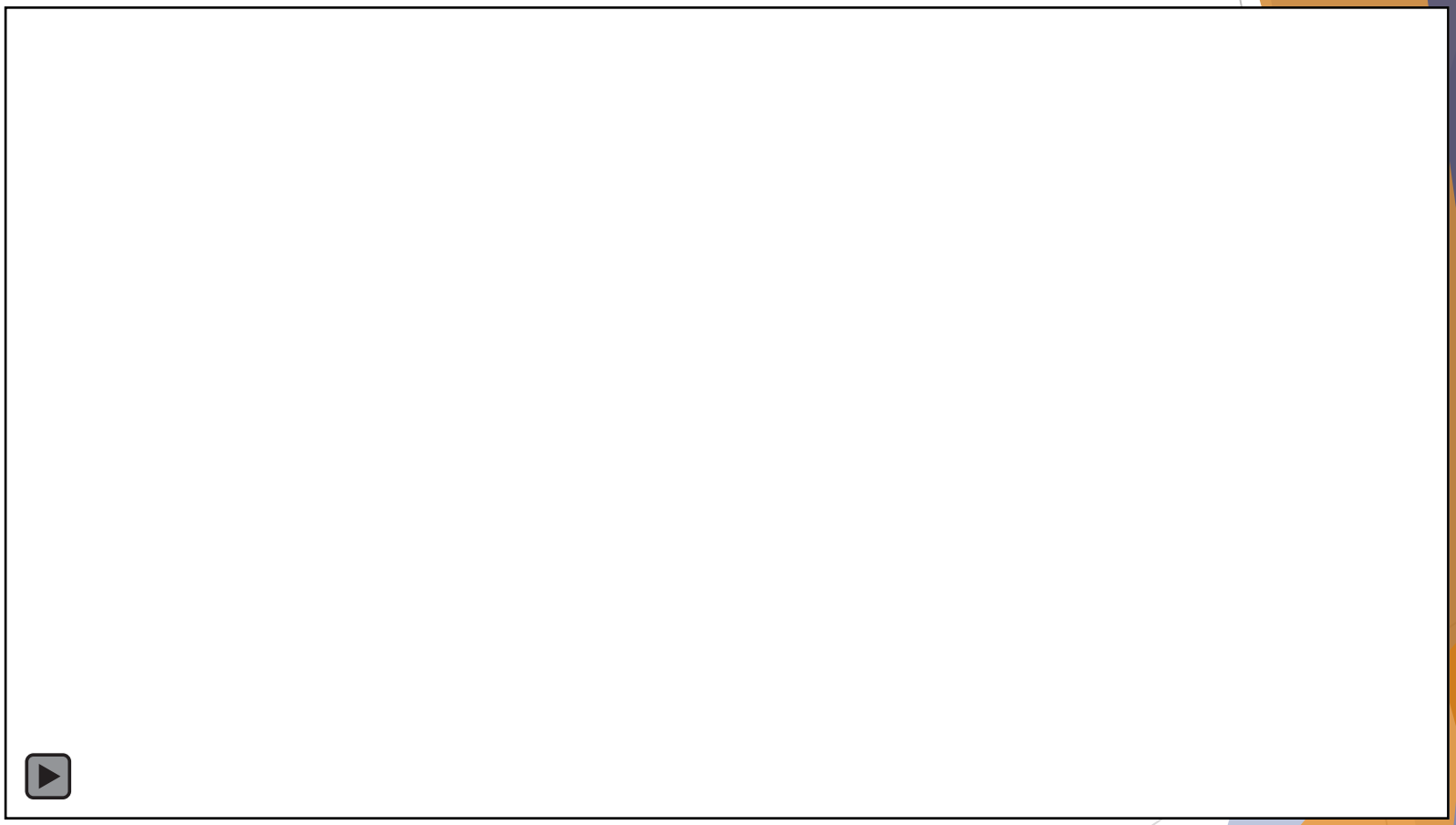
Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS) is a form of **abusive head trauma** that occurs when a caregiver shakes a child, usually to stop the child from crying.

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect, SBS "results from extreme rotational cranial acceleration induced by violent shaking or shaking/impact, which would be easily recognizable by witnesses as dangerous."

www.realityworks.com

- Clinical Definition—Shaken Baby Syndrome, or SBS, is a form of Abusive Head Trauma (AHT)[1] that causes brain injury, bleeding over the surface of the brain, swelling of the brain, bleeding at the back of the eyes, and other injuries not seen together in any other disease or medical condition.[2]
- Layperson's Definition—Child abuse involving the shaking of a baby.

# ANIMATION OF HOW SHAKING AN INFANT IS THOUGHT TO INJURE THE BRAIN



*Video Animation courtesy of forensic pathologist Dr. Daniel Davis, Expert Digital Solutions, Inc.*

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# SBS STATS & FACTS

- It's estimated that somewhere between 1,200[2] and 1,600[3] cases of Shaken Baby Syndrome occur each year in the United States alone
- 25 percent of all shaken babies die from their injuries[3]
- The remaining 75 percent can suffer severe brain damage[3]
- Approximately 60 percent of SBS victims either die from their injuries at a later time or suffer lifetime disabilities[3]
- Between 55 percent[4] and 70 percent[3] of the perpetrators are male
- SBS is the most common cause of death in physically abused children[2,5]
- The younger the child, the more likely a head injury is due to abuse, such as severe shaking[6]
- There may be no visible sign of injury
- The injuries may not become apparent until the child enters school and shows cognitive and behavioral problems
- Fatal cases of SBS have occurred in five-year-olds[7] and six-year-olds[2]
- Even adults can suffer brain injuries as the result of a severe shaking[8]

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# CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT

1. *Children Receiving Referrals for Abuse & Neglect*

**2024 Total:** Kern County: 13,512 California: 417,925

**Per 1,000:** Kern County: 51.5 California: 48.7

2. *Children found to be Victims of Abuse & Neglect after investigation*

**2024 Total:** Kern County: 2,570 California: 47,582

**Ages 0-5:** Kern County: 1,155 California: 20,064

**Under 1:** Kern County: 357 California: 6,527

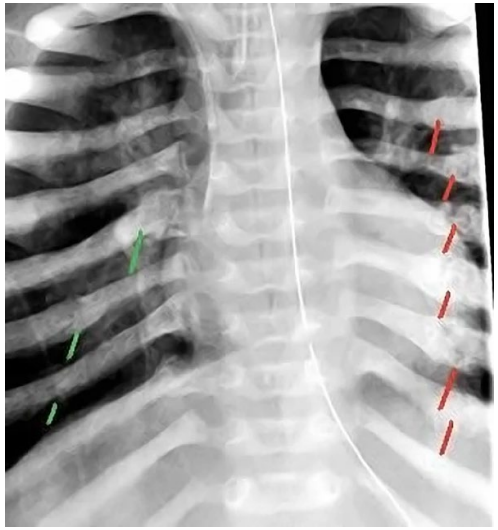
***In 2024, 3 child death was determined to be a result of abuse/neglect by law enforcement or the coroner; and 26 children sustained severe/serious injuries that required emergency medical intervention due to abuse or neglect.***

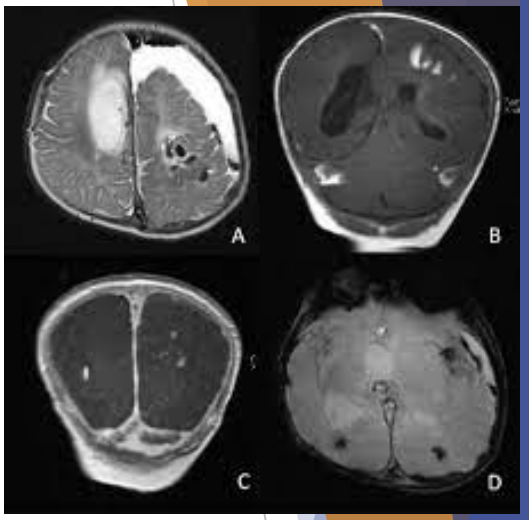
***In 2024, there were 8 children who were found to be victims of Abusive Head Trauma (Shaken Baby Syndrome).***

# IN KERN COUNTY

**Blunt force head trauma accounted for 9 child deaths in years 2017-2022.**

- Oct. 6, 2017 -Bakersfield man gets 11 years in infant son's death; https://www.kget.com/news/crime-watch/bakersfield-man-gets-11-years-in-infant-sons-death/
- August 28, 2023- Child torturer denied parole for 3 years; https://www.aol.com/child-torturer-denied-parole-3-035900722.html
- November 24, 2024- Coroner rules blunt head trauma as cause of death for one-month-old; https://bakersfieldnow.com/news/local/coroner-rules-blunt-head-trauma-as-cause-of-death-for-one-month-old-bakersfield-kern-county-california








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# WHAT AHT IS & IS NOT

## AHT IS:

- A form of child abuse
- Often ruled homicide or murder if the child dies
- A unique, identifiable combination of injuries
- From forceful, violent shaking
- Preventable through education

## AHT IS NOT:

- Found among the effects of any other form of child abuse or accidental trauma
- A pre-existing medical condition or disease
- Always seen with visible bruises
- Caused by car accidents, falls, tossing in the air, or rough play
- Caused by birth, CPR, or genetic disorders

# PROFILE OF A SHAKEN CHILD

Research shows that SBS victims have some characteristics in common:[2]

- Most victims are less than one year old
- The majority are under 6 months old
- Twins have a higher chance of being shaken than single children







# PROFILE OF A SHAKER

- Most shakers are male, in general because
  - Men may be less familiar with babies' needs
  - Men may have financial or family stresses
  - Men may not be used to a baby's crying, and may use force to stop the crying
- Most men who shake a baby are the biological father of the child or the mother's boyfriend[2,3,4]
- Mothers, grandparents, stepparents, other relatives, and childcare providers can shake babies as well
- Anyone who may become frustrated is capable of shaking a baby

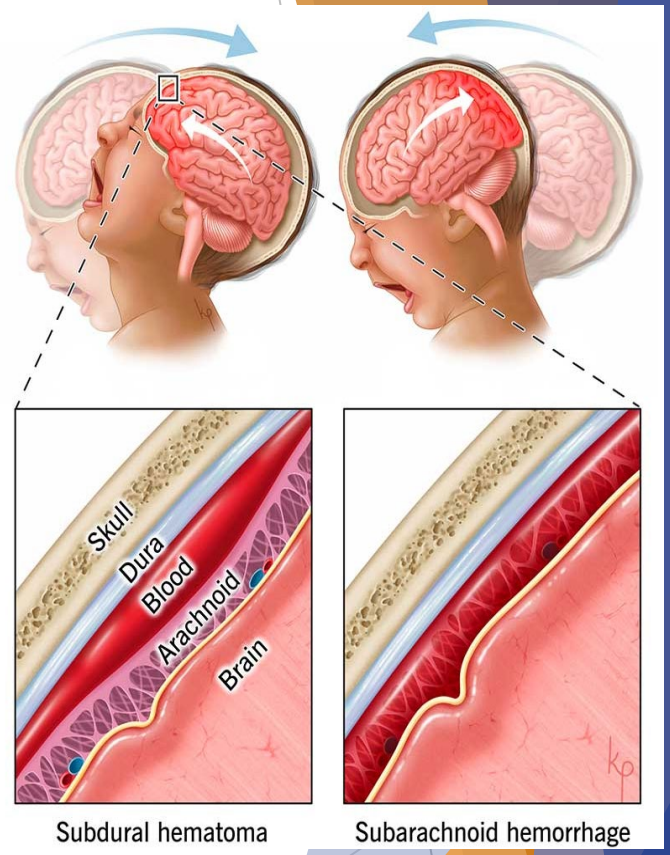
# PROFILE OF A SHAKER












***Investigations of AHT cases have found that fathers are most likely to confess their actions, while child-care providers are least likely to admit injuring children. Generally, the person who was with the child when he or she first shows symptoms of injury is the person who has inflicted the injuries. It can be anyone who has access to the child.*

# ACTIVITIES THAT DO NOT CAUSE AHT/SBS

While potentially hazardous, these activities do NOT cause the same injuries as shaking a baby:[2,9]



- The baby falling off furniture or a counter
- The baby being bounced or jogged on an adult's knee
- The baby being carried in a caregiver's backpack while the caregiver jogs or runs



- The baby being tossed up and caught
- The baby jerking in a car seat when a driver stops the car suddenly

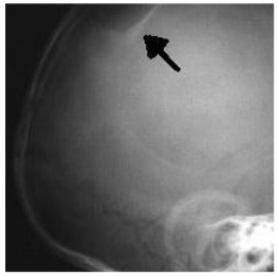
## The Signs and Symptoms of AHT



- Extreme irritability
- Decreased appetite
- Grab-type bruises on arms or chest
- Lethargy, decreased muscle tone
- Rigidity or posturing
- Difficulty breathing
- Seizures
- Inability to lift head
- Unequal pupils
- No smiling or vocalization
- Head or forehead appears larger
- Inability to focus or track movement
- Death



## What Physically Happens to a Shaken Baby?

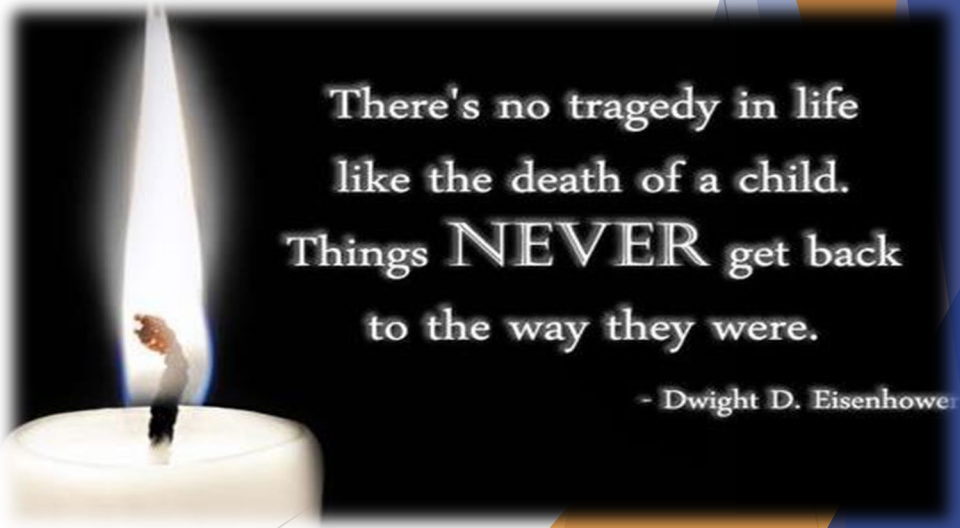


When a child is shaken, even for a few seconds, it can cause:

- Brain injury
- Learning disorders
- Broken ribs and long bones
- Loss of memory
- Bleeding over the surface of the brain
- Swelling of the brain
- Bleeding in the back layers of the eye, blindness
- Cerebral palsy

# THE MANY COSTS

- Death
- Initial hospitalization costs of $150,000 per child
- Ongoing treatment & in-home nursing costs of $180,000 per year per child
- Child's loss of childhood, teenage years, adulthood & parenthood
- Child's life-long loss of "normal" physical & cognitive functions
- Siblings' loss of normal relationship w/their disabled brother or sister
- High public education costs



# LONG TERM EFFECTS

- Learning and cognitive disabilities
- Behavioral disorders
- Blindness
- Cerebral palsy
- Trauma-induced seizure disorders
- Loss of motor control




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# SIGNS OF LESS SEVERE SHAKING

- An unusual or unexplained change in sleeping pattern
- Confusion, restlessness, or agitation
- Absence of energy or motivation
- Slurred speech
- Uncontrollable crying
- Unexplained inability to be consoled
- Unexplained inability to nurse or eat



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# A BABY'S BODY




**A baby's body has unique characteristics that make it vulnerable to injury from shaking:**

- Heavy head—25 percent of body weight
- Weak neck muscles—Can't resist movement
- Space inside skull—Force increases
- Delicate veins—Tear and bleed easily
- Brain is still developing—Vulnerable to injury








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# TRIGGER REASONS

## #1 Trigger Reason……

Crying, to stop the child from crying

## #2 Trigger Reason……

Frustration

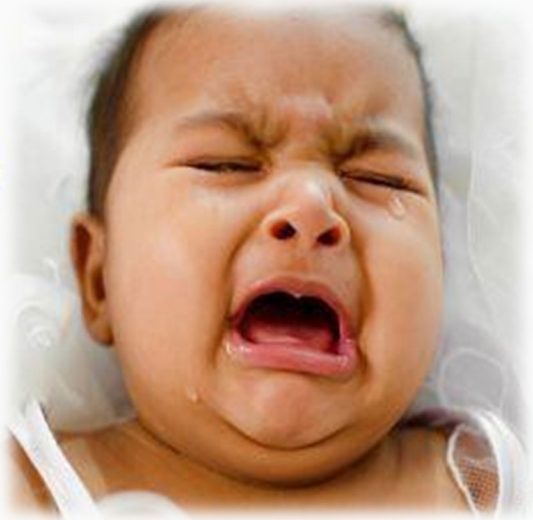
- Frustration with toilet training
- Frustration with baby's appetite
- Frustration with baby's crankiness
- Frustration due to lack of sleep

# WHY DO BABIES CRY?

Crying is the only way babies can communicate.

A baby may cry because he or she is:

- is hungry
- needs to burp
- wants to suck (on a pacifier or a clean finger)
- needs a diaper change
- is too hot or too cold
- is getting sick and is cranky
- has diaper rash
- is teething
- is tired
- is over-stimulated



# MORE REASONS THAT BABIES CRY

- has colic
- has minor gas pains
- has a fever
- is reacting to his or her caregiver's stress
- is in pain
- is bored and needs some activity
- needs to be held and comforted
- no apparent reason at all






# P.U.R.P.L.E. CRYING

- Crying reaches its **peak** frequency and duration at about two months of age.
- Crying during this time is **unpredictable** and may start and stop without an obvious cause.
- This crying can be **resistant** to all efforts to comfort.
- The infant may appear to be in **pain**, with her knees pulled up, and a painful expression on her face.
- This crying can be very **lengthy**, and may continue for a half-hour or longer.
- Late afternoon and **evening** are often the times when an infant will cry the loudest and longest.

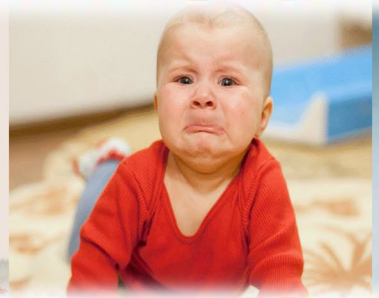
# CRYING RESEARCH

- Research into infant crying shows that the average baby spends two to three hours each day crying.
- The amount and duration of crying typically peaks between 6 weeks and 4 months of age, which coincides with the peak incidence of SBS.
- Research shows that a caregiver cannot spoil a baby who is twelve months or younger; therefore, attempting to soothe a crying baby does not spoil the baby or teach the baby that crying "works".
- No baby has ever died from crying too much.

# CHECKING THE BABY'S BASIC NEEDS

- Does the baby's diaper need changing?
- Is the baby hungry?
- Is the baby being scratched or poked by something?
- Does the baby want to be cuddled?
- Does the baby want to be played with?

Or . . .



- Is the baby too hot? Too cold?
- Is the baby overtired?
- Is the baby teething?
- Is the baby bored?

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# SOOTHING A CRYING BABY

- Create a new, soft noise to distract the baby
- Show the baby something new to look at
- Sing to the baby
- Rock the baby gently
- Give the baby a warm bath



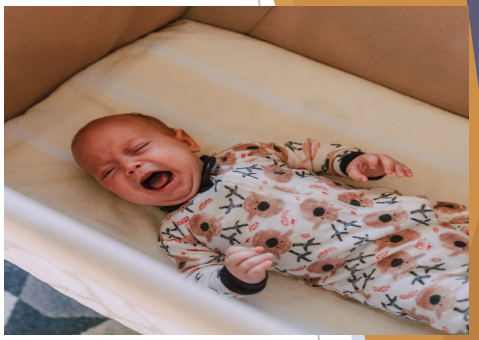



- Put the baby in a new position and gently pat or rub the baby's back
- Push the baby in a stroller
- Take the baby for a ride in the car
- Run a vacuum cleaner nearby



- If the baby seems ill, call a doctor or nurse for advice

# The 5 S's To Soothe a Crying Infant



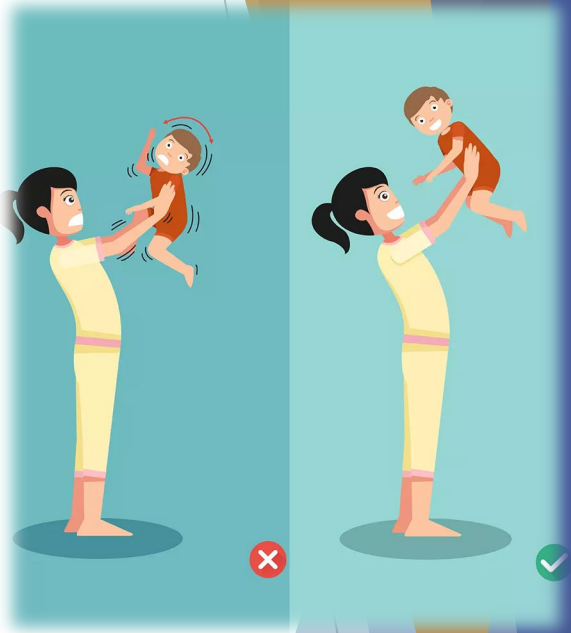
An infant's crying can last from minutes to hours. Dr. Harvey Karp is a pediatrician who believes one reason infants cry is that they miss the constant noise and stimulation from when they were in the womb.

**"5 S's" that can calm most crying infants:**

1. **Swaddling**- helps baby feel warm and secure.
2. **Side or stomach positioning-** soothes a crying infant, but DO NOT place a baby **to sleep** on their side or stomach, which may increase Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).
3. **Shushing-** "shhh" sound, resembles the muffled sounds the infant heard in the womb.
4. **Swinging-** holding the baby and gently swinging them back and forth, so there is skin contact helps calm a baby.
5. **Sucking**-one of the primitive reflexes an infant has, as they start sucking their thumbs, fists, and fingers in the womb as a14-week-old embryo.

# COPING SKILLS

- Stress management
- Anger management
- Discipline
- Ages and stages of children
- Nurturing
- Overall parenting









# WAYS TO COPE

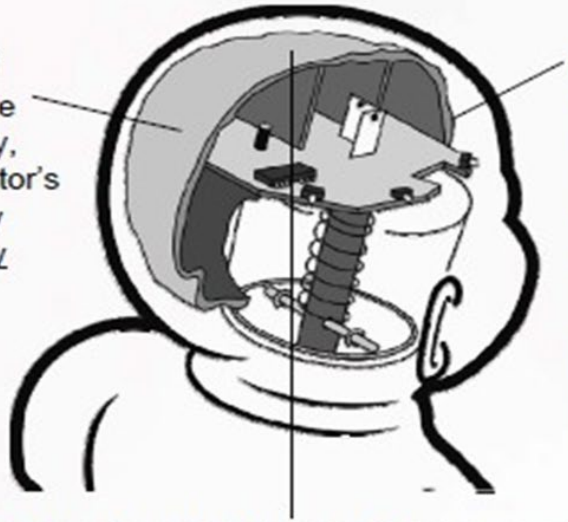
A caregiver's role is not to "force" a crying baby to stop crying, but to cope with the crying until the baby is able to stop:[1]



- Take deep breaths and count to ten
- Say the alphabet
- Read an inspirational poem (post one nearby)
- Take a warm bath or shower
- Keep a picture of your child where crying happens most often, to remind yourself of how precious your child is to you

# WHAT HAPPENS DURING A SHAKING?

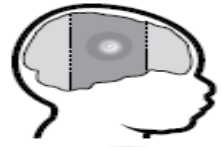
**1.** At the first level of forceful shaking severe enough to cause injury, the back of the simulator's brain lights up. A baby would become visually impaired or blind.



**2.** At the second level of forceful shaking, the front of the simulator's brain lights up, and the baby would have additional injuries that would cause loss of memory and emotion. The loss of these functions can cause learning disabilities and behavioral disorders.

**3.** At the third level of forceful shaking, injury to the brain is extensive. The sides of the simulator's brain light up in addition to the back and front. The baby would lose the ability to speak and hear, and would be paralyzed on one or both sides. This level of force can result in death.

# SIMULATION BREAKDOWN

| Shaking Stage | Simulation | | Associated Injury to a Child |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Sensor Activity | Demonstration of Injury | |
| Shaking begins | Head sensors detect the first level of acceleration and activate LEDs in the back of the brain. |  Injury to occipital lobe | The occipital lobe of the brain, which controls vision, has been injured. The child can suffer visual disorders or blindness.  *Corresponding symbol on simulator's brain* |
| Shaking continues | Acceleration builds and sensors activate LEDs in the front of the brain. |  Injury to frontal lobe | The frontal lobe of the brain, which controls memory and emotion, has been injured. The child can suffer cognitive and emotional disabilities leading to learning and behavioral disorders.  *Corresponding symbol on simulator's brain* |
| Shaking continues | Acceleration builds to maximum and sensors activate LEDs at the sides of the brain. |  Injury to middle of the brain | The area of the brain that controls movement of the arms and legs, the ability to speak, and the ability to process what is heard has been injured. The child can suffer numerous, severe disabilities and may die.  *Corresponding symbol on simulator's brain* |

 *Right Arm*
 *Left Arm*
 *Right Leg*
 *Left Leg*
 *Memory*
 *Emotion*
 *Speech*
 *Vision*

## To care for your baby, you need to care for yourself.

- If you are getting upset or losing control, focus on calming yourself down. Put the baby in a safe place and walk away to calm down, checking on the baby every 5 to 10 minutes.
- Call a friend, relative, neighbor, or parent helpline for support.
- Remember that caring for a crying baby can be very frustrating, but infant crying is normal and it will get better.
- Be sensitive and supportive in situations when other parents are trying to calm a crying baby.



*Seek immediate or urgent medical care if you notice any of the listed signs.*

### Why do babies cry?

Babies cry because it's the only way they know how to express their wants and needs. They cry to let you know that they are:

- Hungry
- Thirsty
- Tired
- Hot
- Cold
- Not feeling well
- Need a diaper change
- Uncomfortable
- Teething
- Scared

### Have a Plan:

Knowing what to do when your baby is crying can help reduce your stress level.

**Try to keep a daily routine:**

- Eat healthy and drink plenty of water
- Get as much rest as possible
- Create a solid support system for your family
- Do something for yourself everyday

### How to calm your crying baby:

Check and tend to physical needs. Is your baby:

- Hungry
- Thirsty
- Hot
- Cold

**Does your baby:**

- Need to be burped
- Need a diaper change
- Have something wrapped around his/her finger or toe, causing them pain (hair tourniquet)

### The 5 S's of soothing your baby*:

- **S**waddling and laying your baby on its back
- **S**ide or stomach position is comfortable for your baby while you are holding him/her
- **S**ounds like your voice, soft music or white noise can be soothing to your baby
- **S**winging your baby gently in your arms or a rocker
- **S**ucking on a pacifier or feeding can help calm your baby

**as developed by Dr. Harvey Karp*

### What is Shaken Baby Syndrome/Abusive Head Trauma?

This is a serious brain injury from enduring blunt impact to the head or being forcefully shaken. When a baby is shaken, the brain is at serious risk for trauma caused by movement in the skull.

The most common trigger for caregiver conduct leading to abusive head trauma is inconsolable crying. Babies less than one year old are at greatest risk of injury from abusive head trauma.

### Shaking a baby can cause:

- Brain damage
- Blindness
- Spinal injuries
- Paralysis
- Seizures
- Learning and behavior problems
- In extreme cases, death

### Signs your baby may have been shaken:

- Rigidity
- Seizures
- Lethargy
- Vomiting
- Coma
- Difficulty breathing
- Dilated pupils
- Blood spot in eyes

# To care for your baby, you need to care for yourself



Preventing Shaken Baby Syndrome/ Abusive Head Trauma

*Helping parents find ways to cope with crying and understand long-term effects of shaking an infant*

- If you are getting upset or losing control, focus on calming yourself down. Put the baby in a safe place and walk away to calm down, checking on the baby every 5 to 10 minutes.
- Call a friend, relative, neighbor, or parent helpline for support.
- Remember that caring for a crying baby can be very frustrating, but infant crying is normal and it will get better.
- Be sensitive and supportive in situations when other parents are trying to calm a crying baby.

**Get Help Now!**

**Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline**

This is a free, confdential 24/7 counseling and crisis line for parents.

**(800) 4 A CHILD | (800) 422 4453**

*http://www.childhelp.org/hotline*

**National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome**

*http://www.dontshake.org*

Never Ever Shake a Baby
www.dontshake.org

OFFICE OF CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION
grow strong families

*http://cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/OCAP*



## Do Your Homework Before Choosing a Care Provider

It's important that you ask yourself the following questions when carefully considering a caregiver for your child:

- Does this person have a history of violence?
- Will this person become frustrated or angry if my baby cries?
- Have I told this person that a baby should never be shaken?
- Is this person good with babies?
- Has this person had children removed from his or her care because he or she was unable to care for them?
- Does this person know to call someone immediately if they become frustrated while caring for the baby?
- Did I find this person from someone I know?
- Does this person abuse alcohol or drugs?

For more information call **TRUSTLINE** California's Background Check for In-Home Child-Care at (800) 822-8490 or visit *http://www.trustline.org*

Preventing Shaken Baby Syndrome/Abusive Head Trauma

## Resources

### Get Help Now!

**CHILDHELP NATIONAL ABUSE HOTLINE**

**This is a free, confidential 24/7 counseling & crisis line for parents.**

**(800) 4-A-CHILD | (800) 422-4453**

### Other Resources

**National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome**
*http://www.dontshake.org*

**Kern County Network for Children**
***Shaken Baby Syndrome Trainings***
*http://www.KCNC.org*
**(661)636-4488**

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*https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/ocap*

*https://kern.org/kern-county-network-children*

PUB 271 (5/21)/ REV (2/25)



# Thank You To The Trainers At…

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Clinica Sierra Vista

bakersfield pregnancy center

Lost Hills Union School District

Lamont Elementary School District
Family Success Center

Arvin Union School District

Kern County Public Health

MCFRC

East Kern Family Resource Center
A Program of capk

Family Resource Center
Kern River Valley

Promise 180
Every School Day Counts
Delano Union School District

Vineland School District

Shafter Family Resource Center

Richardson Special Needs Collaborative

Henrietta Weill Memorial Child Guidance Clinic & Adult Behavioral Health

Greenfield Family Resource Center



# Thank You To The Sponsors…

Kern County Human Services

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# *Thank You!*

For more information on Kern County Network for Children services,

visit **www.kern.org/kcnc**

or contact us at 661-636-4488



