

The Problem

Today, the leading cause of infant mortality in the U.S. is primarily due to complications of prematurity. In Milwaukee, the second leading cause is SIDS, which is often related to unsafe sleep. The majority of babies who have died of SIDS-related causes in Milwaukee were in an unsafe sleep situation.

HOPE Network's Solution

True *unexplained* Sudden Infant Death Syndrome may be prevented some day through science. Meanwhile, there are steps that loving parents must take to prevent babies dying while sleeping. Parents must provide a *safe sleep environment*.

To that end, HOPE Network provides portable cribs (“Pack ‘n Plays”) to single female head of household families living in the greater Milwaukee area. Pack ‘n Plays can be taken wherever the baby needs to be cared for, and are convenient for smaller living spaces.

To qualify to receive a Pack ‘n Play, a single female must have financial need, be the legal custodial guardian or parent and be referred by a community professional such as a caseworker, medical caregiver, or clergy person.

Before a mother is given a Pack ‘n Play, HOPE Network gives her training on proper infant sleep position, safe sleep environment, and child abuse prevention/parenting education.

Some Notes on Safe Sleep...

A Type of “Co-Sleeping” that may be fatal to your baby

Bed sharing co-sleeping refers to an infant sleeping in the same bed, couch, or other surface where parents or others are sleeping. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that infants not share a bed with parents or anyone else, due to proven hazards. The City of Milwaukee Health Department strongly advises parents NOT to share a bed with their infant.

A Type of “Co-sleeping” that may be good for your baby

Room-sharing co-sleeping refers to infants sleeping in the parents’ room, but in their own crib or bassinet. The American Academy of Pediatrics 2005 Policy Statement states that the “risk of SIDS has been shown to be reduced when the infant sleeps in the same room as the mother.”

No cushions... and nothing but the baby in the crib

Even sleeping alone on a couch, babies can suffocate when their noses become “stuck” between the cushions of a couch. Even sleeping alone in a crib, babies may suffocate in loose bedding, blankets, bumpers or stuffed animals.

▪ ***Back to Sleep***

To avoid suffocation, babies are safest when laid to sleep on their backs.

Others Can Help

- Talk to nurse or social worker if delivering at St. Joseph, Columbia/St.Marys, St. Francis
- **If you reside in the following areas Call these numbers for a Pack’N Play Appointment first:**
- City of Milwaukee Residents – you may call Milwaukee Health Department at 414-286-8620
- City of West Allis Residents- you may call West Allis Health Department at 414-302-8600
- City of Greenfield Residents- you may call Greenfield Health Department at 414-329-5275
- Waukesha County Residents-you may call 262-896-8430

If others can’t help come to us.

How do I qualify for HOPE Network's Portable Crib Program?

- You must be a single female with legal guardianship of a minor.
- You must be a HOPE Network member (membership costs \$5/year).
- You must participate in a ***Safe Sleep/Parenting Education*** session. During the session, you’ll watch a short safe sleep video, receive safe sleep/parenting materials to take home, and watch a demonstration on setting up your Pack’N Play. See reverse side for days, time and locations.
- You must provide a professional reference, such as a caseworker, nurse, teacher, social worker, clergy member, who can verify you are a single mother in financial need.

Portable Crib Application

HOPE Network Member Yes No

Date: _____

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Due Date or Birthdate: _____

Gender (if known): _____

Name and phone number of professional
reference (required):

Once your application is approved,
you will be contacted by HOPE Network to
schedule your *required* Safe Sleep orientation
class. After class is completed you may take your
portable crib with you.

Classes Offered

BY APPOINTMENT at :

HOPE Network Office at:
Good Shepherd Catholic Church
Room #201
N88 W17658 Christman Road
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

Mon.-Thurs. Mornings

&

Also by a HOPE Network volunteer at:
Southside Trading Post at: (Bus Route #27)

Ascension Lutheran Church

1300 S. Layton Blvd.; Milwaukee, WI
Look for bright green sign on window for
"Mother's Trading Post" located on south
wing of church. Enter southernmost
entrance marked by brown canopy and
#1300

1st & 3rd Thursdays of Month 9:30-11am

Office Hours: Hope Network

Monday – Thursday 8:00am – 12:30 noon
Phone: 262-251-7333 Fax: 262-251-2088

Website: www.hopenetworkinc.org

FACEBOOK:

<https://www.facebook.com/hopenetworkinc/>

TWITTER: [@HOPE_Network](https://twitter.com/HOPE_Network)

Email: info@hopenetworkinc.org

**HOPE
Network**
For Single Mothers
....Since 1982...

Portable Crib Program

