



2024: Celebrating 20 years!

Iowa SIDS Foundation

What's INSIDE

- ISF CELEBRATES 20 YEARS
- 2024 EVENTS
- FREE MOSS PRINT
- REMEMBERING OUR BABIES
- BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT
- NEW SAFE SLEEP RESOURCE



- Volunteer at your local walk.
- Host a fundraising event.
- Create a Facebook Fundraiser.
- Become a Peer Contact.
- Serve on the Board.
- Submit an article for the newsletter.
- Participate in the Birdies for Charity event.
- Follow us on social media.
- Complete your parental consent/volunteer form.
- Make a monetary donation.
- Tell others about the Iowa SIDS Foundation.



Supporting Families Today, Educating for the Future

You're Invited: ISF 20th Anniversary Celebration Event

On March 11, 2004 the Iowa SIDS Foundation officially became a registered 501c3 non-profit organization. Prior to receiving this definitive ruling for tax-exemption status, the Iowa SIDS Foundation was formally known as the Iowa SIDS Alliance. The Iowa SIDS Alliance began in 1992 when two of the three support groups in the state merged and affiliated with the National SIDS Alliance. In 1993, the third support group joined the newly formed statewide Alliance and in 1996, a part-time Executive Director was contracted. Finally, in 2006, the Iowa SIDS Foundation Board of Directors approved the addition of an Administrative Assistant. Since that time, the Foundation has been operated by two part-time staff members, a dedicated Board of Directors, and passionate volunteers. For the last 20 years, the Iowa SIDS Foundation has been working hard to provide support, education, and hope to Iowa families and professionals.



PLEASE JOIN US!

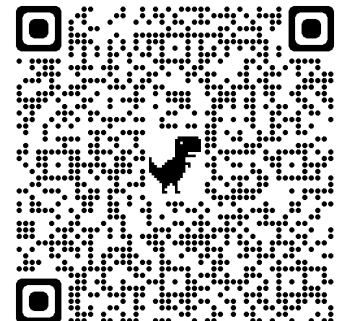
**SATURDAY MAY 4TH
10AM-1:30PM
LIVING HISTORY FARMS**

**\$15 ADULTS
\$10 KIDS 2-12**

*TICKET INCLUDES LUNCH, AND
ADMISSION TO LIVING HISOTRY FARMS.*

To celebrate this exciting milestone, the Iowa SIDS Foundation is hosting a family event on Saturday May 4th. This in-person event will be held at Living History Farms in Urbandale from 10am-1:30pm. Families can arrive at the Murray Conference Center which can be accessed off of Douglas west of the interstate. For this unique event, after checking in, families can visit Living History Farms as they wish and come back to the conference center to gather with other ISF Families, participate in crafts and activities, enjoy lunch and participate in a memorial event. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children 2-12. Ticket cost includes admission to Living History Farms, lunch, and all crafts and activities. Registration is available online now at iowasids.org. You can contact the office with questions. We hope to see you there!

Scan QR Code to learn more and buy tickets!



Save the Date for These Other Upcoming ISF Events!

We are looking forward to multiple opportunities in 2024 to gather with the families of the Iowa SIDS Foundation. Mark the dates below in your calendar and plan to join us for these in-person and virtual events!

Saturday May 4	10:00am-1:30pm	ISF 20th Anniversary Celebration	Living History Farms Urbandale	\$15 Adults \$10 children 2-12
Saturday June 8	6:00pm	ISF Night with the ICubs	Principal Park Des Moines	\$20 ages 3 and up
Saturday August 24	Times Vary	2024 Walk for the Future 25th Anniversary	Multiple Statewide locations	\$25 Adults \$15 Youth
Tuesday October 15	7:00pm	2024 Wave of Light	Virtual	FREE
3rd Thursday every month	6:30pm	Monthly Support Group	Virtual	FREE

Request your free Moss Print in Celebration of 20 Years

In celebration of 20 years of service we are gifting a copy of the P. Buckley Moss Heavenly Babe print to all who request. This is our gift to you and completely free however donations are always appreciated. Learn more about the Heavenly Babe print below.

On June 27, 1994 Dawn and Kevin Maughan lost their son Joseph to SIDS. Shortly after, Dawn asked artist P. Buckley Moss to create a print in dedication to babies who have died of SIDS. P. Buckley Moss graciously fulfilled Dawn's request and created a painting entitled, "Heavenly Babe." The prints are a signed and numbered special edition depicting a mother and child in subtle color. Only 1000 prints were published in this special edition. Email info@iowasids.org to request your free copy today.



Remembering Our Babies

Happy Birthday

March

Sterling Grayson McFerren
Deztiny Love Donna
Heisdorffer
Logan Grant Higginbotham
Bently M. Hullinger
Katelyn Joy Lacey
Konner Lihs
Sterling Grayson McFerren
Benjamin Scott Meints
Mariah Pickering
Kelly Ann Pitts
Anthony Alan Ross
Cody Raymond Rupe
Marley Jean Schults
Sawyer Reign Springsteen
Emily Rose Studer
Royce Sutton
Benjamin James Swanson
Sophia Halas Welch

April

Olivia Nora Aikey
Rachel Marie Anderson
Mason James Bauer
Emma Nicole Bright
Joey Cusick
Gina Marie Dolphin
Jordan Lynn Evans
BROCK OUR ROCK
Brooke Louise Goodyk
Gavin Eli Gratz
Brianna Jo Green
Emily M. Havens
Gretchen Lynne Hummel
Steven Michael Jeneary
Lindsey Marie Krusemark
Ryan Dennis Mouglin
Gregory Thomas Oetzel GTO
Kaleb J. Peverill
Tianna J'Nae Purk
Jaxen Rosendahl
Andrew Jay "A.J."
VanDerSchaaf
Jadin Diane Vega
Gavyn Darwin Webb

May

Summer Sky Archer-
Lawrence
Cael David Burmeister
Jordan Lee Daniel
Caitlin Rose Davis
Cole Alexander Davis
Joseph Dale Davis
Joseph Laurence Devore
Caden DeVries
Parker G. Donaldson
Teagon Lee Fowler
Mattilynn Elizabeth Jade
Goodner
Marianna Sarina Guess
Sullivan Garrett Hall
Devon James Hayes-Jones
Kristina Ann Krienert
Ethan Troy Livingston
Jaxon Matt
Dominick Paul McFarland Jr.
Matthew Timothy Otten
Bjorn Kai Packard
Mario Franisico Robles
Justin Ryker Swick
Dawson Thomas Vandello
McKensie Lynn Wakeman
Caleb Richard Williams

June

Sydney Nicole Allen
Nathaniel Frederick Borelli
Ryan Michael Burriss
Cheyanne Marie Camp
Shialoh Marie Christopher
Landon Davis
Allison Renee Elliott
Thaddeus Charles Erzen
Kobbi Estrada
Melissa Sue Lemon
Colin Michael McGaffin
Zachary D. Mohatt
Alexis Deane Rudkin
Tara Beth Schroeder
Laikyn Allyn Shutts
Douglas Ronald Tietge
Devon Owen Tripp
Zachary Richard Van Vleet

In Loving Memory

March

Maria Irene Andersen
Brianna Alexis Bostock
Brianna Elizabeth Boyd
Sophie Ann Kracht
Taylor Rose Levi
Hazel Christine Liston
Baylee Ann Ludtke
Robby Miller
Grant Michael Palan
Cameron Palmer
Jessica Lynn Sammons
Nathaniel Charles Seymour
Gavin Lee Sievers
Leavy Joel Simaj-Christianson
Isaiah Thomas Swailes
Zayden Robert Vote
Wyatt James Wilson

April

Cole Edward Clark
Alyssa Coulbourn
Matthew Paul Eckerman
Kenneth Edward Giffin
Brennan Charley Godfredsen
Deztiny Love Donna
Heisdorffer
Katelyn Joy Lacey
Shawn Leon Levi
Jalen Joseph Litscher
O'Malley
La'Tianna Jo'Nae Luten
Alyssa Renee Lux
Frederick Robert "Robbie"
Dean Mortimer III
Madison "Maddy" Lynn
Nesbitt
Camden Ray O'Connor
Riley Jane-Marie Perkins
Benjamin David Person
Maggie Ameila Rose Rog-
erson
Landon Scott Schaver
Kennedi Eve Sherwood
Preston Douglas Spahn
Izzabella Maria Tambornino

May

Tyree R. Barnes
Libbi Marsha Bendickson
Dalton James Bixby
Hannah Jo Blair
Emma Nicole Bright
Bentlee Jacob Edwards
Grant Philip Evans
BROCK OUR ROCK
James Ray Griffin
Tysen Jacob Imbus
Catherine Louise Jacoby
Danika Jo James
Adam Randal Jones
Gavyn Scott Judd
Logan James Lamoreux
Konner Lihs
David Mikel Logan
James Nupp Jr. "JJ"
Tanner Lee Port
Tianna J'Nae Purk
Cody Raymond Rupe
Alec John Schlotfeldt
Tanner Richard Skelton
Presley Nicole Sapphire
Whitaker
Elizabeth 'Ellie' Christine
Williams

June

Rachel Marie Anderson
Summer Sky
Archer-Lawrence
Ryan Michael Burriss
Joseph Dale Davis
Jory James Fisk
Bently M. Hullinger
Lindsey Marie Krusemark
Justice Marie Ruthann
Newsom
Rylan Joseph Ogden
Jaxton Daniel Plathe
Jaxen Rosendahl
Anthony Alan Ross
Royce Sutton
Benjamin James Swanson
Tjay Scott VanLangen
Lexis Dawn Zeibig

Board Member Spotlight: Karen Weiskircher



Since 2007 Karen Weiskircher has served on the Iowa SIDS Foundation Board of Directors. During her time of service to ISF Karen has served as Treasurer and a member of the Fiscal Oversight Committee. Karen has also assisted in the planning efforts of the annual Walk for the Future- Washington location, for many years. Karen's dedicated services to the Iowa SIDS Foundation are in honor of her 4th child, Noah James Zarate, who was born on September 19, 2004 and passed away on December 28, 2004.

Karen's professional experience as a registered nurse and perspective as a bereaved mother provide a valuable asset to the Board of Directors. Karen shares, "It has now been 18 years and I still feel grief everyday. I have learned many things though the years and met many different people on this grief journey. I am a different person now than what I was before. I value my time with other more and I take nothing for granted. Tomorrow is never promised. Live for today, laugh when you can, cry when you need and love always." We are incredibly grateful for Karen's service to the Foundation for so many years!



Noah James Zarate

Get to know Karen

Favorite color: Blue and green

Favorite sports team: Hawkeyes, Cubs, and Bears

Other fun facts: Karen enjoys coffee, crocheting, knitting, walking, and reading and she loves Star Wars!

ISF Safe Sleep Brochure now Available in Spanish

The Iowa SIDS Foundation has added a new version of an existing free educational resource for professionals and families. Thanks to translation services at Iowa Health and Human Services, the Iowa SIDS Foundation Safe Sleep Brochure is now available in Spanish. Previously, the Iowa SIDS Foundation kept a small stock of Spanish safe sleep resources at the office. These resources were provided for free from Safe to Sleep Campaign of the National Institute of Children's Health and Human Development.

When requested and if in stock, the Foundation would provide Spanish materials but often referred professionals to order directly from NICHD. Now with the newly translated brochure, the Foundation will be able to provide these for professionals requesting for the Spanish speaking families they serve.

Spanish is the most common non-English language spoken as the primary language in households in the state of Iowa. The Foundation was passionate about creating this resource to be able to provide safe sleep education in Spanish speaking Iowans primary language to ensure these families have equal access. Currently, while the need is accessed, the Spanish brochures are available in limited quantity. They can be requested online with all other resources at <https://iowasids.org/what-we-do/programs-and-services/education/>.



Thank You... *The Iowa SIDS Foundation wishes to thank the following donors for their generous gifts.*

Gifts Given In Memory Of:

Mason James Bauer

Dean Paulson

Rita Marie Chadwick

Stephanie Chadwick

Gina Marie Dolphin

Andrea and Duane Dolphin

Brock Adam Gould

Vaughn Livingston

Alexa Jean Jonas

Linda Jonas

Thomas James Kochuyt

Becky Kouang

Lindsey Marie Krusemark

Joel and Krissa Krusemark

Shawn and Taylor Levi

Jennifer MacDormott

Alex Thomas Marker

Gary and Delaine Marker Sr.

Jaxon Floyd Matt

Katie Matt

Joseph Stuart Maughan

Julia Correa

Peggy VandenBerg

Shelby Jo McConnell

Jim McConnell

Colin Michael McGaffin

Pamela Strum

Ryan Dennis Mouglin

Jane Gent

Dee and Wayne Simon

Mariah Ann Pickering

Christina Foster

Robert Benjamin Shaw

Bob and Stephanie Shaw

Sawyer Reign Springsteen

Melinda Watson

Isaac Francis Stecker

Amanda Stecker

Beth Marie Stukerjorgen

Jay Stukerjorgen

Zachary Richard VanVleet

Diana VanVleet

Taylor John Vote

John & Maribeth Vote and Family

Keaton James

Wirtz

Tami Hartwig



General Donations:

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Applebees
Benevity Giving Fund
BlackBaud Giving Fund
Facebook /Meta
Fareway Coin Collection, Clive
Jill Matthias
MidAmerican
Orchard Place
PayPal Giving Fund
Shive-Hattery
Todd Schuelka
Tagg LLC
Nathan Tentinger
UK Online Giving Fund
Rebecca Wiederholt
Modern Woodmen
Words Worth Repeating

Employer Pledges-Employer Match:

Farm Credit Services of America
Mid American
The Wellmark Foundation
The Principal Financial Group

Donations are an important and significant percentage of our support. They allow us to reach out to newly bereaved parents, provide resources to families, relatives, and professionals, print the newsletter, sponsor support group, conduct safe sleep educational programs and to support research.

These donations were received as of
February 29, 2024.

Walk for the Future 2024– Celebrating 25 Years

2024 is a big year for the Iowa SIDS Foundation. In addition to celebrating 20 years as a registered non-profit, 2024 is the 25th Anniversary of the Walk for the Future! This year, the Walk will be held on Saturday August 24th in several locations across the state and local volunteers and Foundation staff are already hard at work on plans to make this year extra special. As always, this event is intended for family, friends, and our local communities to come together to honor and remember babies that have died tragically too soon, while raising awareness for SIDS and safe sleep. Please save the date and plan to join us this year! Follow us on Facebook and visit our website for the most up-to-date information on all things Walk. Online registration will begin May 31st.

2024 Walk Locations: Clarinda *NEW* , Cedar Rapids, Dubuque, Fort Dodge, Le Mars, Urbandale, and Washington. *Carroll location is pending for 2024.

Can my employer or business be a sponsor?

Yes! This year we are offering FOUR levels of sponsorship: Bronze \$250, Silver \$500, Gold \$1,000 and Special 25th Anniversary Celebration addition– Diamond Level \$1,500+. If you are interested in learning more, a sponsorship packet can be requested by email or phone.

Sponsors are critical in helping defray the operating costs of the seven statewide walks, which allows the funds raised to be maximized. All sponsors must be confirmed no later than June 21, 2024.

How can I add my baby's name to the back of the shirt?

If you are interested in including your baby's name on the back of the 2024 Walk shirts, a consent signed by one of baby's PARENTS is required to be on file at our main office. If you completed a consent in the past it does **not** need to be renewed yearly unless you preferences have changed. You can contact us to confirm your baby had a consent on file or request one. All consents must be received no later than July 22, 2024.

NEW REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR 2024!

To keep up with the times and use funds responsibly mailed paper registration will NOT be an option starting in 2024. Walkers must register online. Our website is very user friendly and we are happy to assist you if needed. Online registration will begin on May 31st.

Walkers will also have the option to register on-site the morning of the Walk however, *fees increase and a SHIRT IS NOT GUARANTEED!!!*

Questions: All other questions can be referred to the office at info@iowasids.org or by calling 515-965-7655.



Help us Celebrate 25 Years of the Walk for the Future!

There are so many ways you can get involved in this annual event! Every location needs help and this event would truly be impossible without volunteers stepping up and using their time or skills. Here are some ways you can help out:

- Volunteer to assist in planning at various locations- Share your ideas and connections!
- Volunteer to help facilitate Walk Day- Help is needed to set up, clean up and make the experience family-friendly.
- Assistance in securing silent auction and raffle items– Approach your favorite business for a product donation or create a gift basket and donate to your location!
- Corporate sponsorships– Reach out to your employer or a business you frequent to ask for sponsorship. The office is happy to provide support for this, just reach out!

If you are interested in volunteering in any of the above mentioned ways, reach out to us for connection to your local Walk Coordinator, casey@iowasids.org or call 515-965-7655.

New SUID Children’s Book Coming in 2024

In 2021, the Iowa SIDS Foundation added a new resource book titled “Remembering Our Baby” to the children’s grief packets that are provided to families following the loss of a baby due to SIDS or SUID. In collaboration with Words Worth Repeating, a local Des Moines business, a book was created that provides a developmentally appropriate explanation of SIDS to children, the book also explores the feelings children may have after experiencing the loss of a baby, reminding them that they are still big brothers or big sisters. This book has been a useful tool for families these last few years and in 2024, we are looking forward to further the reach of support for families experiencing a sudden infant lost by creating a new book to replace the current one. This new book will be appropriate for all children who have lost a baby to any cause of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death instead of just SIDS. Through working with our families and further understanding the categorization of infant loss in Iowa, we believe this book that expands beyond SIDS will significantly further the reach of support we can provide. Iowa SIDS Foundation recognizes that the loss of a baby impacts the entire family, including siblings and we hope this book helps many families. The soft release date for this book is Summer 2024, stay tuned for more!



Facebook Donations

Thank you so much to those who choose to host an online fundraiser to benefit our Foundation. Happy birthday to the following: Ashley Bouma, Margo Sievers, Shane Sievers, and Tami Sue Hartwig. The generosity and kindness of both the Facebook Birthday Fundraising sponsors and donors assists the Foundation in supporting families and providing safe sleep education. Thank you for choosing to be a part of our Foundation and helping fulfill our mission!

THANK YOU!

Amy Kapustka Boyce
Andrew Kachel
Bhupinder Brar
Carrie Tresemer
Christina Foster
Dawn Cornia Ruggles
Heather Shaull

Ivan Kronkvist
Janelle Jacobi
Karen Small-Greene
Kari Hilton Draeger
Kim Conover
Kris Gunderson
Lindy Hammel

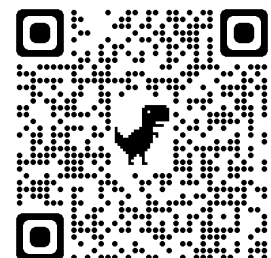
Manni Balignasay
Margo Sievers
Matt Shroyer
Milo Vukelich
Ryan Cosmo
Ryan Veenstra
Sabrina Moe

Shane Sievers
Steve Sauser
Susan Peter
Tami Hartwig
Tiffany Flournoy

You Can Make an Impact Too!

There are so many ways you can support the mission of the Iowa SIDS Foundation through giving. As a non-profit organization, our services are completely funded by private and corporate donations. We know you have many worthy causes to choose from and appreciate you choosing to support us. We promise to use your donation to support families, educate lowans, and be source of hope for all. See below for some ideas, [or scan the QR code and GIVE NOW!](#) Thank you!

- Have a birthday, holiday, or “angelversary” fundraiser asking friends and family to donate in lieu of gifts.
- Host a “tip night” or restaurant supported fundraising night in your area.
 - Applebee’s – “Together We Care Tuesday,” supports non-profits once a week on Tuesday, partial funds from special menu come back to organizations.
 - Pizza Ranch – Tip nights, group of volunteers work for the night for tips.
 - Panera – “Raise Some Dough” program, 20% sales on a given day and time support organization.
 - Jersey Mikes- Individual locations can chose benefitting non-profit to support.
- Approach your employer and ask for Walk Sponsorship.
- Find out if your employer has a donation matching program.
- Visit businesses you frequent and ask for consideration of Walk sponsorship or item donations for silent auctions.
- Join us for ISF night at the ICubs and bring friends and family members.
- Donate on PayPal, eBay and other platforms.





Iowa SIDS Foundation

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Summer Newsletter Deadline: June 14, 2024

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General Submissions

The Iowa SIDS Foundation offers all parents, grandparents, relatives, childcare providers and friends the opportunity to submit information for the newsletter. This may include letters, poems, sharing your family's story or perspective, or highlights of events held in your local community to benefit the Foundation or to bring awareness to SUID and SIDS. Please note that due to space limitations, submitted material may have to be edited or held until a later newsletter.

It is our hope to give as many parents and family members the opportunity to share. For additional information or to submit your story, please contact the Iowa SIDS Foundation by calling 515-965-7655 or by email at info@iowasids.org.

Remembering Our Babies

If you would like to honor your baby in our Remembering Our Babies section of the newsletter, we do require a written parental consent to be on file. Consents may be printed from our webpage or can be mailed or emailed to you by contacting our office by phone or email.

UNSUBSCRIBE: If you would like to have your name removed from the Iowa SIDS Foundation mailing database, please notify us at 515-965-7655 or info@iowasids.org.

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