

May 7, 2018

ST. LUCIE BECOMES THE 2ND COUNTY IN FLORIDA TO PROVIDE DIRECT ON-SCENE EDUCATION (DOSE) TRAINING TO REDUCE INFANT DEATHS



Contact: Lieutenant Richard Hall
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St. Lucie County, FL- The Florida Department of Health in St. Lucie (FDOH-St. Lucie) started a Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) program almost two years ago after noticing black infants were dying at a higher rate than white infants. FIMR is a national program designed to enhance the health and well-being of women, infants, and families by improving the community resources and the delivery of services available to them. FDOH-St. Lucie conducted family interviews, analyzed data, engaged community partners, agencies and providers to get a closer look at the top causes of St. Lucie's infant deaths. The FIMR team recognized Sudden Unexpected/Unexplained Infant Deaths (SUID) were occurring at a high rate due to unsafe sleep practices. To help prevent these deaths, we are partnering with the St. Lucie County Fire District to provide Direct On-Scene Education (DOSE).

Since its inception in 2012, DOSE has become a model program nationally helping to reduce sleep related infant death due to suffocation, strangulation or positional asphyxia by using First Responders to identify and remove hazards while delivering education on scene during emergency and non-emergency 911 calls. "We are thrilled to have Captain James Carroll of Ft. Lauderdale Fire and Rescue, co-founder of DOSE, teach this life saving program to decrease preventable sleep-related infant deaths in St. Lucie," said Clint Sperber, County Health Officer for the Florida Department of Health in St. Lucie.

If responders find an expectant mother or infant less than one year of age, they will initiate an "environmental check" and distribute a Baby Safe Sleep Kit. FDOH-St. Lucie purchased pack and plays for families identified by first responders that do not have a crib and we will distribute them while supplies last.

TRAINING SCHEDULE

Captain James Carroll will provide:
DOSE training on May 9, 10 and 11
Location: St. Lucie County Fire Department
Address: 5160 NW Milner Drive, Port St. Lucie, FL 34983.

****Please call the Education department at the SLCFD if you are interested at 772-621-3326**

1 hour "Train the First Responder" class
2 hour "Train the Trainer" class.

Class times are as follows:

Wednesday - May 9: 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Thursday - May 10: 8:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m., 11 a.m. -12 noon, 1-3 p.m. and 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Friday - May 11: 8:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m., 11 a.m. -12 noon, 1-3 p.m. and 3:30-4:30 p.m.

About the Florida Department of Health

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