



# Fetal, Infant, Child Mortality and Prevention Newsletter

December 2012

Volume 1, Issue 2

## Contact Information:

Main Line: 444-4572

Fax #: 444-2606

**Ann Buss**

Program Supervisor 444-4119

**Lori Rowe**

FICMR Coordinator 444-3394

**Mark Squires**

Office Support 444-2660

## Inside this issue:

March of Dimes Pre-mature Birth Report 2

Booster Seat Laws and Fatalities Study 2

Let's talk about : Winter Safety 3

Silent Killer: Carbon Monoxide 3

Every Week Counts: Preterm births among American Indian / Alaskan Native Montana Residents, 2008-2011 4

Things to Remember 4

## Season's Greetings From Our Office to Yours!



Winter is the time of year when friends and family like to come together to celebrate the holiday season. But we need to remember to stay safe while driving, keep ourselves and loved ones warm, and most important thing of all is to wrap up those 2011 FICMR Reviews sitting on your desks!

Thank you to all of you who dedicate your time and efforts towards the FICMR reviews and coming up with ideas on prevention to keep Montana safe. I wish everyone a happy and wonderful holiday season.

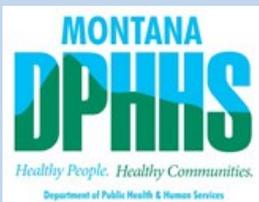
-Lori Rowe (FICMR Coordinator)

## What's New in FICMR?

Montana has been approved to use the National Child Death Review Database (CDR). Montana will be the 46th state to hop on board using the CDR system. This web-based system will collect more information and allow counties to run their own reports as needed.

In April 2013, there will be a hands on training held in Missoula at the Maternal Child Health Spring Conference that we are encouraging all FICMR Coordinators to attend. Please do not review any 2013 deaths in your area until you have been trained on the CDR. However, continue to complete your 2012 death reviews, using the State of Montana reporting form and send them in.

As more news becomes available for the training, it will be shared with you during the February FICMR call. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Lori Rowe at [lrowe@mt.gov](mailto:lrowe@mt.gov) or 444-3394.



## March of Dimes Prematurity Report Card

In November 2012, the March of Dimes released the Premature Report card. The report card compares each state's preterm birth rate to the March of Dimes goal of lowering the rate to 9.6 percent of all live births by 2020. The U.S. preterm birth rate dropped for the fifth consecutive year in 2011 to 11.7 percent, giving thousands more babies a healthy start in life and saving billions in health and social costs. The largest declines in premature birth occurred among babies born at 34 to 36 weeks of pregnancy, but the improvement was across the board. Every racial and ethnic group benefitted, and there were fewer preterm babies born at all stages of pregnancy.

There were four states that earned an "A" on the 2012 Premature Report. Although the, US preterm birth rate had improved, it again earned a "C" on the report card. Montana is currently sitting at "B" with a 10.8 percent.

If you would like to see a copy of the report visit the [March of Dimes](#) website.



## Booster Seat Laws and Fatalities in Children 4 to 7 Years of Age

*"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is time for home."*  
-Edith Sitwell

In November 2012, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) released a study on Booster Seat Laws and Fatalities in children 4 to 7 years of age to find out whether or not laws were associated with decreased fatality rates. Most booster laws exclude children 6 to 7 years of age, so a separate analyses for children 4 to 5, 6, and 7 years of age was done and were identified in the Fatality Analysis Reporting System from January 1999 through December 1999.

The AAP found that states with booster seat laws had lower risk of fatalities in 4 to 5 year olds than states without booster seat laws. States with booster seat laws that included 6 to 7 year olds had a lower incident rate as well.

Montana does have a [child safety seat law](#) that states children up to age of 6 or 60 pounds or less need to be in a child safety seat.

Visit the [Montana Fetal, Infant, and Child Mortality website](#) to download an entire copy of the AAP report.



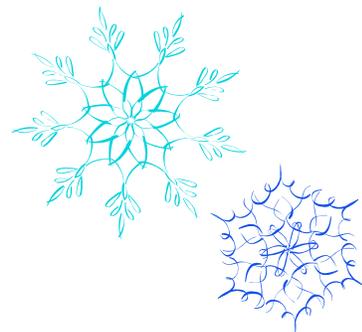
**Have you checked out this webpage Parent Power MT ?**

[Click here](#) to check it out!

## Let's talk about: Winter Safety

Winter has reached Montana, so it is time to think about some winter safety. Here are some valuable tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) to keep Montana's children safe and warm this winter.

- ◆ Dress infants and children warmly for outdoor activities. Several thin layers will keep them dry and warm. Don't forget warm boots, gloves or mittens, and a hat.
- ◆ The rule of thumb for older babies and young children is to dress them in one more layer of clothing than an adult would wear in the same conditions.
- ◆ Set reasonable time limits on outdoor play to prevent hypothermia and frostbite. Have children come inside periodically to warm up.
- ◆ Allow children to ice skate only on approved surfaces, never alone, skate in the same direction, and consider wearing a helmet.
- ◆ No sledding near motor vehicles and away from the bigger kids.
- ◆ Sledding feet first or sitting up, instead of lying down head first, may prevent head injuries.
- ◆ Always make sure children are supervised while ice skating, ski/snowboarding or sledding.
- ◆ Children should be taught to ski or snowboard by a qualified instructor.
- ◆ Never ski or snowboard alone and avoid crowded slopes.
- ◆ Skiers should wear gloves with built in wrist guards, wear a helmet, and goggles.



Visit the AAP website for more resources and information on [Winter Safety](#).



### FICMR Trivia:

True/False: No identifying materials may be taken from a meeting by a persons other than those whose agency or practice provided the information.

Answer: Is True! Any identifying information left must be destroyed onsite and there should be no note taking.

## Silent Killer: Carbon Monoxide

It's that time of year where every home in Montana starts cranking up the heat and starts simmering some soup on the stove. As we try to warm ourselves up, it is important not to let that unwanted intruder into your home: [Carbon Monoxide](#). This gas is odorless and can enter homes through several different ways such as leaky chimneys, furnaces, gas water heaters, gas stoves, wood stoves, fire places, and ovens.

Here are a few tips from the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) to follow to keep Montanan's safe from Carbon Monoxide.

1. Install carbon monoxide detectors, particularly near bedrooms.
2. Test all alarms and detectors regularly to ensure proper functioning.
3. Respond promptly when a detector alarm sounds, leave your house immediately.
4. Have your furnace, fireplace, chimney, and heaters inspected each year to ensure they are working properly.
5. Do not use charcoal grills, kerosene heaters or portable stoves indoors.
6. If possible, keep a window cracked open while a fire is burning in the fireplace.

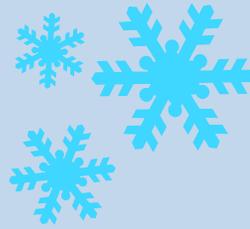


## Every Week Counts: Preterm Births Among American Indian/Alaskan Native Montana Residents, 2008-2011

In October 2012, the Office of Epidemiology and Scientific Support (OESS) completed a report on live births occurring before 37 weeks of gestation. From 2008 through 2011, there were 5,793 singleton live births that occurred in Montana American Indian/Alaskan Native mothers (AI/AN). There were 113 records with missing gestational data or with apparent miscoding of gestational age or birth weight. Among the 5,680 singleton live births to AI/AN women, 546 or 9.6% were preterm births.

OESS identified that preterm births were more common among women age 30 years and older than among younger women. Women with a previous preterm birth, lack of prenatal care, smoking during pregnancy, pre-existing diabetes, and pregnancy related hypertension had a higher rate of preterm births than did women without these conditions.

Please click here: [“Every Week Counts”](#) to read the article in its entirety.



### A Few Things to Remember

- ✓ The end of the year is almost here and **all 2011** FICMR Case Reports are due **December 31, 2012!** If you have any cases that are pending litigation and you haven't notified us, please send an email to [lrowe@mt.gov](mailto:lrowe@mt.gov).
- ✓ Please **do not review any 2013 deaths** until after you have completed the CDR database training in April. Your 2013 FICMR Reviews will need to be done on the new Child Death Review Case Reporting System! However you still need to complete your 2012 reviews using the State of Montana FICMR Review Case Report and mail them in.
- ✓ Plan on having your Local FICMR Team Leaders at the Maternal Child Health Spring Conference in April for training on the new Child Death Review Case Reporting System.
- ✓ Next FICMR Conference call will be scheduled for February. Please send any agenda items you may have to [lrowe@mt.gov](mailto:lrowe@mt.gov) before January 31st, 2013.