

**CLAYTON COUNTY OBSERVES
SAFE SLEEP AWARENESS MONTH
NOVEMBER 2013**

- WHEREAS:** Nationwide, 70 percent of all infant deaths are preventable and associated with community-based problems pertaining to women's health or infant care; and
- WHEREAS:** In Clayton County, Georgia, ten years of trend data show that the second-highest contributing factor to death of children under the age of one (1) pertains to the care a child received after birth; and
- WHEREAS:** Out of the 62 infant deaths recorded in Clayton County since 2006, 47 (78%) of those deaths, were sleep related; and
- WHEREAS:** Out of the 47 sleep-related infant deaths in Clayton County since 2006, 23 (49%) involved a caretaker allowing an infant to co-sleep in an adult-sized bed and 13 (28%) were due to unsafe crib conditions; and
- WHEREAS:** The Clayton County Board of Health, Clayton County government, and the Clayton County Perinatal and Infant Health Coalition recognize that Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) are serious threats to the physical and mental well-being of Clayton County residents; and
- WHEREAS:** The county recognizes that clear messaging about safe sleep practices can measurably reduce the number of Clayton County infants who needlessly die from SUID and SIDS-related conditions and that greater awareness, education, and outreach pertaining to safe sleep practices are desperately needed in the community; and
- WHEREAS:** The county recognizes that community stakeholders—to include health and non-health professionals, parents, child care providers, and family-serving organizations—are uniquely positioned to partner with the Clayton County Board of Health and Clayton County Perinatal and Infant Health Coalition to educate the community about safe sleep practices and available safe sleep resources; now
- THEREFORE:** I, JEFFREY E. TURNER, Chairman, on behalf of the Clayton County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim November 2013 as Safe Sleep Awareness Month in Clayton County, Georgia and ask all Clayton County residents to join the Board of Health, the Clayton County Perinatal and Infant Health Coalition and its community partners in creating "A Healthier Clayton in One Generation."

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Clayton County, Georgia, to be affixed this 19st day of November in the year two thousand thirteen.

Jeffrey E. Turner, Chairman