



Judith A. Bannon Bio

Judith Bannon began her career with SIDS of Pennsylvania in 1989, taking the organization from a regional to a statewide presence by 1992.

With the success of the national Back to Sleep Campaign, Bannon, as a member of the Allegheny County (Pittsburgh, PA) Child Death Review Team, recognized that 90% of babies that continued to die of 'SIDS' were found in unsafe sleeping environments. In 1998, with the help of the Pittsburgh community, Cribs for Kids® began. By 2006 it expanded into a national organization through partner-ships with Graco Children's Products, Halo Innovations, Pitt-Ohio Express and support from local and national foundations and corporations. Offering the entire program at no cost quickly expanded the number of partners to over 850 nationwide with new organizations signing on every week. To date, this program has provided cribs to over 400,000 families and safe-sleep education to millions through this network of partners. Cribs for Kids® partners consist of community based organizations, state and local Health Departments, churches, hospitals and government agencies.

Through Bannon's advocacy, Pennsylvania Act 73 of 2010, mandating that every mother giving birth in a Pennsylvania hospital or birthing center be given infant safe sleep education and a crib, if needed, was signed into law by Governor Edward Rendell in October 2010. She has also chaired five national Cribs for Kids® Conferences. Judith Bannon began her career with SIDS of Pennsylvania in 1989, taking the organization from a regional to a statewide presence by 1992.

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Mrs. Bannon has been recognized nationally by the National Center for Child Death Review with the 'Making the Difference' Award in 2009 and is a proud recipient of the 2012 Circle of Commendation

Award from the Consumer Products Safety Commission bestowed upon her by Chairman Inez M. Tenenbaum. In 2014 she received the Distinguished Educator Award at the International SIDS/Stillbirth Conference in Amsterdam for her contributions to parental support, professional education and prevention of sudden infant deaths. In 2015 she was named an Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award finalist.

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