

## **Staff**

### **Pam Borchardt NCBF – Co-Executive Director – Operations & Bereavement**

Pam became active in SIDS of Illinois after the death of her middle daughter, Becky in 1991. A long-time participant in support groups, Pam eventually became a Bereavement Facilitator so that she could assist the organization in running support groups. In addition, Pam found that her gift of gab came in handy by serving on the Speakers Bureau. Pam, along with Nancy Maruyama began speaking to medical students about the compassionate handling of families who have lost a child. After years of speaking for SIDS, Pam eventually agreed to work part-time for SIDS of Illinois as an educator.

This role evolved into the role of Co-Executive Director. Pam's Human Resources and Management background lend themselves well to running the operational side of the organization. In addition, Pam handles most of the support groups and the newly bereaved families when a new referral comes into our organization.

Pam is considered a Master Trainer on the subject of Safe Sleep and speaks throughout the United States. In addition, she, along with Nancy Maruyama, developed the first Safe Sleep Train the Trainer program for childcare professionals in the United States. This program was later adapted by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Pam and her husband, Bill have three daughters: Molly, Becky (1991) and Hannah.

### **Brad Cox – Manager of Finance and Special Events**

Brad joined SIDS of Illinois in July, 2000. Brad is a close friend of Tim and Karen Boyne and was greatly affected by the death of their son, Collin in 1999. Brad and his wife, Dawn play an integral part in the success of the Collin Boyne Golf Open. Brad and Dawn have two boys, Dylan and Brandyn.

When calling the office, Brad is typically the person to answer the phone. As the office manager, Brad takes care of the day to day operations of the organization. Brad not only handles all of our financial matters, he helps families to begin new fund raisers for our organization.

### **Nancy Maruyama, RN, NCBF – Co-Executive Director – Education and Community Outreach**

Nancy has been a long time volunteer and supporter of the SIDS organization. She began as a volunteer Peer Contact in 1986 after the death of her son, Brendan. In 2000, Nancy was hired by the organization as Director of Education on a part time basis. In 2002, Nancy took on the role of Co-Executive Director

for Education and Community Outreach for SIDS of Illinois. In the past, she has served on the Board of Directors as well as several committees for the SIDS family of organizations both Nationally and Internationally. She has published a number of articles related to parental loss of an infant and SIDS risk reduction.

Nancy is also considered a Master Trainer and travels throughout the United States speaking on subjects relating to Safe Sleep and parental bereavement.

Nancy and her husband, Rod have three children: Brendan (985), Caitlin, and Jennifer.

Our children have often said that while Pam is the brain of the organization, Nancy stands at its very heart. Together, we hop[e to continue this important mission in memory of our children.

#### **Sandy Pohrte – Administrative Assistant**

Sandy began working part time for SIDS of Illinois in 2006 after a long career in administration at several major corporations. The parents of a stillborn baby, Sandy and her husband, Carl have four grown surviving children, Sandy has brought much needed organizational skills to our not-for-profit.

#### **Educators**

Natalie Farmer, DT – Statewide, Safe Sleep and Tummy Time

Ramon Marrero – Chicago Area, Spanish Speaking Communities

Rachel Rice – Chicago area, Prison Initiative

Kimberly Rowe – Chicago

Juan Valdez – Chicago Area, Spanish Speaking Communities