

NON-ACCIDENTAL TRAUMA AWARENESS PROGRAM

For more information, please contact:

NMSBVI Early Childhood Programs:

- Andrea Montano at 505-331-9952
email: AndreaMontano@nmsbvi.k12.nm.us
- Luanne Stordahl at 505-903-8022
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- Zelfa Sandoval Sweeney at 505-263-3505
email: Zelfasandovalsweeney@nmsbvi.k12.nm.us

Or contact University of New Mexico Hospital
at 505-272-1959; Kathy Lopez-Bushnell

Websites with Additional Information:

- New Mexico School
for the Blind & Visually Impaired:
www.nmsbvi.k12.nm.us
- University of New Mexico Hospital:
<http://hospitals.unm.edu/shakenbaby/>
- National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome:
www.dontshake.org
or www.purplecrying.info



**NEW MEXICO SCHOOL FOR THE
BLIND & VISUALLY IMPAIRED
NON-ACCIDENTAL TRAUMA AWARENESS PROGRAM**

1-855-764-6380

ALAMOGORDO • ALBUQUERQUE • STATEWIDE OUTREACH
WWW.NMSBVI.K12.NM.US

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*Handle
with Care.*

**AN NMSBVI
STATEWIDE INITIATIVE**

The NMSBVI Mission:

As a leader and unifying entity in the field of educating students birth-high school who are blind or visually impaired, NMSBVI is a state-wide network of services that ensures all students who are blind or visually impaired will become independent productive members of their communities by identifying and providing quality education and collaborating with students, families and partners to provide outstanding training, resources and support services.

What is Non-Accidental Trauma (NAT)?

- Non-accidental trauma (NAT) is a leading cause of childhood traumatic injury and death in the United States.
- It is estimated that 1,600 children died from maltreatment in the United States in 2015.
- Nearly 700,000 children are abused in the US annually. The youngest children are the most vulnerable. In the first year of life, 24.2 per 1,000 children are abused in the national population (*National Children's Alliance, 2015.*)

- NAT can result from hitting, kicking, or striking a child with an object. It can also occur when a frustrated or angry caregiver shakes a young child, usually to stop them from crying.
- At least ½ of the American public doesn't know that shaking a baby can cause severe and permanent injury.
- 10% of the children currently enrolled in NMSBVI's preschool are the victims of non-accidental trauma from adult anger.
- Non-Accidental Trauma is 100% preventable.

Long-term effects of Non-Accidental Trauma:

80% of those who survive this abuse are often faced with life-long disabilities that can include:

- Visual impairment/blindness as a result of injuries to retinas, optic nerves, or the brain.
- Cognitive impairment
- Physical impairment
- Seizure disorder
- Learning disabilities
- Behavior Disorders
- Cerebral Palsy
- Speech Disabilities
- 25% die as a result of injuries
(www.dontshake.org)

NMSBVI continues its effort to increase public awareness about Non-Accidental Trauma.

- "Handle with Care" is the message the school has adopted as its awareness campaign in support of this cause:
 - Posters are available in both English and Spanish
 - Cards containing 20 tips to Soothe Your Crying Child (tips courtesy of the National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome) accompany these posters
 - The CHILD HELP HOTLINE telephone number is on the card as well.
1-800-422-4453
(1-800-4-A-CHILD)
- Many of the NMSBVI school vehicles display the "Never Shake a Baby" bumper sticker.
- If you would like to join the effort by displaying the bumper sticker or hanging up a poster, please contact the NMSBVI Early Childhood staff listed on the following page.

