

KRISTIN WATKINS

KRISTIN'S STORY

Kristin Watkins' three-year-old son, Nolan, and seven-month-old daughter, Addison, were being cared for five days a week at a family child care home in Southern California. At 7 a.m. on a Monday morning in 2017, Kristin dropped both her children off in the care of their provider. At 8:30 a.m. she got the call to go to the hospital where she found her daughter, who was pronounced dead.

Addison's death was ruled asphyxiation due to smothering, and her child care provider admitted to putting her in a bean bag chair and then stepping away for 30 minutes. She returned to find Addison face down, dead, in the bean bag chair. The provider is currently being charged with felony involuntary manslaughter in California, with the trial set to begin likely in late 2019.

Kristin advocates for child health and safety requirements in child care settings to give a voice to her daughter Addison,

who no longer has the chance to share her own story. She hopes to pass a version of "Addison's Law" in Ohio, raising awareness on safe sleep in family child care homes. This law would be similar to the "Addison's Law," passed in North Dakota by a family advocate whose own daughter, Addison, died in child care after being left in unsafe sleep conditions.

CHILD CARE IN OHIO

- A single parent in Ohio spends 43.6% of their income for center-based infant care.
- Married parents of two children living at the poverty line pay 69.8% of their household income for center-based child care.
- The cost of infant care in Ohio is nearly the same as the annual cost of tuition at a four year state college.

2019 CONGRESSIONAL REQUEST

Provide a \$5 billion increase to FY 2020 Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) funding to ensure more children and families gain access to high-quality, affordable, and safe child care.

