

State Infant Mortality (SIM) Toolkit: A Standardized Approach for Examining Infant Mortality

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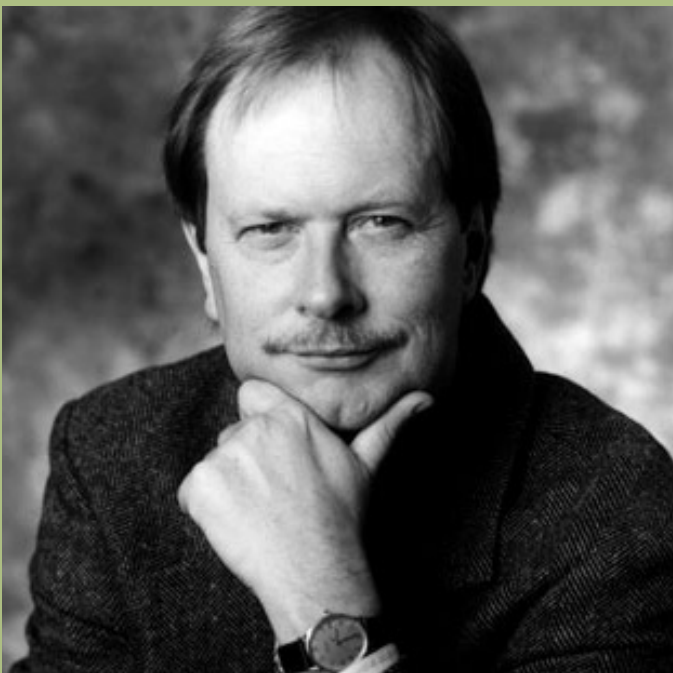
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Dedicated to: Greg Alexander, RS, MPH, ScD

This toolkit is dedicated to Dr. Greg Alexander, who devoted his career to improving the health of mothers and infants through public health research. He contributed to the field of perinatal epidemiology by focusing research efforts on innovative approaches to high risk pregnancies, prenatal care and fetal growth curves. He also provided leadership and technical support in the State Infant Mortality Collaborative, one of the last major projects he committed himself to in 2003-2004. The *State Infant Mortality (SIM) Toolkit* is the result of his vision to develop an organized, structured guide to analyzing infant mortality data in an urban, local, tribal or state setting by a team of diverse staff to determine the underlying factors associated with infant deaths. The agencies involved in developing the SIM toolkit believe that this publication fulfills Greg's final goal of the original SIM collaborative group for national use. We hope states, counties, urban areas and tribes will find this toolkit useful for understanding and monitoring their infant mortality rates. Thank you.