

Child Fatality and Near Fatality External Review Panel

Kentucky Coalition Against Domestic Violence

111 Darby Shire Circle
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Monday, January 13, 2020

MINUTES

Members Present: Hon. Melissa Moore Murphy, Chair, Hon. Dawn Blair, Assistant Hardin County Attorney; Dr. Melissa Currie, University of Louisville, Pediatric Forensic Medicine; Dr. Jaime Pittenger, Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky; Deputy Commissioner Elizabeth Caywood, Department for Community Based Services, Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS); Dr. Christina Howard, University of Kentucky, Department of Pediatrics; Betty Pennington, Family Resource and Youth Service Centers, CHFS; Detective Isaac Waters, Kentucky State Police; Judge Libby Messer, Fayette County Family Court Judge; Elizabeth Epperson, Association of Addiction Professionals; Dr. Henrietta Bada, Department of Public Health, CHFS; Steve Shannon, KARP; Shelley Wood, MSN, RN, State Child Fatality Review Team; and Lori Aldridge, Executive Director, Tri County CASA

Welcome:

Hon. Melissa Moore Murphy, Chair

Melissa Moore Murphy welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Acting Secretary for the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Eric Friedlander. Several members were unable to attend due to scheduling conflicts and have asked to be excused. Minutes and Case Review Summaries from the October meetings stand approved.

PILLS Presentation

Pills is a quarterly meeting of all the healthcare regulatory boards (Board of Medical Licensure, Nursing, Pharmacy, etc.) and law enforcement agencies (KSP, DEA, KYOAG, LMPD, etc.). Panel members will be giving a presentation at the meeting regarding the increase in child overdose and ingestion cases and the lack of criminal investigations. All members are invited to participate. The meeting will be held at the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure, 310 Whittington Parkway, #1B, in Louisville from 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Members will have approximately 30-45 minutes for their presentation. The PowerPoint was sent via email if any members have any additional comments.

Data Tool Discussion

Panel members discussed how they want to track specific data points to ensure consistency in the upcoming year. In regards to tracking family violence, the data tool will be updated to include domestic violence has a separate field. Due to a statutory change, the Cabinet still receives domestic violence reports but they show up in the system as does not meet criteria because they no longer have the statutory authority to investigate. The tool should specific to track the “does not meet criteria” these should only apply to CPS reports. The Panel agreed to add “no sleep plan” to track families that have a caregiver who works 2nd or 3rd shift with unrealistic sleep plans while caring for small children. The Panel agreed to include “Overwhelmed caregiver” and “Out of State CPS History” as new categories in the family characteristics. Panel agreed to only track unsafe sleep

practices for children twelve (12) months or below. Panel members agreed that Neglectful Entrustment determinations will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

Panel members discussed creating a new panel member orientation. Staff will send an email out to create an ad hoc team to develop the training.

Legislative Discussion

The Panel operates under a Memorandum of Understanding with the Office of the Secretary for the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet. Within the MOU, panel members agree to give advanced notice to the Cabinet Secretary or designee of any appearances by a representative of the Panel to testify before a legislative or other policy-creating body. With session underway, panel members were reminded of this stipulation.

Panel members discussed amending the statute to extend the filing deadline of the annual report until February 1st. Panel members discussed adding additional members to the panel, especially a MAT prescriber. The Panel may ask them to attend the meetings as experts. Members expressed the desire to obtain a MAT prescriber who specifically prescribes during pregnancy. Members discussed amending the statute to have the Kentucky Association for Addiction Professionals submit three names for the MAT prescriber.

Secretary Friedlander introduced himself and thanked the Panel for their work. He acknowledged the importance of the Panel's work and looks forward to partnering with them in the future regarding their recommendations.

Case Review:

The following cases were reviewed by the Panel. A case summary of findings and recommendations are attached and made a part of these minutes.

<u>Group</u>	<u>Case #</u>	<u>Analyst</u>
1	F-002-19-C	Joel Griffith
2	F-005-19-C	Joel Griffith
1	F-011-19-C	Joel Griffith
3	F-015-19-C	Joel Griffith
1	F-040-19-PH	Joel Griffith
2	F-054-19-PH	Joel Griffith
3	F-071-19-PH	Joel Griffith
3	F-006-19-NC	Cindy Curtsinger
4	F-010-19-NC	Cindy Curtsinger
2	F-013-19-NC	Cindy Curtsinger
4	F-020-19-C	Cindy Curtsinger
1	NF-015-19-C	Joel Griffith
2	NF-016-19-NC	Joel Griffith
3	NF-019-19-NC	Joel Griffith
1	NF-023-19-C	Joel Griffith
4	NF-012-19-C	Cindy Curtsinger
4	NF-020-19-C	Cindy Curtsinger
2	NF-024-19-NC	Cindy Curtsinger
1	NF-057-19-NC	Cindy Curtsinger
3	NF-034-19-C	Joel Griffith

4	NF-048-19-NC	Joel Griffith
2	NF-059-19-C	Joel Griffith
3	NF-065-19-C	Joel Griffith

Additional Discussions:

SUID Discussion: Coroners need to notify CPS immediately on all SUID cases in order to allow the social worker to conduct a scene investigation with the coroner and law enforcement. Routinely SUID cases hide the child abuse cases. Often times CPS is not aware of the case until weeks, months, or years later. There were 40 SUIDs in Kentucky. Cabinet expressed that central intake would screen out SUID cases unless there is some indication that abuse or neglect occurred. Furthermore, having workers respond to all SUID cases may not be a prudent use of the Department’s resources. Additional resources and staff would be required for DCBS to be able to handle all these cases. Coroner’s communication continues to be an issue. Panel discussed a potential recommendation to statutorily change the coroner’s language to “immediately” notify CPS and law enforcement. There may be need to be a statutory change or a policy change with DCBS to investigate these cases alongside the coroner and law enforcement. Panel needs to conduct additional research on how coroners in other states handle SUID cases. Panel agreed to include this issue on the upcoming agenda.

Meeting adjourned

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