

Child Fatality Near Fatality External Review Panel

Meeting Summary

May 18, 2015

- Meeting held at Kentucky Coalition Against Domestic Violence Association (KCAVA) in Frankfort
- Newest Forensic Medical Analysts introduced to the panel (Jean Marie Piacsek, Peggy Arvin and Brooke Jones)
- The Date for the summit meeting hosted by the panel to discuss information sharing regarding child fatality and near fatality cases has been selected as June 23rd in Frankfort.
- A spreadsheet detailing the status of the recommendations made in the Panel's 2014 annual report was updated with information provided by various panel members.
- An executive summary of the January meeting minutes and the March meeting minutes were approved by the panel.
- Kerry Holleran summarized the Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities (CECNAF) conference attended by her and Tom Cannady in Memphis last month.
- Dr. Theresa Hayden will begin providing assistance with the Panel's data collection tool and data analytics procedures this week.
- The panel determined that a team approach to reviewing the cases is preferable and should include not only medical review, but also social workers with extensive child welfare case management experience and attorneys with extensive knowledge of court proceeding affecting these type cases.
- Panel voted to fund attendance of panel members to the Kids Are Worth It Conference September 14th & 15th at the Crowne Plaza hotel in Louisville. Joel Griffith will be sending notification in June.

Cases Reviewed:

Group 1: (Burch, Corey, Currens, Jones, Johnson)

- **F-18-14-NC** Birthing and pediatric records requested at last meeting. Received and uploaded into SharePoint
- **NF-05-14-NC** Multiple fractures; substantiated physical abuse on parents of their only child; Unsubstantiated near fatality; Child discharged to foster care; Missed opportunity; difficult to call in this case; courts were petitioned
- **NF-09-14-C** unsubstantiated; system worked
- **NF-25-14-C** Mother IQ of 66; mental testing after removal of 1st child; 14 mo. Old, Muhlenburg Co. ; many injuries noted on child at hospital; hospitalized 9 days, abusive head trauma; no documented concerns by birth hosp. or pediatrician; HANDS worker had visited

home 2 days prior to incident; **Use this case as a reference for wrap around services as recommended by panel; contraception issue (Dr. Shepherd)**

- **NF-36-14-NC** Great Grandmother's Oxy's were a different color than those ingested by the child; Dishonesty from the mother during investigation; No birth records; **If an overdose is suspected the child's positive screen levels need to be tested; Protocols for KASPERS should be a topic of discussion at the summit meeting in June**

Group 2: (Adams, Currie, Crittenden, Goins, Mayfield, Taylor)

- **NF-01-14-NC** Five month old; admitted to UK Med ctr; injuries consistent with abusive head trauma; father indicted; active subpoena; both parents negative drug tests; no prior history. Raises question if someone from federal or state military or veteran's affairs should speak to the panel regarding PTSD and any relation to child abuse/neglect.
- **NF-10-14-C** requested medical records now uploaded into SharePoint
- **NF-15-14-C** Two year old had been with mother's boyfriend; BF had lengthy criminal history and drug issues (heroin); **Law enforcement and DCBS worked well together**; BF charged with criminal abuse; substantiated against mother for inappropriate caregiver

Group 3: (Griffith, Hall, James, Reid, Nichols)

- **F-03-14-C** 16 year old suicide under care of foster parents; Extensive DCBS contact; substantiation based on lack of supervision. There was a suicide prevention plan in place.
- **NF-12-14-C** Supervisory neglect; Dangers of co-sleeping discussed with parents after 1st child's death; this case can be cited for the panel recommendation on mandatory drug testing for care-givers in the unexpected death of a child. **Eight month old female; Franklin Co.; Child was left alone in bathtub and found not breathing; Judge Hall reviewed hearing tape requested from last month's meeting;**
- **NF-28-14-NC** child displayed twitching episodes after seeing pediatrician; injuries consistent with abusive head trauma; mother suffering from post partum depression (not treated); Father a police officer with city of London; worked 3rd shift, would sleep 2 hrs and then be the child's main care-giver 9 hrs while mother worked; **Law enforcement issue: failure of law enforcement, prosecutors (county attn.) and judiciary; REQUEST STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT RECORDS**

Group 4: (Oldham, Shepherd, Jeffries, Grubbs, Pittenger)

- **F-12-14-C** Four month old;
- **NF-04-14-C** 7 month old, father attempted to wake him from nap; bounced child on bed and child hit his head, head butt/, spanked on butt; Father lived alone in house; PTSD?; trouble keeping a job; Mom has lengthy domestic violence history as aggressor, drug and alcohol abuse; child had kidney abnormality at birth; mother reported her drug & alcohol abuse to obstetrician but nothing done about it; Obstetrician should have made a referral and documented it; **Missed**

Opportunity; General education of public on responsibility to report suspected child abuse if physical injuries are present;

- **NF-13-14-N** substantiated neglect – lack of supervision; no systems break down; **Comm. James will review.**