

Summary of Child Fatality Near Fatality External Review Panel meeting

September, 2013

This meeting of the Panel was held in conjunction with the “Kids Are Worth It” Conference on preventing child abuse in Lexington, Kentucky. The focus of this meeting was on how the panel conducts case review and processes recommendations.

Teri Covington with the National Center for Child Death Review was a guest speaker invited to give an overview of child fatality and near fatality review processes.

Action Points

Motion made and passed to form a committee of panel members to create a budget for the panel’s work and present it to Justice Cabinet leadership for discussion.

Items to include on the next meeting’s agenda are; approval of a draft of the annual report, a review of SharePoint software, and continued discussion of how to categorize cases and what order to review them.

Future meeting dates set for November 4, 2013, December 2, 2013 and January 13, 2014. All meetings are with an expanded 4 hour time span to allow more cases to be covered.

A form letter is to be drafted that will be from the Child Fatality Review Panel formally requesting documents/records from any source permitted legislatively.

Observations

The Panel will be better served to focus the 1st annual report on processes, and how findings and recommendations will be presented in the future.

The Panel needs to make a specific recommendation about staffing and resources in its annual report.

Cases to be reviewed need to be prioritized and the panel should begin with the simplest, relatively short cases (those with supervisory neglect.)

Template questions created by Teri Covington’s review panel in Michigan could be added to the current summary sheet used by Kentucky’s review panel. Ms. Covington will forward that template to Joel Griffith.

Cases discussed

No specific cases were discussed at this meeting.

