

Child Fatality and Near Fatality External Review Panel

Kids Are Worth It Conference

Crowne Plaza Louisville

830 Phillips Lane

Louisville, Kentucky

September 18, 2017

Minutes

Members Present: Judge Roger Crittenden, Chair; State Representative Addia Wuchner; Joel Griffith, Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky; Dr. Melissa Currie, University of Louisville Pediatric Forensic Medicine; Commissioner Adria Johnson, Department for Community Based Services, Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS); Betty Pennington, Family Resource and Youth Service Centers, CHFS; Dr. William Ralston, State Medical Examiner; Dr. Joyce M. Robl, Division of Child and Maternal Health, Department for Public Health, CHFS; Dr. Henrietta Bada, Department for Public Health, CHFS; Elizabeth Croney, KVC Behavioral Health; Stephanie Floyd, Graves County CASA; Steve Shannon, KARP, Inc.; Detective Isaac Waters, Kentucky State Police, Linnea Caldon, Citizen Foster Care Review Board; Dr. Christina Howard, Child Abuse Pediatrician, University of Kentucky, Department of Pediatrics; Dr. Jaime Pittenger, University of Kentucky Pediatric Forensic Medicine

* Judge Paula Sherlock, Jefferson Family Court was attending a National Child Fatality Workshop in Colorado on behalf of the Kentucky Child Fatality and Near Fatality External Review Panel.

Welcome: Judge Roger Crittenden welcomed panel members and staff to the meeting. The Panel approved the minutes from the previous April and June meetings. A special meeting was proposed and approved to extend an additional day to the previously scheduled November meeting. The meeting will be held at the Kentucky Coalition Against Domestic Violence at 111 Darby Shire Circle, Frankfort Kentucky on November 6th and 7th.

The Panel briefly discussed the current staffing issues regarding the data analyst and the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Due to the current case load, data analysts were instructed to perform expedited case reviews. The Panel requested the analysts to streamline their case reviews for the remainder of the year to obtain the data for the annual report. The Panel was advised the entire case will still be available on SharePoint for review and the standard comprehensive reviews will continue next year.

Presentation:

Dr. Jocye Robl, EdD, MS, CGC

Dr. Robl provided the presentation *Sudden Unexpected Infant Deaths (SUID) and Safe Sleep Activities*. A copy of the presentation is attached.

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>Analysts</u>
4	NF-30-16-C*	Det. Isaac Waters
1	F-026-16-C*	Karen Bremenkamp
1	F-051-16-PH*	Karen Bremenkamp
4	NF-53-16-NC*	Karen Bremenkamp
1	NF-048-16-C	Karen Bremenkamp
2	NF-055-16-C	Karen Bremenkamp
4	NF-091-16-C	Karen Bremenkamp
2	F-025-16-C	Kindra Kilgore
3	F-006-16-C	Kindra Kilgore
4	NF-029-16-C	Kindra Kilgore
3	NF-068-16-NC	Kindra Kilgore
1	F-029-16-C	Kindra Kilgore

Meeting adjourned**Items needing further study:****(Ongoing List)**

- 1. Clarify the recommendation regarding impaired caregivers, unsafe sleep, and the importance of using a crib.** Panel members discussed the “baby box” program initiated in New Jersey. Discussion included consumer product safety concerns of the boxes currently manufactured in the United States: Handles on the box implying portability of the boxes; boxes manufactured with lids which may present suffocation risks, as well as other safety concerns such as flammability.
- 2. Cribs for Kids initiative implemented by the Department of Public Health to promote Safe Sleep.** Panel members discussed further community outreach to promote the Cribs for Kids campaign. Community partners and local health departments match 50/50 to purchase Crib Kits for local families in need.
- 3. Collect data on homeschooling of children known to the child welfare agency.** Case reviews revealed parent(s) removing children from school upon reports to DCBS by the school regarding possible abuse by the parent(s).
- 4. Interstate collaboration.** Case reviews demonstrated a need for better interstate collaboration and communication.
- 5. Family Preservation Program.** Determine whether the FPP has been enacted into statute and whether Kentucky continues to operate under a Title IV-E waiver reported to expire in 2019.
- 6. Fire Arm Safety.** Track issue to determine whether recommendation(s) needed.
- 7. Tenure Data.** Request tenure and case load data from DCBS for FY16 cases.

- 8. Data Collection and Panel Determinations of the Risks Contributing to the Fatality and Near Fatality.** Further study is needed regarding how determinations are made regarding the risks involved in the cases.
- 9. Medically Assisted Treatment.** Determine issues surrounding patient waivers, safety coaching by providers to patients, and other issues associated when treating patients with young children. Possible legislation to provide more counseling to families struggling with addiction.
- 10. Substance abuse by caregiver.** When substance abuse by a caregiver is suspected in a fatal/near fatal event, ask that blood test for substance impairment be conducted. Good practice to the repeat test in one hour.
- 11. Definition of Serious Physical Injury.** Continue to follow the definition of serious physical injury in the various statutes.
- 12. Lack of Parental Insight as a Family Characteristic.** Panel discussed including “Lack of Parental Insight” as a Family Characteristic in the data tool for the next reporting year.
- 13. Childhood obesity as a form of neglect.** The Panel discussed defining neglect to include severe obesity that contributes to near fatalities in children.