



**Child Fatality Review Panel
Meeting Minutes/Held Via Secure Zoom
April 27, 2022**

Members

Kirsten Bechtel, Co-Chair, Pediatrician, Yale New Haven Hospital
Sarah Eagan, Co- Chair, Office of The Child Advocate
Brett Salafia, Assistant States Attorney
Pina Violano, Community Health, Healthcare Consultants, LLC
Angela Jimenez, Department of Public Health
Ted Rosenkrantz, UCONN Health Center
Kai Belton, CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Rosemary Wieworka, Department of Children and Families
Michael Soltis, Pediatrician, Connecticut Children’s Medical Center
Andrea Barton Reeves, Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Authority

Excused

Seth Mancini, Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection
TJ Michalski, Village for Families and Children
Steven Rogers, Injury Prevention, Connecticut Children’s Medical Center
Gregory Vincent, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

Vacant

Law Enforcement
Psychologist

Guests

Lisa Budris, DPH (Presenter)
Krystal Rich, CCA
Elizabeth Corley, PsyD. Clifford Beers -fellow
Kimberly Karanda DHMAS
Jacqueline Messerol OCME

OCA Staff

Brendan Burke
Lucy Orellano

Minutes

A motion was made by Brett Salafia to approve the minutes for March 23,2022. A second to the motion was made by Angela Jimenez. Vote taken to approve-All in favor. Abstentions- None

Virtual Packet

Meeting Agenda

Case Chart

May 25, 2022, Draft Minutes

Presentation(s)-

Connecticut Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) presentation by Lisa Budris, Epidemiologist, CT DPH

-Surveillance project conducted by state health departments in partnership with the CDC, started in 2013 it is the first survey of its kind.

-Sample includes only women who deliver live infants in CT. Mixed mode data collection is utilized, surveys are completed by mail or telephone. 200 mothers invited monthly with 45%-65% batch response rate. Participants are compensated for participation and the survey is available in English and Spanish.

-The survey consists of questions geared towards national data collection however participating states can add supplemental questions for issues specific to that state. Survey collects and monitors data about selected maternal health experiences and behaviors occurring before, during and after birth.

- Supplemental Marijuana questions have been added to CT's version as of April 2022, due to a change in legislature and concerns about prenatal exposure. Safe sleep data has been collected since 2016.

www.ct.gov/dph/ctprams

Discussion-

Panel members wanted to know if the survey contained safe sleep education questions, were the hospitals proactive in teaching parents safe sleep practices and modeling what a safe sleep environment looks like. Hospital waivers to allow mothers to sleep in bed with their newborns while at the hospital were discussed. Extending scope of questions in the marijuana section was recommended, to include if parents were ever informed of the higher risk of sleep related death with parental cannabis. PRAMS limitations were discussed such as self-reporting can often lead to recall bias or participants wanting to go with the socially desirable answer instead of the truth. Cultural practices were discussed and how they should be acknowledged when educating parents about safe sleep. Expanding data collection was discussed; engaging the clinics and private pediatrician with a PRAMS questionnaire, panel members can help promote the survey. Results can be published in journals that pediatricians and obstetricians read. It was noted that CT has a lower rate of safe sleep deaths than other states.

CFRP Aggregate Data- Brendan Burke, OCA-

Case chart information from the last 2 years was presented in aggregate form for the attendees, broken down by various demographic and circumstantial variables. Data will continue to be presented in this form to identify trends and lead conversations, interventions, and prevention strategies. We welcome suggestions for additional variables to capture and track.

Safe Sleep Discussion-

Brendan Burke and Dr. Bechtel will be presenting to the CHA Perinatal Collaborative, about safe sleep related fatalities of infants born in their system. The idea is that information about these deaths can help inform practices at hospitals and is based on work being done in Baltimore. OCA and other CFRP stakeholders are currently engaged in data collection for an in depth look at infant and toddler deaths. Panel members discussed individual case review, if there is a case that members want to see they can

let the co-chairs know so that information can be collected by parties/ agencies involved for a more robust discussion, may include a guest.

No executive Session-

Legislative Update-

Will be provided by the OCA via email.

Session ends this week, update will be provided on May 25, 2022.

New Business

The end of the Juan F Decree, update scheduled for May meeting.

Infant and Toddler Fatality Report.

Old Business

Safe Sleep

Next meeting- May 25, 2022- Microsoft Teams invite sent out.

Adjournment- Motion to adjourn made by Pina Violano and seconded by Ted Rosenkrantz.