



**Child Fatality Review Panel
Meeting Minutes/Held Via Secure Teams
October 26, 2022**

Members

Kirsten Bechtel, Co-Chair, Pediatrician, Yale New Haven Hospital
Sarah Eagan, Office of the Child Advocate
Brett Salafia, Assistant States Attorney
Angela Jimenez, Department of Public Health
Ted Rosenkrantz, UCONN Health Center
Ken Mysogland, Department of Children and Families
Andrea Barton Reeves, Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Authority
Gregory Vincent, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Liz Corley, Clifford Beers
Steven Rogers, Injury Prevention, Connecticut Children's Medical Center
Michael Soltis, Pediatrician, Connecticut Children's Medical Center
TJ Michalski, Village for Families and Children

Excused

Tonya Johnson CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence
SGT. Christine Jeltema, Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection
Pina Violano, Community Health, Healthcare Consultants, LLC

Guests

Kimberly Karanda, DHMAS
Rosemary Wieworka, DCF
Jaclyn Meserole, OCME
Ivis Arroyo, Hartford PD
Abby Collier NFCRP
Susana Joy NFCRP
Lisa Backus, First CT Media
Julie Revaz, CSSD
Sheron Green CSSD
Mary Mason DHMAS
Heather Clinton, DPH
Susana Collazo, CCMC
Colleen Violette DPH

OCA Staff

Brendan Burke
Lucy Orellano

Minutes

A motion was made by to approve the minutes Andrea Barton Reeves for September 28, 2022. A second to the motion was made by Ted Rosenkrantz. Vote taken to approve-All in favor. Abstentions- None made.

Virtual Packet- Meeting Agenda, September 28, Draft Minutes

Presentations- Fentanyl Related Deaths systems discussion

Sharing of CFRP data- Brendan Burke- A brief overview of the cases of fentanyl ingestion fatalities that were reviewed by the OCA was given. There were 13 children total in 2021 and 6 of those children were under the age of 6.

Hospitals /ER's- Dr. Kristen Bechtel- Fentanyl is a low-cost, popular substance and it is not typically screened for initially, children are unintentionally exposed potentially due to residue left behind on household items. All fentanyl ingestions do not result in death but for younger children early intervention is key.

OCME Presentation- Dr. Gregory Vincent- A brief history of the rise in fentanyl use was provided. Fentanyl has become the number one cause of OD deaths. Increased use means increased storage and production, increased presence in the home which results in an increase of children exposed to the substances in the home. In CT child ingestions are treated as a neglectful homicide, keep in mind manner of death is a public health determination, not a criminal determination. From 2019-2022 there were 7 deaths of children under the age of 2, there were 17 non-fatal ingestions reported by DPH, there was drug paraphernalia identified at 4 of 7 cases.

DCF- Ken Mysogland- DCF uses the ABCD child safety practice model when responding to cases, inclusive of ingestion circumstances to assess safety/risk and protective factors. Historically, ingestions have been reported to and investigated by DCF- these circumstances are not new, however Fentanyl impacts the response. DCF has recently released new practice expectations when responding to family's that have concerns of opioid use.

DPH- Collen Violette- Shared ED visit data on suspected opioid overdose among children 0-17. 2019-2022 there were 86 ED admissions, 16 unintentional overdose deaths ages 13-17 years old. From 2015-2022 there were 8703 deaths in the age range of (13-88 years) involving opioids. Prevention efforts include working with multiple state agencies and teaching hospitals to monitor prescription drugs and provide messaging around opioid use. DPH also provides funding to hospitals for fentanyl testing.

CSSD- Julie Revaz/Sheron Green- CSSD has limited direct knowledge of overdoses with the kids in their system. Non opioid substance use was at 49 % four years ago and has increased in 2021. There have been steps taken to address the increased use of Fentanyl, Probation Officer's can use naloxone on anyone who they think need it, within in both adult and juvenile probations.

DMHAS- Kim Karanda- Access MH for MOMS program launched a few months ago, OBGYN or other provider can call in for consultation to connect families directly for SA or MH concerns or both. There are 5 programs that women can go to with their children or when pregnant. DMHAS to continue presentation at the next CFRP meeting with more specifics.

Link to recording:https://ctgovexec-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/personal/brendan_burke_ct_gov/EWGX9qsgQx5Ap9x9OM-U1JcB3gkY-TJSctatH36XI4QO_Q

Related links-

[CFRP Meeting_DPH Presentation 10_26_2023 \(002\).pdf](#)
[Letter to hospitals lab testing overdoses_10.20.21 \(002\).pdf](#)
<https://www.thehubct.org/>

No executive Session

Legislative Update-

None

Old Business-

None

New Business-

Fentanyl discussion will continue November 30, 2022.

Next meeting-

November 30,2022-Microsoft Teams invite sent out. Focus on continuing Opioid related deaths discussion.