



**Child Fatality Review Panel
Meeting Minutes/Held Via Secure Teams
March 27, 2024**

Members

Kirsten Bechtel, Co-Chair, Pediatrician, Yale New Haven Hospital
Sarah Eagan, Co-Chair, Office of the Child Advocate
Pina Violano, Community Health, Healthcare Consultants, LLC
Jody Terranova, Department of Public Health
Liz Corley, Family Strong
Susan Hamilton, DCF
Ted Rosenkrantz, UCONN Health Center
Samantha Haynes, Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection
Gregory Vincent, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Steven Rogers, Injury Prevention, Connecticut Children's Medical Center
Andrea Barton Reeves, Commissioner of Department of Social Services

Excused

Ivis Arroyo, Sergeant Hartford Police Department
Brett Salafia, Assistant States Attorney
Michael Soltis, Pediatrician, Connecticut Children's Medical Center
TJ Michalski, Village for Families and Children
Tonya Johnson, CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Guests

Rosemary Wieworka, DCF
Liz Hardaway, Hearst Media
Jaclyn Meserole- OCME
Ada Booth CCMC
Tasha Hunt, CSSD
Kim Karanda, DMHAS
Amy Marracino, DMHAS
Neana Jacob, DPH

OCA Staff

Brendan Burke
Lucy Orellano

Minutes

A motion was made to approve the February 27,2024 minutes by Pina Violano, as they are. A second to the motion was made by Liz Corley.

Virtual Packet

Meeting Agenda, Draft Minutes for February 27, 2024.

CFRP Data

Break down of Non-natural fatalities dating back to 2021. There have been 3 fatalities for March. After a very high number of cases in January the cases reported for the past couple of months are more in line with numbers from previous years during the first quarter..

PFS cases from previous months have been signed out and there have been 10 accidents thus far. Three young children were involved in MVC's which is an unusual cause of death that age group. In the past few months there have been two dog bite fatalities.

National dog bite data was shared by the OCA. There was an increase in ER visits for dog bites during COVID, data showed that only a small percentage of dog bite victims seek medical attention. Dog bites are not prevalent in the Northeast. Younger children tend to suffer bites to the head and older children are typically bitten on the limbs. Dog bite fatality data from 2005-2017 indicated that 26 % were from age 0-2-year-olds. In CT there have been 4 children who have died from dog bites since 2011.

Presentations

CFRP Data- Motor Vehicle Accidents/Homicides/Suicides- Brendan

- Data from 2016-2022, ages 15-17 year who died of unnatural deaths (n=167), accounted for 35% of the fatalities reviewed.
- The three most prevalent manners for deaths for this age group were Suicides (29%), Homicides (21%) and Accidents (45%).
- Motor Vehicle Accidents, 3 out of 4 were male and over 70% were white, driver inexperience was a commonality between these deaths.
- Suicides, Males die by suicide twice as much as females 67% to 33%, mostly white with over 60% having a previous history of SI and MH. 56% of these deaths were due to asphyxia.
- Over 60% had communicated previous suicidal ideation and were receiving MH services.
- Brief overview of young adult deaths ages 18-24 (n=409), The older the youth the higher the death rate, 73 %, male, over 60% white. 64% were accidents, 18% suicides and 18% were homicides.

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:cee0ecd7-8c27-46c7-9b1e-5166c13ff57c>

DPH Data- Suicide Attempt/Treatment Data- Neana Jacob, DPH

- Syndromic Surveillance system used by DPH to monitor ER and UC visits, can be used to monitor signs of an outbreak, overdose trends and is possible through collaboration by local and federal health departments.
- Suicidal Ideation and attempts were looked at for various age groups and while people of 18-24 years had more attempts and ideations, when compared to rates per population (100k) the age of group of 15-17 had the higher rates.
- SI discharge data showed that across all ages the majority of patients were discharged home. A higher rate of hospital transfers occurred for the 10-17 age groups.
- A town break down showed that New Haven, Bridgeport and Hartford had the highest rates of treatment for suicidal ideation across all ages.

Legislative Update

There a few bills pending that contain recommendations from three of the recently released OCA fatality reports.

[C G A - Connecticut General Assembly House bill 5382](#)

Executive Session

No executive session.

Old business/ Reoccurring items

CFRP co-chairs will work on coming up with a process to add rotating members who have lived expertise/ experience.

Legalization of Marijuana, ingestions, and fatalities.

A possible summit to discuss adolescent deaths may be conducted by the panel at a future date.

Meeting Recording

https://ctvideo.ct.gov/oca/Child_Fatality_Review_Team-20240327_090327-Meeting_Recording.mp4

Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by Steve Rogers and seconded by Pina Violano.

Next meeting

April 24, 2024