



State of Louisiana

Louisiana Department of Health Office of Public Health

LOUISIANA STATE CHILD DEATH REVIEW

8181 Independence Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA

1-888-204-5984 Access Code 1982918

March 26, 2019

Attendees: Rosaria Trichillo, Jia Benno, Jane Herwehe, Karen Webb, Amanda Perry, Julie Johnston, Kelly Bankston, Debra Perna, Rachelle Boudreaux, Danita LeBlanc, Frank Edward, Dave Kolb, Dr. Brian Zganjar, Lori Miller, Dr. Clayton Kleinpeter, Alicia Wheeler, Lisa Freeman, Sandra Adams, Cynthia Naquin, Tommy Clark, Jr, Pam Cart, Alicia Wheeler, Devin George

Telephone Attendees: Dionka Pierce, Rosa Bustamante-Forest, Nicole Soudelier, Sara Dickerson and Marty Hennegan

Meeting Notes:

1. Jane Herwehe Presentation on Louisiana Child Death Review

- CDR in Louisiana started in 1992 to identify the causes of unexpected child death and methods for prevention
- Louisiana's child mortality rate (overall) is much higher in LA than in the US for the 0-15 age range
- Louisiana Revised Statute says
 - CDR will have a 28 member panels of agency directors or delegates and Governor appointees
 - Determine causes of death in children under 15 years of age
- We are the state panel but a lot of what we do happens on the local level. 9 administrative regions with an MCH coordinator in each region
- CDR program activities
 - BFH (mortality epi) finds cases using state Vital Records
 - Regional
 - The MCH coordinators get cases from Vital Records, obituaries, newspaper articles, etc.
 - They validate cases, abstract, convene Case Review Teams, and CAAT meetings (Community Action Advisory Team)
 - State
 - State CDR meeting (can receive cases from regional levels that they believe needs the influence of the state)
 - Completes an Annual Report
- Guiding principles
 - Cases are confidential
 - Respect everyone's opinions

2. Agency Updates

- BFH updates - Jane

- Drowning prevention – will be sending out the annual drowning letter with Dr. Kanter’s signature, a fillable drowning letter, and an infographic about drowning related deaths. Request that people push it out through their networks.
- Suicide and Self Harm Prevention – working with national network through the Children’s Safety Network on suicide prevention originally piloting in Lafayette area. Will be focusing on gatekeeper training and screening implementation and protocols of screening and follow up for healthcare providers.

- Emergency Medical Services for Children – Amanda Broussard
 - EMS-C program is paying in full for 3 courses about active shooter courses in childcare centers. These will be happening in Shreveport, New Orleans, and Lafayette. Dates are May 24 and 25 and information will be sent out when the locations and times are finalized for each area

- Danita Leblanc – mentioned the work with the Suicide and Self harm Prevention Learning Collaborative and how the training for schools can also help schools meet the legislatively mandated Jason Flatt Act requirements

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- Sandra Adams helped champion legislation to start Child Death Review in Louisiana.
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3. Alicia Wheeler – Attorney General’s Office Presentation

- Provided a folder of materials to the committee that includes resources about domestic violence, resources for youth and teens, smartphone use, product recalls, human trafficking, etc. All of the links will be available to the committee by email

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- Safety box – quarterly newsletter put out by the AG office consumer department about items that have been recalled that could pose a safety hazard to children. Archived issues are available on the website.

- AG Consumer protection has representatives that go into the community and do education about information the AG has available. Contact Alicia for scheduling and availability.

- AG has a variety of other programs available to educate families and the community. The Internet Crimes Against Children Taskforce shares information and expertise about online sexual exploitation of children. They have also created videos to show to middle and high school kids as well as information targeted to parents about how to recover snapchats and learning about computer controls. They also interactive flipbooks and PowerPoint presentations as well as e-learning about Louisiana laws for young people

- Get Netwise – a blog that the AG puts out that provides information to parents about children and the internet such as useful safety tips and practical tips

- Other programs address domestic violence and how to be a dad, fair housing, Landlord and Tenant Laws.

4. Injury related deaths presentation by Jia Benno

- Presentation about the leading causes of infant and child death for 2015-2017
- Top 3 leading causes of death in children ages 1-14: MVC, Drowning, Homicide
- Top cause of death in children 0-1: SUID
- Factors that influence child deaths

5. Priority Setting Discussion

After reviewing the data, the group decided to focus on two priority areas motor vehicle crash prevention and firearm safety. The local and state panel will continue with the Safe Sleep and Drowning prevention work that was implemented in the last year.

▪ Firearm Storage Safety

- People will not acknowledge the problem until they understand that it's an issue – important to make sure that the data is available
- Suggestion to emphasize safety and education instead of giving the idea that we are trying to take the guns away
- Emphasis on safe storage and focusing on lock boxes and mechanism to provide to families. Providing storage options for families that don't have them ie. work with gun companies to provide the safety locks.

Discussion and potential project ideas:

- Public messaging on safety and what that involves, some developed interventions, focusing on not storing with ammunition
- Also educate family, friends, and children - how to start those conversations with family and friends about how they store their guns.
- Age appropriate gun safety: Hunter education courses, or 4H not taught until later, maybe need to focus on educating them younger in schools– after review Dr. Kleinpeter pulled up information from the AAP about the lack of effectiveness of general education approaches. Research has shown that teaching children about guns increases gun violence
- Are these topics discussed with pediatricians? Tricky issue – tricky to ask because people think that they keep records of it or that it is none of their business. Transition to Do you have a safe space to lock up your firearms?" Focus question
- NRA and gun dealership association are interested in gun safety work
- Partner with Firearm Community: Some states targeting gun dealers, people who give permits, and instructors to prevent suicide and homicide
- National red flag law to allow removal of guns under emergency order, ex physician can write order to have gun removed if patient has reason for concern
- Protective orders & universal background checks
- Push back on how to store a loaded gun properly or push back for people that say that they need a gun for protection and don't want to store it not loaded.
- "Donna's Law - battled bipolar disorder and committed suicide with purchased gun. Law allows people to self-register on a do not sell registry. Some police chief offices can store people's guns for them when they are going through difficult times if they feel that they are in danger of hurting themselves or others.
- Once we have a "tool" we can start the conversations with all of our partner ie Healthy Homes, WIC hospitals
- PSA for adults on storage = high impact, high effort (check with local law enforcement for safety box/locks), work from the angle of child deaths and suicide
- Suggestion to message law enforcement or ranges to collect guns that people no longer want, counter to not focus on relinquishment = low cost with coordination and buy in
- Use our networks – local law enforcement providing safety devices
- Protective orders
- Universal background checks

The group decided to form a subcommittee to prioritize potential interventions and begin to advance this work. For list of committee assignments, please see last page of notes.

▪ MVC

Discussion and potential project ideas

- Safely install car seats, state police will do but not fire department —> need to find out how often*

- How can we train other locations to check the car seat and the installation (40-hour course) – people may not be willing to drive far distances to get their car seats installed
- Lisa Freeman - discussing fitting stations throughout the state over 100, info available on their website but they aren't necessarily being used. Need to increase messaging about where to go and how to access. Suggestion to have information on the pamphlet that is given at hospital birth discharge and to expand messaging to the rest of the family.
- Suggestion to increase enforcement of current laws that are in existence. Confusion in how the law is written. Need to make sure that the information is digestible and that the state police knows what to do when they stop a vehicle
- Lisa- bill in the works to enforce car seat safety - Dr. Hoffman backing for safety checks based on AAP guidelines
- Legally can't hold someone for traffic stop for no car seat, can only write a ticket and they can leave. Perhaps we can use this as a way to connect them to resources to access free seats and then also have them installed safely.
- One suggestion is that if person is charged but brings car seat to the hearing, then it can be dismissed by the DA. City prosecutors would need to get messaging in addition to DA. Very important to get DA on board for this to be successful
- Another suggestion is to have people take a safety course to remove tickets from record if they are given a citation for not having children properly restrained
- Legislation = high impact/high effort
- Education of children = high effort/ low impact
- Car seat checks are included in Click it or ticket
- Need to consider children and youths with special health care needs because they need to stay in seats for longer period of time and are more expensive than regular car seats. Should collect resources for all children in addition to people with hearing and visual disabilities. Also need to consider people who are transported in their wheelchairs in vehicles
- Car seat distribution through law enforcement
- Networks – with RTSC

6. Case Review Recommendations – Deaths in Home Child Care

- Educate babysitters about calling 911 immediately when a problem occurs and responding quickly in high stress situations
- Educate babysitters about safe sleep position and environment
- Develop a certification course for any kind of caregiver (similar to safe sitter for teen babysitters) so that people can use this to determine if they feel comfortable having a particular person watch their child
- **Are there any requirements for education when someone is receiving assistance through the DOE?
- Build capacity in parents about what to look for in a childcare center
- Illuminate the issue about deaths in daycare facilities by disseminating numbers and correctly framing the issue
 - Potential approaches: Centering in Parenting which is Provider and support staff, lead parent group discussions and interactive activities on topics including attachment, safe sleep, breastfeeding, nutrition, early literacy, development and safety. These fun, engaging activities and facilitated discussions guide moms through wellness and self-care, nutrition, interconception health, mindfulness and family dynamics. Parents are more informed, confident, and empowered to make healthier choices for themselves, their babies and their families.
- Consider At Home Child Care providers requiring a license – see Texas.
- Work with DoE and the Child Care Health Consultants on training for all forms of child care with fiscal connections to DoE.

- Invite DoE personnel who track child care fatalities in conjunction with State CDR to the June meeting to participate in the discussion and answer panel members questions. June case reviews will continue with child care fatalities.

Remaining 2019 Meetings:

June 25 from 12-3 at Fire Marshalls

September 24 from 12-3 at DOE

December 10 from 12-3 at DOE

7. Adjourn

Subcommittee Members – any members who were absent, but may want to join a committee, please reach out to Karen Webb at karen.webb@la.gov

Motor Vehicle Crash Prevention

Julie Johnston

Amanda Perry

Jia Benno

Dr. Brian Zganjar

Chief Tommy Clark

Lisa Freeman

Dr. Clayton Kleinpeter

Rosi Trichilo

Pam Cart

Debra Perna

Nicole Soudelier

Firearm Safety Subcommittee

Danita LeBlanc

Lt. Dave Kolb

Laurel Kitto

Sandra Adams

Karen Webb

Cindy Naquin

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Alicia Wheeler

Devin George

Lori Miller

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