



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health  
Office of Public Health

**LOUISIANA STATE CHILD DEATH REVIEW**

628 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA  
1-888-204-5984 Access Code 1982918  
December 12, 2017

Attendees: Jane Herwehe, Laurel Kitto, Trebor Randal, Mona Michelli, Kelly Bankston, Cindy Naquin, Lt. David Kolb, Shelley Ryan-Gray, Martha Hennegan, Rosa Bustamante-Forest, Christine Cornell, Sara Dickerson, Lisa Norman, Nicole Soudelier, Devin George, Pam Cart, Laura Clayton Kleinpeter, Danita LeBlanc, Sandra Adams, Felicia Wheeler, Janice Zube, Jessica Bidwell, Jim Groody

Chair: Parham Jaber, MD

**Meeting Notes:**

1. Drowning Subcommittee

The Drowning Subcommittee reviewed a list of issues that result in drowning deaths, in particular the lack of first aid skills among parents, water safety classes and equipment, and protective barriers around pools. Nearly 50% of cases occur in pools. The Subcommittee has reached out to the state building permitting agency on this issue and they are interested in fatality prevention work. State CDR can write letter to the organization that sets building codes in order to support revisions that ensure child safety. Regional Maternal and Child Health Coordinators are compiling a list of free or low cost water safety and swimming lessons. Managed Care Organizations cover swimming lessons, but only for obesity prevention. The Subcommittee will work to find ways to lend guidance to pediatricians on ways to prevent water injury. CDR will do a presentation on drowning at the LA State Uniform Construction Code Council meeting and seek input on codes related to safer environments.

2. Safe Sleep Subcommittee

The 2018 focus of the Safe Sleep Subcommittee is changing cultural norms. Much of the safe sleep work has focused on changing the behavior of parents. Instead, the Subcommittee would like to examine ways to adapt provider behavior to facilitate behavior change. Examples include framing sleep related deaths as Sudden Unexpected Infant Deaths, not Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, and understanding them as injury deaths. Strategies discussed include creating training modules for doctors, nurses, and nurses in training to emphasize a conversational approach to teaching safe sleep, working with at-home daycares, and adding safe sleep modules to high school health classes or babysitting courses.

3. HCR 58

House Concurrent Resolution 58 requested State CDR examine baby boxes as an infant mortality reduction strategy for the state of Louisiana. The report was completed and provided to legislature by the deadline.

4. Highway Safety

There is an opportunity in the next legislative session to revise Louisiana laws around child booster seats. Nicole suggested adding rear facing car seats until age of 2 years so it is in agreement with best practice. Work that was started last year to support graduated licensing will also be revisited.

5. Child Fatality Investigation Recommendations

Feedback gathered in previous sessions was considered and a letter is being prepared to accompany the recommendations. Committee members are asked to provide contact information for stakeholders that should have a copy.

6. Nat'l Fire Protection Code

LSU CCC shared information on code revisions to improve safety electrical safety round docks and piers. The NFPC was seeking input from states. CDR wanted to lend support in the input process by sharing its purchase to prevent child injury fatalities.

7. Case review

Group decided to continue to review a few actual case review in the second half of the meeting. Expanded meeting time should help. Reviews would be topic specific. Members requested to review sentinel child death cases that have clear, actionable policy recommendations attached to them. A suggestion was made for coordinator discretion in when a case "just doesn't feel right." Criteria for selection should be those with missed opportunities such as an issue with the coroner, investigative challenges, and need for family services that can be addressed by the state panel.

8. Announcements:

- Danita shared info on availability of NIMH suicide screener for 10-21 year olds for health care settings
- Pam announced the statewide Coroner's Collaborative – Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> in Lafayette
- Women's Hospital has a new free pregnancy app
- DCFS has a link for designated Safe Haven sites
- OLOL added information around guns in the home in their template for injury prevention

9. Adjourn

Next Year's Meetings:

Group decided to stick to the last Tuesday of the month and extend the meeting from 2 hours to 3 hours.

New Time: 12 PM – 3 PM

Dates: March 27, 2018 (Cindy will host at the Fire Marshal's Office)

June 26, 2018

Sept. 25, 2018

Dec. 11, 2018 (note: not last Tuesday of Dec!)

Potential meeting locations: State Fire Marshal and DoE Claiborne Building once Legislative Session is over)