

Child Fatality Committee
State Board of Social Services
April 19, 2012
10:00 AM

Members Present

Bob Spadaccini, Trudy Brisendine, Jim Pope, Willie Greene, Virginia Powell, Emily Gamble, Margaret Schultze, Al Wilson, Gary Cullen, Alex Kamberis, Jack Ledden, Tina Cruz, Janine Sewell

Members Absent

Michelle Larkin, JoAnn Wilson-Harfst, Tommy Casteel, Maggi Luca, Betty Wade Coyle, Rita Katzman, Therese Wolf, Wayne Handley, Karin Clark

Call to Order

(Robert) Bob Spadaccini called the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda.

Minutes

By consensus, the committee agreed to accept the Minutes.

Discussion

Mrs. Brizendine brought forth the concern of being able to ask more questions when investigating a case that may involve Institutions (Hospitals, Pediatricians, etc.) It was agreed upon that with proper guidance from The Department of Social Services it can progressively involve professionals to identify the problems or concerns of an investigation. (Bob Spadaccini, Jack Ledden and Virginia Powell agreed)

Regional Child Fatality Review Teams

Alex Kamberis reviewed the regional reports provided by Rita Katzman. The briefing included dates of the completion of orientation and training sessions, a list of members conducting the sessions and dates of the review teams meetings. Though Fatality Reviews have occurred in the Eastern Region for some time, they are a relatively new concept in the other four regions. Initial feedback has been positive from those involved and, over time, trends will be examined with recommendations made based on commonalities found in the reviews.

State Board members are encouraged to participate in reviews within their regions. Those who have already participated report the experience was beneficial.

There was a discussion about the use of individual case data vs. aggregate data when looking at training needs and trends and it was emphasized by Virginia Powell that there is confidentiality involved and the Fatality Teams must consider this when making recommendations. Therefore, aggregate data will be shared with the Committee and rolled up to interested parties.

MOU's for CPS

Alex Kamberis followed up on the Board's request to research existing Memoranda of Understanding with Local Department of Social Services and their local law enforcement agency as well as the local departments that have Multidisciplinary Teams in their communities. Alex Kamberis shared a spreadsheet prepared by Rita Katzman that shows how many localities have MOU's. Four of 26 agencies in Central, 16 of 23 in Eastern, 12 of 25 in Northern, 11 of 24 in Piedmont, and 7 of 23 in Western have existing MOU's with law enforcement. There are an additional 20 agencies drafting language for their localities.

ME's Report Recommending CME Training for Licensure of Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, and Physician Assistants

Virginia Powell and Rita Katzman are to address this topic at the next meeting in June.

Follow up on Intervention and Prevention Services

Gary Cullen provided information pertaining to the guidance and training of Prevention with localities. Many localities are doing great, innovative work and DSS is interested in taking lessons learned and best practice in order to share with the rest of the state. The objective is to create Prevention as a Core Unit; focusing on Early Prevention with localities and community partners.

Department on CPS Training Requirements- Proposed Changes for On-Call Workers

Alex Kamberis shared a document prepared by Rita Katzman of the policy pertaining to the changes for "on-call workers".

Policy: 1.1 Uniform training plans for Child Protective Services workers.

Deletion of the first bullet in section 1.1.1.1 First –year mandatory training requirements

(Complete a Professional Development Plan with their supervisor, including the CPS worker designated date.)

Insert the description and first bullet in the section 1.1.3 Training for staff not designated as CPS but performing CPS functions.

(The following course must be completed by local service workers who provide intake functions or respond to reports of abuse or neglect only during nights and weekends while "on-call" and were hired after July 1, 2012:

- CWS 2000 / Child Protective Services New Worker Policy/ Guidance Training with OASIS.

Discussion on Multidisciplinary Teams

Alex Kamberis provided a handout prepared by Rita Katzman that indicated the localities that have active MDT staffing for Child Protective Services Cases. Twenty-Five localities around the state currently have an active MDT Staffing process for Child Protective Service Cases.

Next Step

Appeals-AG's office to explain the term used "Resting on the Record"

Training- Appeals Process more details from Margaret Schultze

Record Retention- electronic imaging

Future Meeting Date

Wednesday, June 20, 2012 at 2:00 pm

Adjourn