

Local county commissioners and boards of health

I. Introduction

In 1993, the North Carolina General Assembly established a network of local Child Fatality Prevention Teams (CFPT's) across the state to confidentially review medical examiner reports, death certificates and other records of deceased residents under age 18. Each local team consists of representatives of public and nonpublic agencies in the community such as law enforcement, Guardian Ad Litem, health departments, among others, that provide services to children and their families.

The purpose of this report is to give a summary of the causes of death, the number of cases reviewed, recommendations for prevention, if any, that have been made and to share local team activities and accomplishments.

II. Role of the Chatham County Commissioners and Board of Health

- Receive annual reports which contain recommendations and advocate for system improvements and needed resources, if requested.
- Appoint members of the local team as identified by the membership.

III. Child Deaths by Cause, System Problems Identified, Recommendations for Prevention & Proposed Action

In 2018, the Chatham County CFPT reviewed 6 child deaths and identified 1 system problem for future prevention efforts. Below are highlights:

Cause of Death	System Problem Identified	Recommendation	Proposed Action
Respiratory failure of newborn	No problems identified.		
Extreme immaturity	No problems identified.		
Persistent fetal circulation	No problem identified.		
Car occupant injured in collision with fixed or stationary object, driver, traffic accident	No problems identified.		
Down's syndrome, birth defects	No problems identified.		Birth Control, Access to passive methods of birth control.

Extreme immaturity	No problems identified.		
Homicide-Blunt force trauma of the chest and the abdomen.	Case still being reviewed.		

IV. Chatham County CFPT Activities and Accomplishments

Examples:

- The annual CFPT Activity Summary was completed and sent by the date requested.
- Team members participated in a webinar titled SIDS and Tobacco Webinar, presented by: Erin McClain and Megan Canady, Center for Maternal and Infant Health & Rebecca Severin, NC Division of Public Health and Women’s Health Branch. They also participated in a webinar titled Guidelines for Writing Effective System Problems, Recommendations and Actions, presented by NC Dept. of Health & Human Services Division of Public Health, Children and Youth Branch.
- Individual reports were completed on child deaths reviewed by the team and were forwarded to the State Coordinator.

V. Conclusion

Thank you to the members of the Chatham County Commissioners/Board of Health for the opportunity to share with you the successes and dedicated work of the local team as we continue to review child fatalities, make recommendations, and take actions to prevent future child deaths. Please feel free to contact the Health Director or Chairperson at 919-542-8215, respectively, should you have any questions about this report.

Layton Long

Health Director

Layton Long

Chairperson

Date