

CHATHAM  
COUNTY  
COMMUNITY  
CHILD  
PROTECTION &  
FATALITY  
PREVENTION  
COMBINED  
TEAM

# Annual Report CCPT & CFPT 2023

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CHATHAM  
COUNTY BOARD  
OF  
COMMISSIONERS  
MAY 20, 2024



# What does the CCPT-CFPT do?

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- Review active child welfare cases to determine gaps or deficiencies in the community's resources that affect child wellbeing
- Review all child fatalities (under age 18) and develop strategies to prevent fatalities
- Examine policies and procedures of state and local agencies

Jennie Kristiansen,  
Director, CCDSS, Co-  
Chair of combined  
team

Mike Zelek, Director,  
CCPHD, Co-Chair of  
combined team

Lynn Kelly, Assistant  
District Attorney

Tracy Fowler, Director  
of Student Services,  
Chatham County  
Schools

Memory Dossenbach,  
Chatham County  
Board of Social  
Services

Nickie Siler, Guardian  
ad Litem Supervisor,  
Guardian ad Litem  
Program District 15-B

Dr. Susan Pitts,  
Pediatrician, Piedmont  
Health, Moncure  
Health Clinic

Rebecca Madden,  
Chatham County  
Sheriff's Office

Nicholas Victorino,  
Medical Examiner

Marison Mondragon,  
Telamon Headstart

Jenny Ritchea, First  
Health

Natasha Elliott, Central  
Piedmont Community  
Action

Laura Sharpe, Vaya  
Health

# Mandated Members

# Citizens at Large

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**The Board of County Commissioners may appoint a maximum of five additional members to represent various county agencies or the community at large to serve on any local team.**

Anne Chapman, Coordinator, Chatham County Victim Services

Carissa Brown, Center Director, Daymark Recovery Services

Shirille Lee, Communities in Schools Chatham County

Deborah Flowers, UNC Beacon Program, Moore County Child Advocacy Center

Courtney Crawford Pope and Christa Atkinson (designee for Dr. Luke Smith), El Futuro

## **Other Attendees:**

Nicole Roman, Guardian ad Litem

Alicia Doran, Public Health Social Worker, CCPHD

Theresa Buchanan, CFPT Coordinator, CCPHD

Cim Brailer and Caitlin Howison, CC DSS

# 2024 Recommendations: Citizens at Large

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Anne Chapman, Chatham County Victim Services

Shirille Lee, Communities in Schools

Heather St. Clair, Chatham County Partnership for Children

Noel Martin, Daymark Recovery

Dr. Luke Smith, El Futuro (or designee)

# Case Review Goals

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Develop understanding of complexities and challenges families involved with child welfare are facing

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Identifying gaps in service provision

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Making recommendations for system change

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# Child Welfare Review Findings

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Children reviewed needed ongoing mental health treatment, educational support, services for exposure to domestic violence, medical care and language assistance.

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Parents had similar needs, in addition to treatment for substance use disorders.

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In two families, children placed with kin/relatives

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In six families, at least one parent had serious justice involvement

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Team  
Recommendations for  
Improving Child  
Welfare Services in NC

Expand/fast track prevention services both for foster care prevention as well as broader child abuse and neglect efforts.

Fast track solutions for children who are struggling with unmet mental health needs including children with violent/assaultive behaviors.

Fund kinship support programming, specifically for kin who are caring for children with higher behavioral health needs so that they can remain with family.



# Child Fatality Prevention Team

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- 7 child fatality reviews in Chatham County in 2023 (6 in FY23, 8 in FY22)
- Reviews take place at least a year after death
- 3 cases were determined to be unpreventable
- Ages ranged from newborn to 16 years
- Topics of concern included traffic safety, youth mental health, safe storage, and safe sleep

# General Themes

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- Traffic/driver safety remains among the leading causes of death among youth
- Youth mental health continues to be a concern, as is safe storage of firearms
- Safe sleep has been seen in case reviews over past several years

Chatham  
County Youth  
Risk Behavior  
Survey  
Results

Driver Safety

Parents Bill of  
Rights

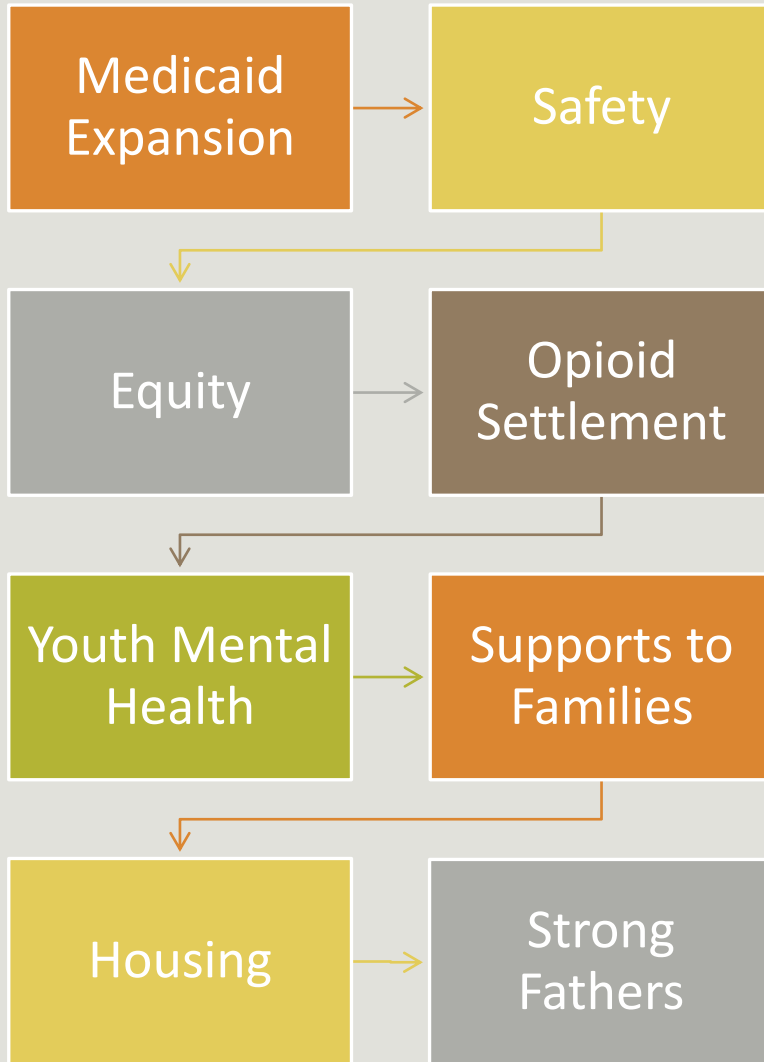
Child Fatality  
Prevention  
Team  
Refresher

Areas of  
Focus

# 2023-24 Successes

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- Traffic/driver safety remains among the leading causes of death among youth
  - CCPHD Car Seat Safety Check Program continues to grow
  - Coordination around driver safety education with Safe Kids and others
- Youth mental health continues to be a concern, as is safe storage of firearms
  - New behavioral health facility (Monarch) in Pittsboro
  - Chatham County Schools launched teletherapy services through Daybreak
  - Received and are distributing additional gun locks through statewide initiative
- Safe sleep has been seen in case reviews over past several years
  - Continue to disseminate safe sleep materials



# 2023 Successes

# 2024 Opportunities

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Expanded community-based services

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Implementation of first Family First Prevention Services Act program

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Mobile Outreach Response Engagement Services (MORES)

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Child Welfare Workforce Study

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# Questions?

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