



# Annual Report

Chatham County Community Child  
Protection & Fatality Prevention Combined  
Team

# What does the CCPT-CPFT do?

- 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)
- Examine policies and procedures of state and local agencies



# Mandated CPFT Members

- o Jennie Kristiansen, Director, CCDSS, Co-Chair of combined team
- o Layton Long, Director, Chatham County Health Department, Co-Chair of combined team
- o Kayley Taber, Assistant District Attorney
- o Marcella Trageser, Assistant District Attorney
- o Tracy Fowler, Director of Student Services, Chatham County Schools
- o Thomas Droke, Chatham County Board of Social Services
- o Jessica Jurek, Cardinal Innovations Healthcare
- o Nickie Siler, Guardian ad Litem Supervisor, Guardian ad Litem Program District 15-B
- o Dr. Susan Pitts, Pediatrician, Piedmont Health, Moncure Health Clinic
- o Lora Rinaldi, Chatham County Sheriff's Office
- o Scott Meulendyke, Chatham County Sheriff's Office
- o Rodney West, Chatham County Sheriff's Office
- o Della Richardson, Telamon Headstart

# Citizens at Large

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.

- o Anne Chapman, Coordinator, Chatham County Victim Services
- o Carissa Brown, Center Director, Daymark Recovery Services
- o Shirille Lee, Communities in Schools Chatham County
- o Deborah Flowers, UNC Beacon Program
- o Dr. Luke Smith (or designee), Medical Director, El Futuro



# Case Review Goals

- o Identifying gaps in service provision
- o Providing input and guidance for next steps
- o Making recommendations for system change

# Child Welfare Case Review Selection

- Selection based on complicated nature of the problems
- Social workers looking for feedback regarding improving outcomes
- All cases had significant CPS history

# Child Welfare Review Findings

- o Criminal history (67%)
- o Domestic violence (67%)
- o Adult substance use disorder (100%)
- o Children with mental health diagnoses or developmental delays (64%)
- o Sexual abuse identified in 3 families (50%)
- o At least 1 supportive family member/kin to provide support (83% placed with kin)



# Child Welfare Review Recommendations

- o Develop stronger child abuse and neglect prevention programs.
- o Identify opportunities to increase community knowledge of impacts of ACES
- o Build a sustainable model of mental health treatment.
- o Increase capacity to serve Spanish speaking families.



# Child Fatalities

- Review of 9 child fatalities in Chatham County
- Seven fatalities were determined to be unpreventable.
- Circumstances in two cases were determined to be preventable

# Actions

- Individual reports were completed on child deaths reviewed by the team and were forwarded to the State Coordinator.
- The annual Fatality Activity Summary was completed and sent to the state.



# Next Steps

- Continuing educational presentations into meetings (e.g. family planning, tobacco in 2019)
- Identifying opportunities for improving services for families impacted by COVID-19
- Pending implementation of Family First Act may impact Child Abuse Prevention efforts
- Pending legislation that would lead to reforms to NC child fatality system



Questions?