



State of Louisiana

Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Public Health

LOUISIANA STATE CHILD DEATH REVIEW

December 6, 2022

Welcome & Introductions

In-Person Attendees: Jada Brown, Kristen Sanderson, Dionka Pierce, Lori Miller, Lauren Meher, Kristen Falgoust, Julie Johnston, Frank Edwards, Sandra Adams, Marty Hennegan, Rebecca DeLaSalle, Byron Hurst, Robyn Thomas, Jessica Staton, Danielle Mistretta, Madeline Carbonette, Cindy Duplessis, Dr. Gina Lagarde, Dr. Lacey Cavanaugh, Dr. Laura Clayton Kleinpeter.

Zoom Attendees: Nicole Cousins, Kayla Livingston, Sara Dickerson, Shelley Ryan Gray, Debra Feller, Pam Cart,

CDR Workgroup Updates: Workgroups are born out of State Child Death Review data and are designed to target specific causes of death that have stagnated or increased in the state.

- **SUID Workgroup:** The SUID workgroup has been meeting for a couple of months and identified two priorities: updating safe sleep presentations to include more visuals and creating a “how to guide” for hospitals wanting to replicate Woman’s Hospital’s safe sleep initiative. The next meeting will be in January or February. Please reach out to Kristen Sanderson if you would like to participate. Kristen.Sanderson@la.gov
- **BeSMART Louisiana Campaign:** This is CDR’s firearm safe storage initiative. The group is looking to print more materials for distribution and to add other methods of delivery other than print materials for the New Year.

Election of CDR Chair: CDR chair must be formally elected in accordance with Boards and Commissions rules and regulations, open meeting laws, and Robert’s Rules of Order. Quorum was not reached to elect a chair for this meeting.

Agency Updates:

Homicide: Firearm safe storage, recognizing ACEs, stress management, community connectedness and resilience, & violence prevention

Action	Agency	Date
Be SMART safe storage materials are being disseminated to various agencies by the MCH coordinators and BFH staff.	Kristen Sanderson, BFH	November 2022

Drowning: Water safety promotion, swim lessons for underserved communities, pool safety regulations & code enforcement

Action	Agency	Date
BFH and St. Tammany Parish Coroner's Office recorded a podcast with LOPA’s Gifted Life on drowning prevention.	Kristen Sanderson, BFH	

988 is gathering focus groups and conducting surveys. 988 is receiving good participation in survey's for 988 and suicide messaging. Focus groups hope to include survivors, BIPOC, LGBTQ+, etc. (Historically Marginalized groups)	Robyn Thomas, OBH	Dec. 7-12, 2023
Suicide: Gatekeeper training, Screening tools, firearm safety		
Action	Agency	Date
Through the CDC's Comprehensive Suicide Prevention Grant, gatekeeper trainings are being offered as well as safety planning trainings for providers. Dates for safety planning trainings will be shared in January 2023.	Kristen Sanderson, BFH	
LOPA's annual Forensic Coroner Collaborative will be held February 2, 3, 4 2023 in Lafayette, LA at LITE Center 537 Cajundome Blvd. 985-543-4333 contact St Tammany Coroner Assist Prevention Suicide Course December 9th in Lacombe at St Tammany Coroner Office. 65278 Highway 434, Lacombe, LA	Pam Cart, LOPA	February 3 and 4, 2023
Safe Sleep: Give Your Baby Space, Pack 'n Play distribution, & safe sleep seminars		
Action	Agency	Date
During October (Safe Sleep awareness Month) Maternal and Child Health Coordinators hosted varies activities within their regions to promote safe sleep. Coordinators had education events as well as Pack-N-Play distribution events so families would have safe sleep environments available for infants. An event/webinar attended by stakeholders from all regions was hosted by Region 6 with a presentation from the Claire Bear foundation to talk about safe sleep.	Kayla Livingston, BFH	October 2022

Other Agency Updates:

- The Consumer Product Safety Commission discussed anchoring furniture for child safety.

Annual CDR Report Presentation and Q&A:

- The infant mortality rate in Louisiana is increasing. 80% of infant injury deaths were due to SUID. Other states have also seen stagnating levels of SUIDs. 2011-2012 saw lower numbers of SUIDs. This was at a time of increased education and safe sleep initiatives such as the This-side-up onesies.
- Homicides and drownings are tied for being the second leading cause of death for children, but homicides are now expected to be the leading cause of death by the next CDR report.
- Trends in motor-vehicle crashes are showing a large percentage of cases in which safety equipment (car seats and seatbelts) is not being used correctly or is not present.
- Trends in homicide are showing that infant homicides are mostly due to blunt force trauma while children ages 1-14 are mostly due to firearms.
- Risk factors for drowning death were lack of supervision and being unable to swim. 54% of deaths were due to pools, hot tubs, and spas.
- Suicide death data showed that 47% were due to hanging and 43% due to firearms. Common experiences included communicated suicidal thoughts or actions and received prior mental health services.
- Black infants were two times more likely to die than white infants, and black children (1-14 years) were 1.7 times more likely to die than white children.
- The annual CDR report has regional data briefs with data specific to the 9 regions.
- Discussion on CDR Presentation and suggested programs:

- One state requires pregnant women on Medicaid to take two courses (one on Child protective services and one on safe sleep). During these courses, the women are given a pack and play and a car seat. This program could be a great addition to Louisiana pending an economic cost analysis.
- Louisiana's Highway Safety Commission has data on the number of deaths in which car seats were not used or used improperly.
- University Medical Center New Orleans has a list for each region of where car seats and services for children and youth with special health care needs can be obtained.
- CDR has had a children and youth with special health care needs workgroup that trained techs to get a secondary training/certification.
- Partner with the DMVs and Inspection brake tag stations to distribute materials and promote communications.

Suicide Case Review:

Three suicide deaths were reviewed. All three cases were deemed preventable. Recommendations recorded for dissemination with local and state action bodies and inclusion in CDR reports.

2023 Meeting Dates and Adjourn:

Meeting locations and parking information will be announced as information becomes available

- March 28
- June 27
- September 26
- December 5