

MINUTES
of the
Executive Committee to Review the Death of Children
Citizen Review Panel Meeting

held on

June 5, 2025

via teleconference

Microsoft Teams

Call-in (audio only): +1 775-321-6111, Extension: 622 319 95#

1. Call to Order

April Stahl called the meeting to order at 08:32 AM

2. For Information Only: Roll Call

- Executive Committee members present:
 - Amber Hurtado-Washoe County HSA
 - Denise Tyre-Washoe County HSA
 - Kathie McKenna-ACORN
 - Kandee Mortenson, DCFS
 - Kelsey Keema-DCFS
 - Liz Stetson-DCFS
 - Mandy Hall-DCFS
 - Megan Soracco, DCFS
 - Nikki Mead-Office of Vital Records
 - Vickie S. Ives-DPBH-MCH
- Executive Committee members absent:
 - Sheri McPartlin, CCSD
 - Christine Eckles, Washoe County JJ
 - Ernie Kazmar-Reno PD
 - Misty Vaughn Allen-Suicide Prevention Network
 - Izaac Rowe-DAG
- Quorum established

3. Initial Public Comment: (*Discussion only: Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled on an agenda for action at a later meeting*) – April Stahl, DCFS

To provide public comment telephonically, dial 775-321-6111. When prompted to provide the conference ID, enter 622 319 95#. If providing public comment during the Teams meeting, unmute your microphone prior to speaking. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name. – April Stahl, DCFS

4. For Possible Action: Citizens Review Panel Subcommittee recommendation to be presented to the Executive Committee. – April Stahl, DCFS

April Stahl: The only agenda item that we have today is for the Citizens Review Panel Subcommittee recommendation. Those of you that have been a part of the Executive Committee, you are aware that the Executive Committee to Review the Death of Children is one of Nevada's citizens review panels.

Where this stems from is CAPTA, the child abuse prevention and Treatment Act who provides grants for the support and improvement of child welfare systems.

Dylan Nall: Clark County Department of Family Services Citizens Advisory Committee is not ACRP as of last year. It's actually our statewide Citizen Review panel has taken place over that.

April Stahl: This meeting was scheduled for earlier this year and there was some confusion on whether or not the Executive Committee would still be considered this one of the three citizen review panels. Due to the legislative session and some other things that were happening, it was something that just sort of got lost in the shuffle, and then the decision was that the EC is a CRP and we need to have this meeting.

Dylan Nall: FPO just wants to apologize that we did not get this done earlier. We apologize and the reason why we found out that we made a little mistake was when we were completing our CAPTA report. We found that we do need this recommendation from this group. Moving forward the executive Committee will no longer be a CRP.

We have decided to focus our efforts on CSEC efforts, the commercially sexually exploited of children as there is an already established committee. To make things easier, April and I thought that hopefully the same CRP recommendation from last year, but take out evidence based as written.

Vickie S. Ives: I don't understand why evidence base wouldn't be correct. Everything we do should be evidence based.

Dylan Nall: Because sometimes.

There are public awareness campaigns and things like the that with the evidence based language, maybe that can be a little bit confusing. Maybe just basically say, as appropriate, to increase public awareness.

Vickie S. Ives: We want evidence-based messaging. We've certainly seen in the safe

sleep based some non-evidence based, fear-based messaging that doesn't align with communication standards and best practices. That's why evidence based in public outreach. That doesn't mean citing research articles in a in a drowning prevention campaign. It's using means you're using.

Quality tested materials that meet basic scientific credibility. I see only negative things happening with removing evidence based and a quality element going away. In terms of gold chip resources? Based on research in any messaging. So, I wouldn't be supportive of that, but others may be. So it's just one person but thank you. I appreciate the time.

Nikki Mead: Could we describe a little bit more what we mean by evidence based? I'm not in disagreement with everything that was just said. Makes sense. But do we need to word it differently or? Explain it differently.

Dylan Nall: This is your recommendation to DCFS. So I would like you guys hopefully. If you want to describe it a little bit, that's fine. We are just in a time crunch, we only scheduled 1/2 an hour, so I just want to be mindful of that.

Nikki Mead: So then let's just leave it as evidence based.

Denise Tyre: I'm just a little bit concerned about the words evidence based, like what qualifies as evidence based.

April Stahl: Denise, that's something that came up when we were putting agenda this forward. One of the questions was, for example, we've done safe, sleep practice education forever. And is it really decreasing? Is it decreasing the amount of child asphyxiations and death? It was just a question of whether or not it should be in there. But realizing that the individuals that would, we would be collaborating with would use evidence based services for families. It was just a question that had come up, so I just wanted to throw it out there. And again, like Dylan said, it's, it's up to you all on what you would like to have it say.

Amber Hurtado: I'm just wondering if it maybe needs to be moved in the sentence or in the paragraph to say something like the efforts will include evidence-based education or resources or whatever. And because it's weirdly placed right there.

April Stahl: I like that.

Amber Hurtado: Just because evidence based public awareness, I think we're just wanting to give them evidence-based information.

April Stahl: What do folks think about doing that? Rewording it so that the efforts would include evidence-based education and collaboration to prevent future child fatalities and near fatalities in Nevada, that was one piece that was left out last year, but I think it's important to do both.

Vickie S. Ives: That sounds great.

Denise Tyre: I agree with that movement that makes a lot more sense to me.

Nikki Mead: Sounds good

April Stahl: All right, so let's just take a vote the CRP recommendation is going to say. It is recommended that DCFS, via the Executive Committee to review the death of children, partner with community agencies as appropriate, to increase awareness around child deaths to include asphyxia, motor vehicle accidents, drowning, poisoning overdoses or acute intoxication and suicide. The efforts will include evidence-based education and collaboration to prevent future child fatalities and near fatalities in Nevada. All in favor of that being the recommendation put forward, please say aye.

Aye. Oh, wait, I we I'm sorry we must have a motion.

Vickie S. Ives: For the record, I'll make a motion to move that forward as written

Nikki Mead: I second that motion.

April Stahl: Quorum Aye
No opposition
No obtaining
Motion Carried

April Stahl: DCFS will have a response back to the EC, as you'll see on the screen, we make the recommendation and then DCFS will issue a response. I'll make sure that that comes back to the executive Committee in August if we have a response by then, does.

Anybody have any questions?

April Stahl: This is the time for final public comment. Is there any public comment at this time?

No public comment

Adjournment – April Stahl, DCFS 8:48 on June 5th, 2025. I really appreciate you all in your patience with this process, so thank you very much.