

— DRAFT —

# MINUTES

*of the*

## Executive Committee to Review the Death of Children Citizen Review Panel Subcommittee Meeting

*held on*

**April 4, 2024**

via Microsoft Teams

[Meeting Link](#)

Call-in number: 1(775) 321-6111; Extension: 984356024#

### 1. Call to Order

Beverly Brown called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM.

### 2. Roll Call

- Subcommittee members present:
  - Amber Hurtado, proxy for Denise Tyre, Human Services at Washoe County
  - Heather Brockway, proxy for Melinda Rhoades, SAFY
  - Sgt. Laura Conklin, Reno Law Enforcement
  - Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Prevent Child Abuse Nevada
  - Jorge Montano-Figueroa, proxy for Nicole Bishop, Renown Regional Medical Center
  - Kathie McKenna, Pioneer Territory CASA
- Staff and guests:
  - Dawn Davidson, NICRP
  - Orjola Merkaj, NICRP
  - April Stahl, DCFS
  - Dylan Nall, DCFS

### 3. Initial Public Comment

April Stahl stated that to provide public comment, please unmute your microphone before speaking, or you can call into this meeting by using the number 775-321-6111, with passcode number 984356024#. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record.

There was no public comment.

### 4. For Possible Action: Draft 2024 Citizen Review Panel Recommendation(s)

- Discuss possible recommendations and/or propose recommendations that may be included in the 2024 Citizen Review Panel recommendation(s)

- Approval of 2024 Citizen Review Panel recommendation(s) to be presented to the Division of Child and Family Services

Dylan Nall began discussing possible recommendations that may be included in the 2024 Citizen Review Panel (CRP) recommendation(s). Dylan stated that she is the Citizen Review Panel Coordinator for Nevada. The CAPTA grant requires a minimum of three CRP recommendations. She stated that the recommendations come from the three CRPs: Executive Committee to Review the Death of Children, the Children's Justice Task Force, and the Citizens Advisory Committee in Clark County. She stated that the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) is responsible for developing recommendations and including them in the CAPTA report. The report is due in June. She stated that the report is provided to the federal government since they are responsible for the grant. The recommendations are presented to the Child Welfare Agency.

Dylan Nall began reading previous CRP recommendations provided in the supporting materials located [here](#).

Dylan Nall asked the subcommittee what they were thinking about for the CRP recommendation. She asked if they wanted to keep the recommendation broad or narrow it down. Amanda Haboush-Deloye asked what was done with the recommendations. Dylan stated that they are submitted for inclusion in the CAPTA report. The recommendations are given to the administrator of DCFS. Amanda asked if there has been any progress or if any past recommendations have been implemented. Dylan stated that there has been movement on past recommendations. Dylan referred to the recommendation that mentioned training regarding ACEs. Dr. Cindy Pitlock emailed DCFS employees regarding training opportunities. Last year, an email was sent to Child Death Review (CDR) members that provided a link about ACEs and encouraged them to distribute the training throughout their network. Sgt. Laura Conklin suggested keeping the recommendation broad. April Stahl stated that the focus should be on child fatalities and near fatalities. She explained that obtaining data and reports to determine the top causes and manners of death is a struggle. April presented Table 7 from the 2021 Statewide Child Death Report. This table displayed the number and percent of manners and causes of child deaths in Nevada in 2021, excluding natural and undetermined manners of death. April asked if anyone had any suggestions on how to write the recommendation. Kathie McKenna asked if they could include the top four causes of death, including the fifth one regarding poisoning, overdose, or acute intoxication. She stated that Nye County has the highest rates of opioid use in Nevada with an increase in overdoses among 15 to 24-year-olds.

Amanda Haboush-Deloye stated that during the last CRP Subcommittee meeting, the team requested data to make better-informed decisions regarding recommendations. However, she stated that she could not locate the requested data, nor was it in the attachments in the meeting invite. April Stahl asked Amanda what specifically she was asking for. Amanda stated that she would have to review the meeting minutes from the January Subcommittee CRP meeting, but she requested data related to demographics and kids in child welfare. April stated that she attached the DCFS data book updated in December 2023 to the meeting invite. Amanda stated that what she is asking for is not in the data book. Sgt. Laura Conklin stated that the 2021 Statewide Child Death report contains demographic data. Dylan Nall asked Amanda if the requested data was unavailable at this meeting if it would affect her ability to develop a CRP recommendation, and why. Amanda stated that it is important to include specific information

that is culturally appropriate for child welfare families. Recommendations should also include children in welfare, not just children who passed away. Dylan stated that the data that Amanda is requesting is not currently available. She asked Amanda if she wanted the recommendation to be broad or specific. Dylan suggested that a broader recommendation would be better for right now, and for the future, request data a year in advance to create a more specific recommendation. Amanda stated that she has been asking for this data for two years. She stated that we need to keep pushing to receive the data regarding child welfare. April stated that when requesting data, we need to be specific on what is being requested. She asked if Amanda could specify what demographic data she is asking for that is not in the 2021 report. Amanda stated that she would put her request in writing and send it over to DCFS. Dylan stated that she would give Amanda her email so they could discuss the data she requested with her supervisor.

April Stahl asked if the team wanted to draft a broad recommendation. Dylan Nall suggested the following recommendation: it is recommended that DCFS partner with sister agencies and other community partners as appropriate to increase evidence-based public awareness around the top four causes and manners of death to prevent future child fatalities in Nevada. Dylan asked the team if there was anything they wanted to add or take away from the recommendation. Sgt. Laura Conklin recommended that the recommendation focus on preventing suicide and helping keep kids alive in accidents. Dawn Davidson asked April if she could display the top manners and causes of death. Dawn suggested that stating they want to include accidents in the recommendation is too broad because various types of accidents occurred. She stated that there are five manners of death: accident, homicide, suicide, undetermined, and natural. She stated that the table is specific on the types of manner and causes of death of children in Nevada. Sgt. Laura Conklin agreed with Dawn on how broad it is to mention all accidents and all suicides. She stated that she wants the recommendation to focus on the top five or six manners of death from Table 7. Jorge Montano stated that the recommendation should be kept broad, but with a specific focus on suicide and homicide. He stated that since only 2021 data is available, he thinks it would be beneficial for 2022 and 2023 data to be expedited or provide an overview. He mentioned a past recommendation in 2021 that revolved around providing education for parents and caregivers on looking out for signs of suicidal ideation. This includes, but is not limited to, appropriate firearm safety and storage, medication safety and storage, and other means. He stated that he would like to suggest a recommendation that deals with suicide and homicide by ensuring that no child has unsupervised access to a lethal means weapon for either self-harm or homicide. Dawn stated that in the past, there was someone on the CDR Executive Committee from the Office of Vital Records who provided an up-to-date, but not finalized, number of children's deaths. April stated that she contacted the Office of Vital Records and they are still waiting on data.

April Stahl presented the recommendation she had been working on for the Subcommittee on the screen. Amanda Haboush-Deloye stated that the Subcommittee can think about the practicality of these recommendations moving forward. She stated that this current recommendation is very broad and she does not see its purpose. Jorge Montano agreed with Amanda. He stated that the recommendation does not provide actionable items that could be used to track progress. He asked if it was appropriate to include in the recommendation if DCFS could work on collaborating or look at a process that would expedite data. April asked, moving forward, what additional information is needed. Jorge stated that it is difficult to make 2024 recommendations based on 2021 data. He asked if it was possible to have current data

accessible to create more accurate recommendations. April stated that she reviews child fatality and near-fatality cases. She mentioned that unsafe sleep, drowning, overdose poisoning, and acute intoxication are all issues that are occurring. She stated that she has seen pediatric diabetes issues throughout Nevada, but it is not talked about. She asked the Subcommittee what problems they were seeing in their areas. Kathie McKenna stated that old data is being used because it takes a while for the state to review it. She asked if there was a way to start pulling numbers together to look at each quarter. April stated that she and Beverly Brown created a tool in Qualtrics regarding child fatality data. She stated that this was a solution to pull data that are more current. Kathie McKenna stated that this is a great way of taking the data and putting it in a data set. She stated that the data that Amanda is requesting might be available from the Qualtrics data set. April stated that the requested demographic information would most likely not be included. The data is based on a tool that was published in NRS. April and Beverly are fixing that tool to provide more accurate information. April stated that she is looking forward to meeting with Amanda and trying to figure out how they can meet her data request needs.

April Stahl presented the following recommendation on the screen.

- It is recommended that the DCFS partner with community agencies as appropriate to increase evidence based public awareness around child deaths to include asphyxia, motor vehicle accidents, drowning, poisoning overdose or acute intoxication, and suicide. The efforts will include education and collaboration to prevent future child fatalities in Nevada.

April asked the Subcommittee if they had any revisions they would like to include in the recommendation. Sgt. Laura Conklin stated that the recommendation language is acceptable and broad enough.

MOTION: Made by Amanda Haboush-Deloye, seconded by Kathie McKenna to move forward with the recommendation presented on the screen.

UNANIMOUS VOTE; MOTION CARRIED

## **5. Final Public Comment**

April Stahl stated that to provide public comment, please unmute your microphone before speaking, or you can call into this meeting by using the number 775-321-6111, with passcode number 984356024#. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name.

Amanda Haboush-Deloye stated that there is an annual statewide prevention conference in Reno, NV, on May 31st and June 1st. Amanda stated that she could send April the information for it, and April could forward that information to the regional chairs.

## **8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

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