

# Stakeholder Workgroup on Strengthening the NC CFPT System—February 3, 2020

## North Carolina State Child Fatality Prevention Team

Kerry Young, MS

North Carolina Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Division of Public Health

### State Child Fatality Prevention Team Operation

- Meet monthly
- Multidisciplinary team members come together around the table with the hope of bringing expertise and knowledge of individuals responsible for the various aspects of child welfare and well-being
- Cases: Child Abuse Homicides
  - Additional manners of interest
- As a medical examiner system, about 500 child fatalities are reviewed each year. The total number of cases reviewed by the State Child Fatality Prevention Team (State CFPT) represents about 14% (based on 2017 statistics) of the total number the ME system reviews.
- Mission: Through the review of child deaths, our mission is to identify trends, determine best practice and create and implement preventative strategies that will improve the lives and health of children in NC

### State Child Fatality Prevention Team Functions

- Two weeks prior to the meeting date (consistently the third Wednesday of every month), a list of the decedents to be reviewed is sent with decedent's demographic information and parents' names.
  - Team members use this information to query their systems for applicable information to share with the team.
  - Members either send their agency information prior to the meeting or share during the monthly meeting, if applicable. Some members do not have capability to look up specific cases, such as the pediatrician role, but, instead, brings perspective from their individual fields
- Receive reports of findings and recommendations from Local Teams that review cases of additional fatalities and DSS intensive reviews (don't happen for most cases reviewed by the State CFPT). Consolidate and generate recommendations for policy changes, new laws, etc. based upon findings from the reviews to forward up to the Child Fatality Task force (CFTF)
- Provide technical assistance to local teams by request and vice versa, ask a local team for additional information on case reviews.

### State Child Fatality Prevention Team Role-Child Fatality Researcher

- Prep Reviews
  - Part of larger all-ME jurisdiction case review and data collection process
  - Solicit information from team members responsible for providing additional information from their agency
  - Compile additional information with ME information into concise review format for team member review
- Create agenda, minutes, and facilitate State CFPT meetings
- Provide perspective data—Additional data (rest of the manners means don't review, 86% of ME reviews) so members have overall perspective of ME jurisdiction child fatality beyond State CFPT reviews
- Respond to research/data requests: Responsible for providing data to partners across the state
- Present recommendations from the State CFPT to the CFTF
- Provide data to CFTF and local CFPT/CCPT's on issues related to child fatality
- Generate reports—annual and others requested
- Collaborate with local CFPT coordinator to provide ME child fatality public documents on a quarterly basis for local CFPT/CCPT review