



Child Fatality Review Panel
Meeting Minutes/Held Via Secure Teams
June 18, 2025

Members

Kirsten Bechtel, Co-Chair, Pediatrician, Yale New Haven Hospital
Christina Ghio, Co-Chair, Office of The Child Advocate
Ted Rosenkrantz, UCONN Health Center
Gregory Vincent, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Brett Salafia, Assistant States Attorney
Andrea Deyo, Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Liz Corley, Family Strong
Steven Rogers, Injury Prevention, Connecticut Children's Medical Center
TJ Michalski, Village for Families and Children
Adelita Orefice, Department of Public Health
Samantha Haynes, Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection
Ken Mysogland, Department of Children and Families
Ada Booth, Connecticut Children's Medical Center, SCAN

Excused

Andrea Barton Reeves, Commissioner of Department of Social Services
Ivys Arroyo, Sergeant Hartford Police Department
Pina Violano, Community Health, Healthcare Consultants, LLC

Guests

Kim Karanda, DMHAS
Shayna LaFlam, DPH
Jesse Leavenworth, Hearst Media
Melanie Kmetz, DCF
Rosemary Wieworka, DCF
Gary Wallace, CTCADV
Roberto Candelaria-Santiago, OCME
Melanie Kmetz, DCF

OCA Staff

Brendan Burke
Lucy Orellano

Minutes

A motion was made to approve May 28, 2025, minutes, by Brett Salafia, and seconded by Ted Rosenkrantz.

Virtual Packet

Meeting Agenda, Draft Minutes for May 28, 2025.

CFRP Data- Brendan Burke

There have been five reported deaths for the first half of June, there were 2 accidents, and three cases that are pending further study. The two accidents got a lot of media attention one being the accidental discharge death of a teenager being chased by PD and the other a teen on a moped that was struck by a vehicle. Of the remaining three cases one was a child whom a silver alert was issued for, a possible suicide and one involving an unsafe sleep environment. There have been 28 accepted OCME cases reviewed by the OCA for

2025, which is the lowest amount for this same time period in previous years. However there have been more suicides in these current two quarters than there were last year.

Presentation(s)

Dr. Ada Booth, Overview of the Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) program at CCMC

- Child abuse pediatrics is a subspecialty within pediatrics that is focused on diagnosis, treatment and prevention of child abuse.
- CMCC's SCAN team not only completes medical evaluations but also looks at psychosocial factors and how they have impacted the family. Supports and referrals for services are also provided in order to strengthen families.
- SCAN team members work closely with DCF and will sometimes participate in court proceedings to either verify or rule out child abuse in some cases.

Dr. Kirsten Bechtel- Pediatric Injury Equity Review (PIER)

- Injuries are a leading cause of morbidity and mortality among children in the US, death rates vary based on different demographics and geographic disparities.
- MassPIER was built on the MA CDR program to identify factors that lead to inequitable outcomes in pediatric injury fatalities. MassPIER led to more recommendations to address inequities after implementation.
- Review incidents that occur surrounding the fatalities to identify common factors associated with the type of fatality in order to make more informed recommendations.
- The development of recommendations includes information about what resources are currently available and possible community partners.

Related Links

[Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect \(SCAN\) Program | Connecticut Children's](https://portal.ct.gov/dcf/behavioral-health-partnership/home/urgent-crisis-centers-for-children?language=en_US)
https://portal.ct.gov/dcf/behavioral-health-partnership/home/urgent-crisis-centers-for-children?language=en_US

Meeting Link

https://ctvideo.ct.gov/oca/Child_Fatality_Review_Team-20250618_090215-Meeting_Recording.mp4

Executive Session

None

New Business

None

Old business/ Reoccurring items

CFRP co-chairs will work on coming up with a process to add rotating members who have lived expertise/ experience.
Legalization of Marijuana, ingestions, and fatalities.
A possible summit to discuss adolescent deaths may be conducted by the panel at a future date.
Look at the curriculum for CT High School students on safe driving and the GDL program.

Motion to Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Steve Rogers and Seconded by Adelita Orefice.

Next meeting

July 23, 2025