

**National MCH Center for Child Death Review Meeting
Child Death Review Team Membership**

Sunday, September 7, 2003

Presenters:

Eva Patillo, Georgia
Maurine Hill, Missouri

Moderator:

Alex Kelter, California

Reasons for attending session:

- High turnover
- CPS issues vs. law enforcement
- To better serve the purpose of the team
- Decreased funding/creative ways to keep together
- Educate on composition of teams
- Standardization of teams
- Increase diversity of teams
- Dealing with difficult members
- How to keep an effective team
- Responsibility of team members

Ideas for team membership:

- News media taped session and now use as a training video (California)
- Allows guests at meetings if they have information on death and is approved at a prior meeting (California)
- Local teams review all child deaths (Texas)
- Use "Planning a Child Death Team" in packets
- Start with a planning committee
- Know what you want to accomplish
- Determine demographics
- Know what type of deaths will be reviewed...COD/MOD
- What sponsorships can you get...find out
- Determine schedule of meetings. Meet even if no deaths
- Take good notes and document
- Consider open vs. closed meetings
- How does team learn about the deaths
- Be sure to bring all of your information to all meetings...be prepared
- Hold periodic trainings: county, regional, state
- Use standardized form
- Use the power within you state
- Lobby for what you need
- Be creative: collaborate, share resources
- Respect committee agreements - Use Interagency agreements
- Be sure members know their roles

- Attendance: if can't be there, need to send informed representative to take their place
- Do team building exercises
- Mandate Chair position (Georgia uses District Attorneys)
- Educate team members: train and debrief
- Utilize boards to provide overview – if local teams can't agree, send to state level or just keep meeting
- Encourage long-term commitment from members
- Establish sub-committees: Suicide, Domestic Violence, Injury
- Appoint a “spokesperson” for the team