



# Maryland State Child Fatality Review Report

From the desk of the Chairperson

December 2005

## ME Monthly Reports

Please accept our apologies for delays in receiving reports. It has made us all grateful for the scope of Fran Pellerin's commitment over the years. We miss her!



## MD SCFRT Members

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Sally B. Dolch, MSW, Chair  
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Anne Fox  
Tasha Greenberg  
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Eileen McInerney  
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## State Team News

To all who do this important work: as advocates for life you affirm the value of young lives so tragically lost.

In six years Maryland CFR:

- 1- Established working guidelines ([www.fha.state.md.us/mch/html/cfr/](http://www.fha.state.md.us/mch/html/cfr/))
- 2-Numbers almost 500 dedicated people
- 3-Maintains excellent links with the OCME
- 4-Has strong links with Injury Prevention
- 5-Has proficient & faithful staff support.

We move into the future focused on aggressive prevention strategies & stronger linkages between the state & local teams.

2006 State CFR Team meetings are set for Tuesdays 10am-3PM:

March 21

May 16 (pending)

September 19

November 14 (Training)

**You are welcome to attend!**

Locations & agendas are set closer to the date.

Here's to safe holidays. Sally

## Legal Issues in CFR/Translating Findings to Action

Thanks to the Nov 15 Attorney's Panel: Eileen McInerney, Attorney General's Office, Christi Megna, DHR & John Cox, State's Attorney, Baltimore County.

Their excellent discussion of legal issues in CFR included: 1-There may be jurisdictional differences, but the State's Attorney should not impact on review timelines. 2-The CFR statute is a secure foundation for access to medical records. 3-While AG Opinions & Advice Division Letters are not controlling, Eileen McInerney may help you access their advice.

Teri Covington, Director of the National Maternal & Child Health Center for Child Death Review [www.childdeathreview.org](http://www.childdeathreview.org) reminded us that in the US on average 148 children die every day.

One way we can take action to prevent child deaths is to write effective recommendations that include:

- 1- a problem statement
- 2- actions people should take
- 3- places, persons, institutions where change should occur
- 4- a time frame for action.

## Your Feedback is Welcome

It seemed that sending an informal update on CFR doings at the State level might be a more expedient way to stay in touch with local teams.

State team members will also contribute from time to time.

We want your feedback. Future issues will include information about State CFR meetings, Referrals & Resources, links with other local teams for advocacy ideas & team management issues.

Please contact me [sdolch@juno.com](mailto:sdolch@juno.com) or 410-742-2357 with ideas for making this communication tool more worthwhile.

PS. Draft copies of the **Report of Local Team Activities, 2005** were distributed at the Nov 15 conference. We hope this will simplify reporting & we appreciate your timely responses!