



Maryland State Child Fatality Review Report

From the desk of the Chairperson

May-June 2006

*Local CFR Contacts:
thanks for forwarding
to your team members.*

FYI

*Thanks to Marge
Samels for sharing this
website for locating
child molesters. It has
lots of helpful links:*

www.familywatchdogs.us

*Apologies for the delay
getting this issue to you.
Note that we're
switching to bi-monthly
editions!*

MD SCFRT Members

Donna Becker, R.N., MSN

Steve Berry

Susan AllenDaddio

Sally B. Dolch, MSW, Chair

Maureen Edwards, MD

Nerita Estampador-Ulep, MD

Carolyn Fowler, PhD, Vice Ch.

David Fowler, MD

Anne Fox

Mary Gentile

Tasha Greenberg, MD

Richard Lichenstein, MD

Dorothy Marge

Eileen McInerney

Jonathan Newell

David Putsche

Albert Rolle, MD

John Rusinko

Hal Sommers

Richard Steinke

Antinette D. Williams

ADVISORS

Bonnie Birkel, DHMH

Tracey Serpi

Staff Support

Joan Patterson

(410) 767-6716

Safety of Children in Child Care - June SCFRT Topic

At the June 6 meeting of the State Child Fatality Review Team, Lisa McDonald, Asst. Program Manager & Cheryl Hall, Nurse Consultant, Maryland State Dept. of Education, Office of Child Care, spoke on **regulations & practice in licensing Child Care Centers**(COMAR 07.04.02) & **Family Day Care**(COMAR 07.04.01.)

They shared excellent handouts: **Handbook for Public Playground Safety** (Pub, 35) & **How to plan for the unexpected, Preventing Child**

Lessons Learned from Advocacy Action

When State Team member Dr. Rich Lichenstein recently ventured into the advocacy arena, he discovered that consensus on what 'seemed to make sense' can be elusive when esthetics, expense & enhanced liability enter the equation. Here are some noteworthy learnings from his experience. When moving to advocacy :

Drownings (Pub. 359 US Consumer Product Safety Commission www.cpsc.gov.)

And they addressed credential levels & continuing registration & offered a comprehensive brochure: **A Parent's Guide to Regulated Child Care** & www.marylandpublicschools.org for more information.

This presentation added to State Team research into playground safety stemming from the drowning death of a toddler last September.

- 1 **Find partners** - local, national, professional
- 2 **Get to know community politics**
- 3 **Review the case in the county where the event occurred**, even if the case was reviewed in the county of residence
- 4 **Be tenacious!** It takes time & energy to make an impact.

State Team Establishes Ad-hoc Committees

Each year the State Team establishes ad-hoc (temporary) committees to address advocacy issues & other team activities. Team members scattered around the state then hold "email meetings" or conference calls to develop recommendations for action or take action steps prior to the next quarterly meeting. In addition to **playground safety**, three jurisdictions identified **Methadone deaths in young children**, which the State Team has adopted as an advocacy priority for this year. Watch for requests for local feedback as 4 additional committees target **funding strategies for local teams, implementation of the data system, the definition of near fatality, and revision of the 2001 Guidelines for Local Teams**. If your local team has discussed any of these topics & you have input, it is welcome. You can send ideas to Joan Patterson jpatterson@dhhm.state.md.us or to Sally Dolch sdolch@juno.com. Progress reports will be made at the State Team meeting scheduled for **Tuesday, Sept 19 from 10-3 at MDOT**.