



Maryland State Child Fatality Review Team Report

From the Executive Committee care of sdolch@comcast.net

Winter 2007

Meeting Dates 2007

Tues May 15

Tues Sept 18

*Training Tues Dec 4
(Mark your calendar)*

MD SCFRT Members

Donna Becker, R.N., MSN

Tina Becker

Sally Dolch, MDiv, MSW
Newsletter Editor

Nerita Estampador-Ulep, MD

Carolyn Fowler, PhD

David Fowler, MD

Mary Gentile

Tasha Greenberg, MD
Vice Chairperson

Richard Lichenstein, MD
Chairperson

Rosalind McDaniel

Jenny Maehr, MD

Dorothy Marge, PhD

Jonathan Newell

David Putsche

Albert Rolle, MD

John Rusinko

Hal Sommers

George Thorpe, MD
Data Liaison

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DHMH ADVISORS

Bonnie Birkel, CRNP, MPH

Tracey Serpi

Staff Support

Jeanne Brinkley, MPH, CNM
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(410) 767-6716

*Local CFR Contacts:
Please forward to all
local team members.*

State CFR Team Elects New Executive Committee

The State Team recently determined to return to the Executive Committee model. Congratulations to the following officers per April 1 election results: **Chairperson - Rich Lichenstein, MD** (American Academy of Pediatrics rep.) **Vice Chairperson (& annual training oversight) - Tasha Greenberg, MD** (Office of the Chief Medical Examiner delegate.) **Newsletter Editor - Sally**

Dolch, MDiv, MSW (citizen,) **Data Liaison - George Thorpe, MD** (DHMH.) The Executive Committee will meet at least 4X per year to plan quarterly meetings of the State Team & to provide additional leadership. The newsletter will switch to quarterly issues. Thanks to Sally Dolch & Carolyn Fowler, Chair & Vice Chair from 2001-2007!

State Team Agenda: Traffic Safety & Senate Bill 348

At the March 20th SCFRT meeting, Members **George Thorpe, MD**, DHMH designee & **Jenny Maehr, MD**, DJJ designee were welcomed.

The Team bid farewell to **Eileen McInerney** Attorney General's Office. Other SCFRT departures include: **Ann Fox**, DJJ, **Richard Steinke**, MSDE & **Susan Daddio**, citizen. Replacements are pending for the AOG and MSDE.

There are 5 citizen member openings on the State Team. Nominees are sought who have knowledge in this field, links to advocacy or funding groups, and time. Direct them to Joan Patterson 410-77-6727 or jpatterson@dhmh.state.md.us.

Margo Stanton, Montgomery County Director of Traffic Safety advised that recent child pedestrian fatalities have occurred to: youth leaving school with headphones on AND children running ahead of a parent between 2 vehicles!

There are about 15 adult pedestrian fatalities a year, most influenced by lighting issues: accidents tend to happen at dusk & at dawn.

Margo encourages teams to contact their local traffic safety director. To reduce accidents, here are 5 safety tips: wear light clothing, use sidewalks, paint crosswalks, light up roadways & avoid teen distractions! Reach Margo at: 240-777-4226.

Joshua Sharfstein, MD, Health Officer of the Baltimore City Health Dept. spoke about the good legislative reception of Senate Bill 348. *The bill expands the child fatality review legislation to allow local CFR teams the option of reviewing the records of youth who murder* because they are believed to be at higher risk of dying. In Baltimore City 50% of homicides are committed by teens. For more info about the bill contact Dr. Sharfstein at Joshua.Sharfstein@baltimorecity.gov

Did you know Maryland's SAFE HAVEN LAW passed in 2002 with no funding for public awareness?

Unharmred newborn - Given to a responsible adult - Within 3 days of birth

No arrest or prosecution COMAR 07.02.27 The law is designed to protect newborns from danger or death & protect mothers from legal action for abandoning their baby. To learn more about this alternative to abandonment: call the **anonymous help line: 1-800-243-7337**; go to www.dhmh.state.md.us for a brochure or www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org.