

Spring 2010

Maryland SCFRT Members

Akin Akintola, MD

A. LaToya Bates, LCSW-C

Julie Drake, Esq.

Nerita Estampador-Ulep, MD

Vice Chair

Lt. Joseph Gamble

Mary Gentile, LCSW-C

Roger J. Lerner, Esq.

Richard Lichenstein, MD

Chairperson

Ling Li, MD

Jennifer Maehr, MD

Donna Mazyck, RN, MS

Vernice McKee, MSW

Laurel Moody, RN, MS

David Putsche

Albert Rolle, MD

Amanda Scott, JD

Marsha Smith, MD, MPH

Hal Sommers, MA

Anntinette Williams, LICSW

DHMH Advisors

Bonnie Birkel, CRNP, MPH

Lee Hurt, MS, MPH

Joan Stine, MHS, MS, CHES

S. Lee Woods, MD, PhD

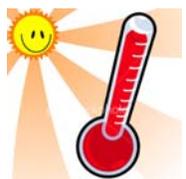
DHMH Staff Support

Joan Patterson, LCSW-C

(410-767-6727)

Maryland State Child Fatality Review Team (SCFRT)

Maryland SCFRT Newsletter Spring 2010



“Never Leave Your Child Alone” Campaign

Did you know that a child’s body heats up 3 to 5 times faster than an adult’s? When the outside temperature reaches 86 degrees, the temperature on the inside of a closed vehicle climbs to 130 degrees. Every year, an average of 37 children die because they are left alone in a vehicle. Last year, a toddler in Maryland, died as a result of this “preventable” incident. Since the beginning of 2010, 10 children have already died as a result of hyperthermia in vehicles. More than 50 percent of the children who died from heat stroke were forgotten by a caring adult who became distracted when leaving the vehicle. Thirty percent of kids who died from hyperthermia were left unattended or gained entry into an unlocked vehicle and became trapped and overcome by heat.

Safe Kids Maryland wants parents and caregivers to take precautions so that this tragedy does not happen to them. It takes only minutes for a child to be at risk of death and serious, permanent injury in a hot car. Make it a habit to check the back seat every time you exit and remember to “NEVER LEAVE YOUR CHILD ALONE” in a vehicle — even for one minute!

To see a demonstration of how quickly a car heats up in moderate temperatures, please visit www.ggweather.com/heat. For more information on the *Never Leave Your Child Alone Campaign* and (SKBU) multifaceted child passenger safety program, please visit the Safe Kids USA web site: www.safekids.org/nlyca.



BICYCLE HELMETS CAN HELP SAVE CHILDREN’S LIVES!

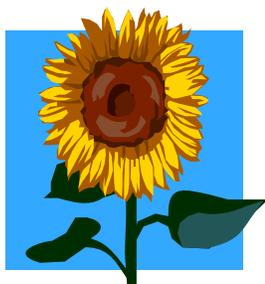
Bicycle injuries and death affect children and young people more than any other age group. Young cyclists are more likely than adults cyclists to die of head injury. A summary of US statistics released June 6, 2010 from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shows that 196 children younger than age 15 die annually from bicycle-related injuries. Bicycle helmets prevent 52-60% of bike-related head injury deaths. Sadly, helmet use among children aged 14 and younger is approximately 15% nationwide.

Bicycle Helmet Safety Tips

- Your child needs to wear a helmet on every bike ride, no matter how short or how close to home. Many accidents happen in driveways, on sidewalks, and on bike paths, not just on streets. Children learn best by observing you. Set the example: Whenever you ride, put on your helmet.
- When purchasing a helmet, look for a label or sticker that says the helmet meets the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) safety standard.
- A helmet protects your child from serious injury, and should always be worn. And remember, wearing a helmet at all times helps children develop the helmet habit.
- A helmet should be worn so that it is level on the head, not tipped forwards or backwards. The strap should be securely fastened, and you should not be able to move the helmet in any direction. If needed, the helmet’s sizing pads can help improve the fit.

For more information: www.helmets.org/stats.htm

www.ChildrensSafetyNetwork.org



Agency Highlight:

*Center for Infant & Child Loss
Division of Neonatology
Department of Pediatrics
School of Medicine University of Maryland Baltimore*



How's Your County's Case Data Entry Going? Send an email to Joan Patterson at:

jpatterson@dhmh.state.md.us

and let us know what's working well and what obstacles your teams are facing using the new Electronic Data Entry system. We need your feedback!



Upcoming Conferences & Training Dates:

Next State CFR Meeting
TBA

Maryland Suicide Prevention Conference

October 6, 2010

Annual State CFR Conference

November 16, 2010



**"Know the water. Know your limits.
Wear a life jacket!"**



The *Center for Infant & Child Loss* was established through the SIDS Act of 1974 to provide information and compassionate counseling services to SIDS families and raise awareness of sudden infant death. The Center has since expanded its mission to work with all families experiencing the sudden and unexpected death of any infant or child in the state of Maryland.

Mission

Mission: The *Center for Infant & Child Loss* is committed to assuring Maryland families facing the sudden unexpected loss of their infant or child (0 to 16 years of age) have access to bereavement interventions, counseling, and information based on best practices and current research, and at no cost. The Center is dedicated to the education and training of persons working in health and child care, emergency response, law enforcement, and community services to promote awareness and knowledge of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), other sudden infant/child deaths, and practices to reduce the risk of these deaths.

Goals

Goal I: Provide bereaved families access to intervention, counseling and information.

Goal II: Facilitate parent support and peer outreach programs.

Goal III: Collect, analyze, and distribute timely and accurate SIDS as well as other unexpected child death data.

Goal IV: Educate health providers, public safety officials and other public-at-large about SIDS, infant and child deaths, risk reduction, grief, and compassionate intervention.

Goal V: Facilitate research on SIDS and other child death related issues.

Goal VI: Assure funding for expanded activities, i.e. research, family events, risk reduction outreach, and SIDS awareness.

Center for Infant and Child Loss Staff and Contact Information:

LaToya Bates, MSSA, LCSW-C, Program Director

Jean Edwards, BA, Program Coordinator

Mary LeSueur, BA, Bereavement Counselor

Jocelyn Slowey, MS, Events Coordinator

800-808-7437 or 410-328-4474

School's Out! It's summer – are the residents of your community thinking about the impact of school recess on child safety? ...www.nhtsa.gov/people/outreach/safesobr/19qp/sect2/page2.html.



If you have news to share, please contact the newsletter editors:

Donna Mazyck at dmazyck@msde.state.md.us or Laurel Moody at lmoody@bcps.org

Visit Our State Child Fatality Review website:

http://fha.maryland.gov/mch/cfr_home.cfm

For more information contact Joan Patterson at (410) 767-6727 or

jpatterson@dhmh.state.md.us