



***Learning from the past to protect the future.***

**Alabama Department of Public Health  
State Team Meeting Minutes  
Telephone Conference  
April 30, 2020**

State Team Members Present

Conference Call:

David Rydzewski, M.D. (Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences)  
Jerry Williams (Alabama Coroner's Association)  
Bobby Timmons (Alabama Sheriff's Association)  
Kimberly Gordon (Proxy Dr. Harris Alabama State Health Officer, ADPH)  
Chris Newlin (Private Citizen Appointee)  
Sallye Longshore (Private Citizen Appointee)  
April Weaver (Chair of House Health Committee)  
Marsha Raulerson, M.D., FAAP (Alabama Academy of Pediatrics)  
Candice Dye, M. D. (UAB Pediatrics)  
Michael Taylor, M. D. (Private Citizen, UAB Pediatrics)  
Ilecia Cobb, M. D. (Proxy for Commissioner of Alabama Department of Mental Health)  
Lynn Bius (Alabama Network of Children's Advocacy Center)  
Tim Davis (Private Citizen Appointee)  
Robert Hinds (Private Citizen Appointee)

ADPH Staff

Stuart Hoyle (ADPH)  
Gloria Davis (ADPH)  
Erin Hill (ADPH)

Call to Order:

On April 30, 2020 at 1:00 PM via Conference call the Alabama Child Death Review System (ACDRS) State Team meeting was called to order by Kimberly Gordon.

Welcome of Members and Guests:

Mrs. Gordon welcomed state team members and Central Office staff, joining the meeting by conference call.

Approval of Minutes:

A quorum was present and approved the minutes from January 23, 2020

Recurring Business:

Mr. Stuart Hoyle reports that the 2017-2018 case review reports are the almost complete and are awaiting approval from administration. Mrs. Gloria Davis stated that she is excited to get those reports once it goes through administration and will get copies out to the team once that approval has been made.

Data years and the review completion  
Increased review rates were as followed  
2017 67.9% reviews completed  
2018 68.4% reviews complete  
2019 10.2% reviews completed at this point

Virtual Meetings

Working with IT department to set up video and phone conference calls. Working within the capabilities to proceed.

New Business:

Mrs. Gordon discussed SUDI Training updates, planning for one in Montgomery and one in Birmingham at the Jefferson State Community College Campus, have had interest in both meeting locations. Will be checking with the trainer from Florida, but these could be pushed back to September or even possibly 2021. They will have the training.

Discussion turned to the 2020 Conference planned for 8/25-8/27 in Orange Beach. The conference is still up in the air with the current situation. Plans to send out a poll to check interest in July. No intentions on cancelling conference at this point. Training will be for local coordinators and team to aid in help of reviewing cases. Invites have not been sent out but they are aware. The National Center for Fatality Review staff as agreed to come and present for two days. Will plan according to social distancing guidelines. Will continue to work on Continuing Education and planning for the conference.

Open Discussion:

Bobby Timmons with the Alabama Sheriff's Association suggested there might be an increase in child abuse with parents having to be at home with children more during this pandemic and time of quarantine. Encouraged District Attorney's to look at this with an open-minded manor.

Mrs. Gordon expressed concern of having to start the process over due to people not wanting to gather at this time. Might see an increase of Death Certificates

Stuart Hoyle plans to make sure to see if there are any changes in characteristics during this time

Dr. Michael Taylor states there was a double in infants that died due to head trauma in 2007.

Most likely to show increase during this time due to increase in neglect but goes unnoticed due to the children not being with teachers or with child care givers.

Dr. Marsha Raulerson wanted to know if there is any online training for the new people who are doing case reviews or if any other states offer online training. Will reach out to the National Center to see if they might offer or what other states might offer virtually or online. Unsure of any death investigation for police officers online.

Tentative Meeting Date

July 23, 2020 (phone conference), and October 22, 2020. Tentative times for all meetings will be 1:00 PM.

Executive Session (if necessary):

An executive session was not called during this meeting.

Adjourn: 1:35 P.M.

There being no further items on the agenda and no further discussion requested, without objection, the meeting was adjourned.