

**Agenda Item Number:**

**ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH  
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

**Meeting Date: April 23, 2014**

**Agenda Item Subject: Child Fatality Prevention Team/Community Child  
Protection Team**

**Attachment(s): Report attached**

**Staff or Board Member Reporting: Pam McCall**

**Purpose:**     \_\_\_ Action  
              \_\_\_ X Information only  
              \_\_\_ Information with possible action

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**Summary Information:**

**The report is a review of CFPT/CCPT in Orange County North Carolina. Included is a description of membership, duties, procedures and activities.**

**Recommended Action:**   \_\_\_ Approve  
                                  \_\_\_ Approve & forward to Board of Commissioners for action  
                                  \_\_\_ Approve & forward to \_\_\_\_\_  
                                  X Accept as information  
                                  \_\_\_ Revise & schedule for future action  
                                  \_\_\_ Other (detail):

**Orange County**  
**Child Fatality Prevention Team/Community Child Protection Team**  
**2013 Annual Report**

The 1991 General Statute 7-B-Article 14 of the North Carolina Juvenile Code established a Community Child Protection Team (CCPT) in every county in North Carolina. In 1993 the legislature added Child Fatality Prevention Teams (CFPT) in every county. The charge of these two teams is to reduce preventable deaths in our state. Since the mandates and purposes of these teams are so similar, the Orange County's CFPT and CCPT have functioned as one interagency review team since 1998.

The general statutes require that CFPT/CCPT membership include the Department of Social Services (DSS) Director, DSS Staff, DSS Board, the Health Department Director, Law Enforcement, Superintendent of each School System, Mental Health, Guardian ad Litem Program, Health Care Providers, Emergency Medical Services, Medical Examiner's Office, Parent of a deceased child, District Attorney's Office, Day Care/Head Start, \*Community Action organization, \*District Court Judge, and up to five at-large community members (\* no current representation on CFPT/CCPT).

The general statute grants the CFPT/CCPT access to all medical, hospital, mental health, social service, and law enforcement records as well as records maintained by any state, county or local agency as necessary to carry out its duties. The local health director assures that the local CFPT completes mandated services while the local social services director assures that the local CCPT mandates are met. The CFPT/CCPT operates under strict confidentiality requirements; therefore, meetings are not subject to the Open Meetings Law.

The CFPT meets at least quarterly to review deaths of children 0 through 17 years of age that occurred in the same quarter of the previous year for the following purposes:

1. To identify child death patterns,
2. To identify system problems or gaps in services to children and families, and
3. To make and carry out recommendations for change that will prevent future child deaths.

The CFPT reviewed 8 fatalities in 2013. The majority of the deaths were due to complications related to premature birth or complications of acute or chronic illness. One death was due to a motor vehicle accident.

The CCPT reviews selected cases in which children are being currently served by child protective services and to review all cases in the county in which a child died as a result of suspected abuse or neglect to identify gaps in services in the community child protection system.

1. To ensure that families have resources available to them to enhance their ability to provide safe environments for their children,
2. To inform the community regarding child protection issues that impact the ability of families to protect their children,
3. To facilitate collaboration of team and community resources in order to protect vulnerable children, and

4. To make recommendations for legislative changes.

The CCPT reviewed the cases of 10 families with 20 children who were actively involved with Child Protective Services (CPS). The team assisted in identifying resources for children. Recommendations were made regarding follow up.

The Orange County CFPT/CCPT functions as a cohesive group of professionals with good attendance and participation. Although unable to attend meetings, the District Attorney's office provides input on cases reviewed. The Orange County CFPT/CCPT is comprised of excellent collegial professionals and community volunteers in keeping with the requirements of the governing statute.

Orange County CFPT/CCPT provides a clearinghouse through e-mail for member agencies to share information on community events, pertinent news articles and data, and training opportunities on child health, safety, and protection issues.

Our local CFPT/CCPT received \$846 for FY 2012-2013 from the NC General Assembly. These funds were used to purchase medication drop boxes that were installed at the Chapel Hill Police Department and the Carrboro Police Department.