**Office of the Chief Medical Examiner**

**Richmond, Virginia**

Meeting of the State Child Fatality Review Team

**July 12, 2016**

**Minutes**

**Members Present:**

**Beitz, Lisa**, Hanover County Community Services Board

**Board, Heather**, Virginia Department of Health

**\*Coyle, Betty Wade**, Prevent Child Abuse Virginia

**Hunter, Katharine,** Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

**Katzman, Rita,** Virginia Department of Social Services

**Miller-Hobbs, Corri**, VCU Health Systems – Safe Kids Virginia

**Parr, Nancy**, Commonwealth’s Attorney, City of Chesapeake

**Rose, Rutherfoord**, Virginia Poison Center

**Saimre, Maribel**, Virginia Department of Education

**\*Sobey, Kimberly**, Bland County Department of Social Services

**Sonenklar, Neil**, Virginia Treatment Center for Children

**Members Absent:**

**Blumberg, Michael**, Medical Society of Virginia

**Foster, Robin,** Virginia College of Emergency Physicians

**Gormley, William, Chair,** Chief Medical Examiner

**Milteer, Regina,** Virginia Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics

**Phipps, Deron¸** Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice

**Pickett, Jessica,** Fairfax County Fire & Rescue

**Rainey, Janet**, Division of Vital Records

**Wilson, Mary,** Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

**Invited Guests:**

**Blondino, Courtney,** Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

**\*Kurtz, Judy**, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

**Staff:**

**Powell, Virginia** Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

Virginia Powell called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and went over the agenda for the day.

\*Person participated via conference call.

**Announcements and Business**

Minutes from the May 13, 2016 meeting were approved as written.

**Virginia Powell** announced that three Offices within the Virginia Department of Health have collaborated and applied for a grant from the Centers for Disease Control. The purpose of the grant is to collect information about opioid related injuries and deaths using emergency medical services transport data, emergency department visits, and medical examiner records. If funded, the grant will begin in the fall of 2016.

**Virginia Powell** announced that Virginia’s Handle with C.A.R.E (Coordinating Access-Responding Effectively) Initiative - focused on Virginia’s response to Maternal Substance Use and the Needs of Substance Exposed/Endangered Children) – is wrapping up their work. Handle with C.A.R.E. Workgroups have drafted several documents that support recommendations from the State Child Fatality Review Team’s review of infant deaths related to unsafe sleep. These include (1) a Plan of Action; (2) A plan of Safe Care Outline and Hospital Discharge Plan Template; (3) Guidelines for Opiate Treatment Programs Services for Pregnant Women; and (4) Guidelines for Community Services Boards for making referrals for maternal substance use and substance exposed infants. A legislative workgroup is still meeting but no formal documents have been drafted to date.

**Maribel Saimre** announced that the Virginia Department of Education is sponsoring a conference entitled “Mental Health in Schools” on August 9 and 10. The conference audience includes school personnel, particularly those working in mental health. The conference will provide information on Virginia’s prescription drug problem and drug trafficking, and emphasizing the need to coordinate services for students and their families.

**Lisa Beitz** suggested the video “Chasing the Dragon” on adolescent drug use and abuse. It is available on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lqdmWRExOkQ>. Katharine Hunter suggested the video “Behind the Orange Curtain” <http://www.hulu.com/watch/533568>.

**Kimberly Sobey** announced that on June 30, 2016, Governor McAuliffe and Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack hosted a Town Hall Meeting in Abingdon Virginia to discuss overdose and opioid drug problems in the region. Secretary Hazel was also in attendance Approximately 300 people attended, representing government officials from the region, the state, and the nation. The meeting generated good ideas for practice, and featured recommendations to President Obama to develop more regulatory control over medications to reduce the number of prescriptions and change expectations about pain management. .

**Child Protective Services Update**

**Rita Katzman** announced that Virginia will receive training and technical assistance to address child fatalities through a grant from the National Governor’s Association. The Grant initiative is an outgrowth of President Obama’s Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities. The purpose of the initiative is to convene representatives from all branches of state government – executive, judicial, and legislative – to share best practices, address public policy issues, understand risk and protective factors in death cases, evaluate assessment tools for keeping infants and children safe, and address any needed changes to the Code of Virginia.

There is a core group and a larger group of participants for the effort. The core group includes Carl Ayers from the Virginia Department of Social Services; Sandy Karison from the Supreme Court of Virginia’s Court Improvement Program; Cheryl Roberts from the Department of Medical Assistance Services; and Delegate Bobby Orrock. Members of the larger group have not yet been identified. Core group members will travel to Fort Lauderdale for training and technical assistance.

**Poisoning Review: Discussion and Recommendations**

The Team went into confidential session to further develop their recommendations.

The next Team meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 13, 2016.**

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

*Minutes recorded by Virginia Powell*