**Office of the Chief Medical Examiner**

**Richmond, Virginia**

Meeting of the State Child Fatality Review Team

**January 10, 2017**

**Minutes**

**Members Present:**

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

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

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

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

**Rose, Rutherfoord**, Virginia Poison Center

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

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

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

**Members Absent:**

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

**Bowers, Jennifer**, Assistant Chief Medical Examiner

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

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

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

**Milteer, Regina,** American Academy of Pediatricians

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

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

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

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

**Walter, Mary,** Virginia Department of Social Services

**Staff:**

**Ayres, Allison**, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

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

\*Person attended by conference call.

Virginia Powell called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. and went over the agenda for the day.

**Announcements and Business**

Minutes from the November 8, 2016 meeting were approved as written.

Allison Ayres has been in touch with Governor McAuliffe’s office for an update on his recommendations for new members to the Team. It appears as though appointments to the State Child Fatality Review Team are currently underway. We look forward to a fully staffed Team in the very near future and hope all will meet new Team colleagues at the March 2017 Team meeting.

**Katharine Hunter** announced the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, Division of Child and Family Services applied for a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to improve substance misuse treatment services and infrastructure for young adults aged 16 to 25. This grant would allow Community Services Boards to receive funding to increase evidence-based treatment programs as well as funding to bolster infrastructure throughout the state.

**Child Protective Services Update**

**Virginia Powell** announced that Christopher Spain has replaced Rita Katzman as the new Child Protective Services Program Manager for the Department of Social Services. His first State Child Fatality Review Team meeting will be in March. Dr. Powell also noted new legislation has been put forth to mandate an investigation for cases involving a substance-exposed infant regardless of whether or not the child’s mother sought substance abuse counseling or treatment prior to the child’s birth. This legislation reflects the Team’s review findings from its unsafe sleep deaths of infants and poisoning deaths of infants and children.

**Discussion of the Recommendations from Team’s Child Poisoning Review and Continued the Review of Child Drowning Deaths.**

The Team entered a confidential session to discuss the finalization of their recommendations and the drafting of the Team’s report following their review of child poisoning deaths. The Team then continued their current review of child drowning deaths in Virginia.

The next Team meeting is scheduled for **Friday, March 10, 2017.**

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

*Minutes recorded by Allison Ayres, MPH*