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**Carson City, Nevada 89701-5092**

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**ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM TO REVIEW THE DEATH OF CHILDREN  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

**DATE: Monday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2005**  
**TIME: 10:30 am to noon**  
(or until adjourned)

**PLEASE NOTE:** this meeting will be a teleconference with locations set in Carson City, Las Vegas and Elko, as noted below. Public attendees are welcome to participate from any of the designated locations.

**CONTACT:** Caroline Thomas at 775-684-4460

**LOCATIONS:** Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS)

Teleconference Dial-in Phone Number: 1-866-624-9391

Participants Pass Code #: 3145088, Key in the pass code and enter the # sign when prompted

**CARSON CITY**

**ELKO**

**LAS VEGAS**

**DCFS**

**DCFS**

**DCFS**

**711 East Fifth Street**

**3920 Idaho Street**

**4220 S. Maryland Parkway,**

**Sand Springs Conference Room**

**Conference Room**

**Building B, Suite 300**

**Carson City, NV 89701**

**Elko, NV 89810**

**Conference Room**

*Estimated Time*

**AGENDA**

- |            |  |           |   |
|------------|--|-----------|---|
| 10:30 am – |  | 1.        | Call to Order   |
| 10:35 am   |  | Roll call |   |
| 10:35 am – |  | 2.        | *Review the meeting minutes from July 25, 2005  |
| 10:40am    |  |           |   |
| 10:40 am – |  | 3.        | *Review the MDT recommendations presented during the July 25, 2005 Administrative Team Meeting – Clark County Multidisciplinary Team Co-Chairpersons                                |
| 10:50 am   |  |           |   |
| 10:50 am – |  | 4.        | *Review any information collected by Administrative Team Members from their respective agencies as it relates to the recommendations – Administrative Team Members with Information |
| 11:00 am   |  |           |   |
| 11:00 am – |  | 5.        | *Develop Administrative Team Response to the recommendations  |
| 11:10 am   |  |           |   |

- |                        |    |   |
|------------------------|----|---|
| 11:10 am –<br>11:20 am | 6. | Public comment (Discussion only: Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled on an agenda for action at a later meeting.)   |
| 11:20 am –<br>11:30 am | 7. | *Set topics for next meeting  |
| 11:30 am –<br>11:40 pm | 8. | *Adjournment  |
|                        |    | <b>Administrative Session – Closed portion pursuant to NRS 241.030 and NRS 432B.407 (4)</b>   |
| 11:40 am –<br>11:45 am |    | Call to Order   |
| 11:45 am –<br>11:55 am |    | *Clark County to report on additional confidential information requested by the Administrative Team related to the comments and recommendations submitted in their Multi-disciplinary Team Quarterly Report – Clark County Multidisciplinary Team Co-Chairpersons |
| 11:55 am –<br>12:00 pm |    | *Adjournment  |

\*Denotes set or possible action items

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to participate. If special arrangements are necessary, please call Caroline Thomas at 775-685-4460 no later than Friday, August 26, 2005.

Attachments for this meeting are available online in PDF format. Documents not available online are available by hard copy from the contact person for this meeting.

The following are locations where this public notice has been posted:

Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Western Nevada Agency  
311 E. Washington St.  
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Children's Cabinet  
1090 South Rock Blvd.  
Reno, Nevada

Clark County Department of Family Services  
Administration  
Claude I. Howard Children's Center  
701 K. North Pecos  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

Department of Human Resources  
Director's Office  
505 E. King St. 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Carson City, NV

Nevada State Library and Archives  
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Washoe County Department of  
Social Services  
9<sup>th</sup> Street and Wells Ave.  
Reno, Nevada 89520-0027

Nevada Division of Child & Family Services  
Sand Springs Station  
711 E. Fifth Street  
Carson City, Nevada 89701-5092  
Internet: [www/dcfs.state.nv.us](http://www/dcfs.state.nv.us)

Nevada Division of Child and Family Services  
3920 Idaho Street  
Elko, NV 89801-4611

Legislative Building  
Carson City, Nevada 89701

## Clark County MDT Recommendations – Select all that apply

| #        | <b>Training and Practice Recommendations</b>   |
|----------|--|
| <b>1</b> | Public education is needed that teaches parents about the dangers of co-sleeping with infants, especially sleeping in a small bed with an infant and one or two adults. Education should also contain information about appropriate bedding for infants. (April)                 |
| <b>2</b> | Public education is needed that teaches parents/caregivers about the necessity to respond to children who are found unresponsive. There was a case where a parent attempted to wake a child and, when unresponsive, was left alone. The child later died of an overdose. (April) |
| <b>2</b> | <b>Local Team:</b> Clarification is needed regarding what metabolic studies are routinely sent by the medical examiner. (April)  |
| <b>3</b> | <b>Hospitals:</b> Training is needed for hospital staff that are uncomfortable with a case being deemed a “non-coroner” case. Hospital staff need education about how the police should be notified. (May)   |
| <b>4</b> | Training is needed at Juvenile Detention Centers around suicide, suicidal risk factors (signs and symptoms), and methods of detaining suicidal youth. (June)   |
| <b>5</b> | Child Protective Services: It is recommended that when a local CPS hotline worker receives a referral from an out-of-state agency, the worker immediately requests the records from the out-of-state agency. (June)  |

| #        | <b>Law Recommendations</b>   |
|----------|--|
| <b>1</b> | There is currently no requirement for a license, registration or insurance for operators of mopeds and go-peds. Legislation should be considered to address the issue of owning and operating these machines. Legislation should also be considered that would allow traffic police to consider pursuing charges of “child endangerment” for parents who allow their children to take these types of vehicles onto public streets. (May) |
| <b>2</b> | The local team would like to recommend that the Administrative Team propose legislation requiring the Coroner’s Office accept and investigate all unexplained child deaths (age 18 and under).   |

| # | <b>Policy Recommendations</b> |
|---|-------------------------------|
|   |                               |

| # | Marketing and Education Recommendations  |
|---|--|
| 1 | A public marketing campaign should be launched to educate the public about the risks of mopeds and go-peds. Those dealerships that sell mopeds and go-peds should be required to educate buyers about the risks and safety hazards of these machines. (May)  |
| 2 | A public health campaign should be initiated, targeted at both medical health providers and pregnant women, regarding women who have gone off their psychotropic medications during pregnancy and want to remain off these medications in order to breast feed. Campaign should stress the importance of making pharmaceutical decisions in conjunction with a therapist after delivery to ensure the mother is able to remain off psychotropic medications during breastfeeding. Campaign should also stress the importance of frequent monitoring during and after pregnancy for women on psychotropic medications. (June) |
| 3 | A public health campaign should be initiated regarding the dangers of co-sleeping (adults sleeping in the same bed with an infant). There were three cases of co-sleeping as a risk factor in the month of June, with none involving the use of drugs or alcohol by the adult. (June)  |

| # | System Reform Recommendations  |
|---|--|
| 1 | <b>Courts/Judges:</b> Specific domestic violence training is needed for family court judges to explain the dynamics of domestic abuse and the cycle of violence. Training needs to be presented as a public safety issue. Victims of domestic violence who have children should be mandated to treatment (counseling), since statistics demonstrate that even if the perpetrator of the original violence is removed from the home, victims of domestic violence oftentimes will choose new abusive partners. The training should emphasize that counseling for victims of domestic violence is not punitive or constitute re-victimization, rather, it is a mechanism to protect the children in the custody of the victim. (April)   |
| 2 | <b>Coroner's Office:</b> Terri Covington from the National Center for Child Fatality Review visited Clark County and participated in the local review team review process. She expressed concern that a Forensic Pathologist is not present for the regularly scheduled review team meetings. She indicated that the lack of a pathologist limits the ability of the team to understand the cause and manner of death. Without good information, reviews of child fatality cannot be done adequately and prevention efforts suffer, according to Covington. She recommends that a Forensic Pathologist be present for all child fatality review meetings. (May)  |
| 3 | <b>Police:</b> The team recommends that a specific checklist be created for the police to use in cases of teen suicide. There is currently no investigative body for teen suicide cases, and there are no specially trained police to look into the cases. Information related to the suicide should be documented on a specially-designed checklist to help examine teen suicides. (May)  |
| 4 | <b>Mental Health:</b> The team recommended expanding child psych services in Clark County. It was noted that there is a lack of psychiatric services for children in the Las Vegas Valley. (May)   |
| 5 | <b>School District:</b> The team recommended having the administrative team address the issue of non-participation by the Clark County School District in the local fatality reviews. Marion Hancock spoke with District officials who told her that the District would not voluntarily bring information to the fatality reviews and they will not send school counselors to the meetings. They also indicated that they made this decision after consulting with lawyers for the school district. The local review team feels that school district attendance and participation is crucial in obtaining information about risk factors in many situations, i.e., teen suicide, and that prevention programs will be difficult to create without the District's input. (June) |

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| <b>6</b> | <b>Child Welfare:</b> The team recommends that children with chronic health needs/concerns are all provided with a health care plan, and that the health needs and services are ensured and followed up on by both hospitals and the agency providing child welfare services. Child Welfare caseworkers should be attending to the physical health needs of children by requesting regular health records and plans, and following up on the health care plans. (June) |
| <b>7</b> | <b>Child Welfare:</b> The team recommends that agencies providing child welfare and child protective services formally advocate for a national database which would include national information on substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect. Clark County experiences a considerable amount of out-of-state residents who are moving to the area with substantiated reports of child maltreatment from other states. (June)                                     |
| <b>8</b> | <b>Nevada Highway Patrol:</b> The recommends that NHP or appropriate traffic representation, be present at review team meetings, as appropriate, to provide information to the team. It is recommended that, at a minimum, a report is provided to the team. (June)  |

| #        | Accomplishments  |
|----------|--|
| <b>1</b> | Sergeant Meamber from NLVPD educated team about gang activity in Las Vegas. (April)  |
| <b>2</b> | The local team would like to see more education about what happens when prescription pads are stolen and used to obtain drugs illegally from pharmacies. John Fudenberg from the Coroner's Office has offered to help connect the team with someone from the DEA to provide the team with education on this subject. (May) |
| <b>3</b> | Cyndi Cauchak provided the team with clarification about motorcycle licensure laws, i.e., age, renewals, etc. (May)  |
| <b>4</b> | Jennifer Personius from the Nevada Institute for Children's Research volunteered to help create a checklist for patrol officers responding to teen suicides that would improve information-gathering techniques and provide a better data set for review and recommendations. (May)  |
| <b>5</b> | Marion Hancock is going to make contact with Clark County School District administrators regarding the absence of school district representatives at the fatality review meetings. She will remind the District of the NRS requirements to attend. (May)   |
| <b>6</b> | The team decided to form a subcommittee to examine the issue of co-sleeping, and to develop prevention strategies. (June)  |
| <b>7</b> | The team decided to form a subcommittee, comprised of multiple disciplines, to examine and ascertain which data fields can reasonably be obtained from the national data tool. (June)  |

**This report has been submitted by:**

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**Multidisciplinary Team Chair**

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**Signature**

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**Date**

**Instructions: Reports must be received quarterly, on the calendar year, no later than 10 working days after the end of the quarter. Please submit reports to:**

**Kay Picton**  
**Division of Child and Family Services**  
**Sand Springs Station**  
**711 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Carson City, NV 89701**  
**Email: [kpiction@dcfs.state.nv.us](mailto:kpiction@dcfs.state.nv.us)**  
**Fax: 775-684-4455**