



# Enhancing Collaboration Between **CDR AND OVERDOSE FATALITY REVIEW TEAMS**

Telling Stories to Save Lives



# KEY FUNDING PARTNER

## FEDERAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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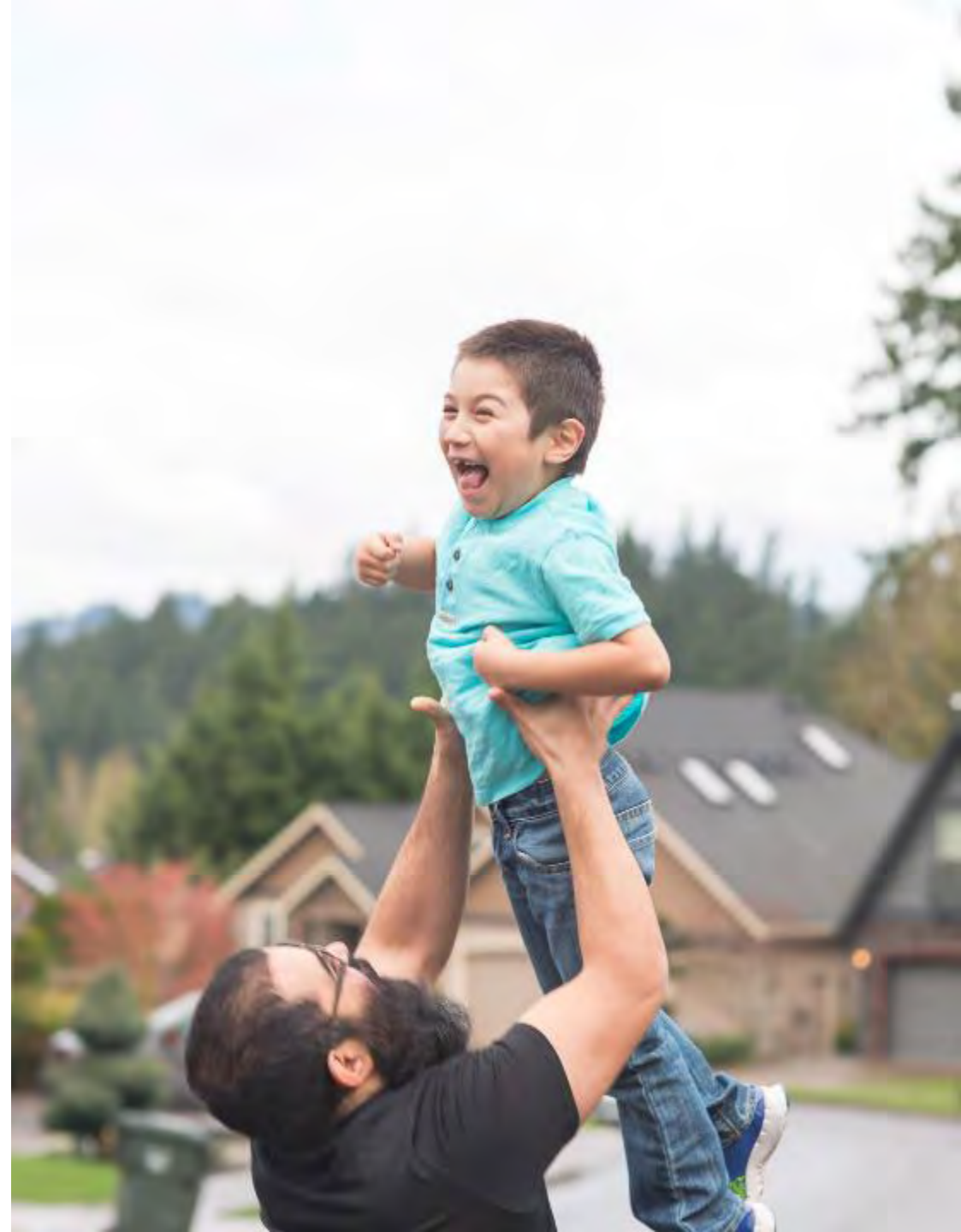
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# HOUSEKEEPING

Before we get started

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- This webinar is being recorded and will be available on the National Center's webpage (URL: [www.ncfrp.org](http://www.ncfrp.org)).
- Participants are muted. Use the question-and-answer box ask questions.
- Contact the National (email: [info@ncfrp.org](mailto:info@ncfrp.org)) for any tech problems.





# EVALUATION

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/32BRMMX>



# Diane Pilkey, RN, MPH

Welcome and Introductions

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## **Senior Nurse Consultant**

Division of Child, Adolescent and Family Health

Maternal and Child Health Bureau

Health Resources and Service Administration





## HRSA'S VISION FOR THE NATIONAL CENTER

### IMPROVING SYSTEMS OF CARE AND OUTCOMES FOR MOTHERS, INFANTS, CHILDREN, AND FAMILIES

Assist state and community programs in:

- Understanding how CDR and FIMR reviews can be used to address issues related to adverse maternal, infant, child, and adolescent outcomes
- Improving the quality and effectiveness of CDR/FIMR processes
- Increasing the availability and use of data to inform prevention efforts and for national dissemination





## Overview of Child Death Review (CDR)

Discuss the CDR process and how data are collected.



## Deaths That Occurred Due to Opioid Ingestion

Review data from CDR teams on deaths that occurred due to opioid ingestion.



## Reasons CDR and OFR Teams Might Seek Alignment

Learn similarities between CDR and OFR teams, unique process goals and features, and why these programs might seek enhanced collaboration.



## Opportunities for Collaboration

Understand opportunities for CDR and OFR teams to coordinate efforts and support progress across the life course.



## Success Stories

Learn how CDR and OFR programs collaborate in Utah and Wisconsin.



**PRESENTATION GOALS**

# Speakers

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## Experts Joining in the Discussion



Gretchen Martin, MSW  
Senior Project Coordinator  
National Center



Sasha Mintz, MPH  
Senior Epidemiologist  
National Center



Gabby Fraley, MPH  
Senior Data Analyst  
National Center



Kacy Robinson, MS  
Fatality Review Specialist  
Utah Department of Health



Megan Broekemeier, MPH  
Forensic Epidemiologist  
Utah Office of the Medical Examiner



Karen Nash, MBA  
Program Leader  
Children's Health Alliance of Wisconsin





### Technical Assistance and Training

On-site, virtual and/or recorded assistance, customized for each jurisdiction, is provided to CDR and FIMR teams.



### National Fatality Review-Case Reporting System

Support the NFR-CRS which is used in 48 states and provides jurisdictions with real-time access to their fatality review data.



### Resources

Training modules, webinars, written products, newsletters, list-serv, website and more.



### Communication with Fatality Review Teams

Regular communication via listserv, newsletters and regional coalitions.



### Connection with National Partners

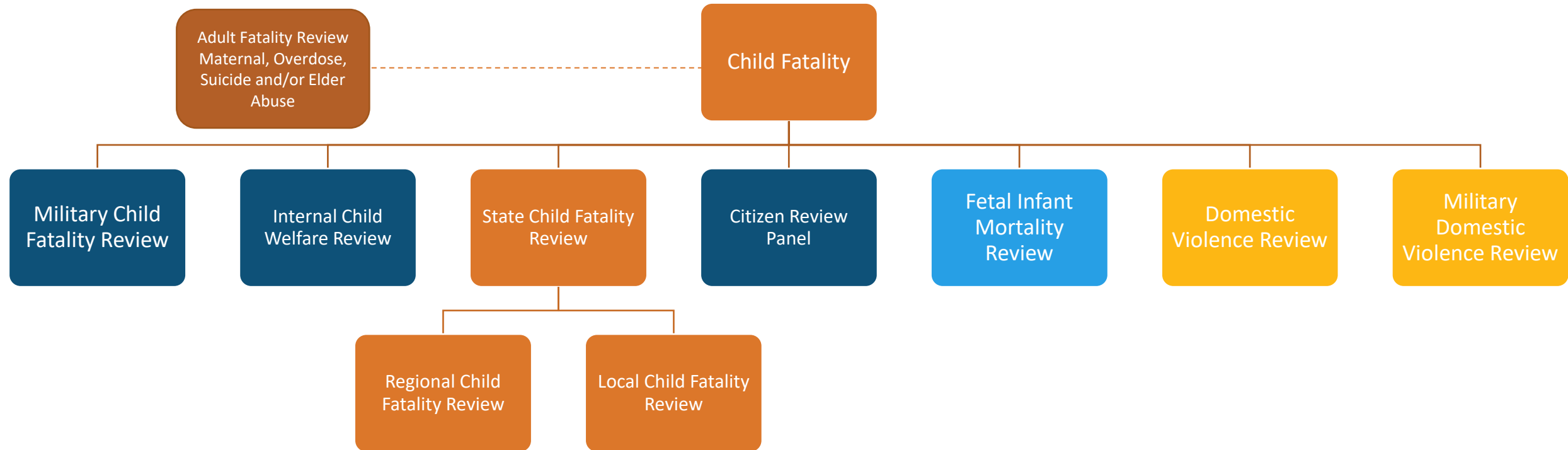
Develop or enhance connections with national organizations, including federal and non-federal partners.



## ABOUT THE NATIONAL CENTER

# The Web of Reviews

Intentional Connections to Improve Health and Safety



# WHAT IS CDR?

## Understanding Fatalities to Improve Safety

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- Multidisciplinary, community-oriented process that brings together professionals to understand how and why children die.
- Illuminates where systems are successful in working together as well as opportunities for improvement.
- Uncovers disparities in how families are offered resources, access services and navigate systems.
- Prevention-focused program that seeks to keep kids alive.





# Three Steps to Child Death Review

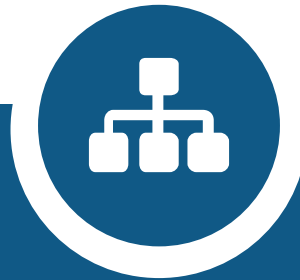
Steps to Success



## Tell the Story



Tell each story, identified, to understand the risk and protective factors



## Collect Data



Multidisciplinary data on the context in which the child lived should be documented



## Take Action



Fatality Review Teams should be a catalyst for prevention

# NFR-CRS Utilization

## There are currently 47 states using NFR-CRS

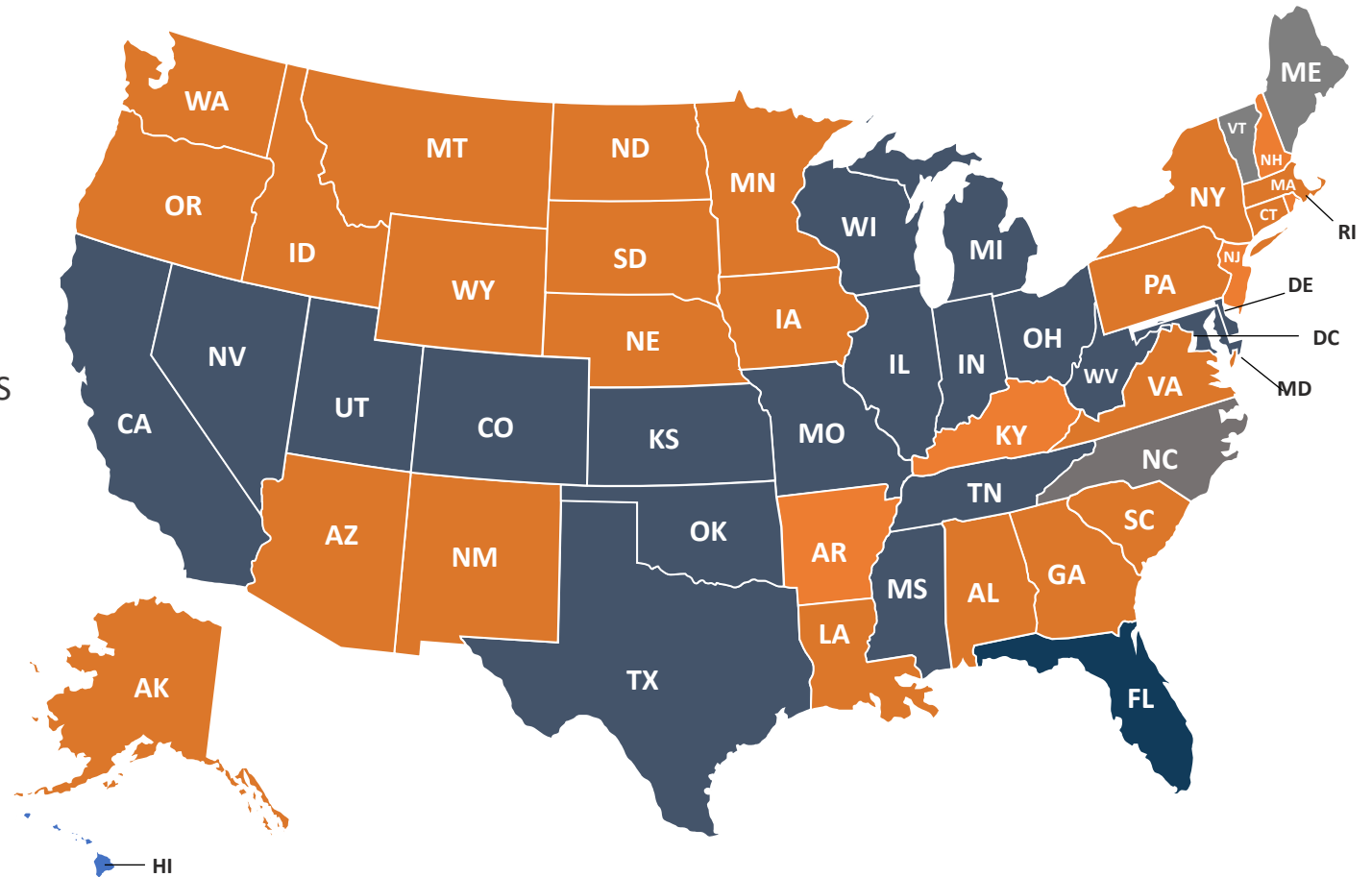
- 47 use NFR-CRS for CDR
- 19 use NFR-CRS for FIMR

**Each state uses NFR-CRS differently.** Some have comprehensive reviews whereas others may only use NFR-CRS in one jurisdiction. States do not have to participate in NFR-CRS to be eligible for this funding opportunity.

States Using NFR-CRS  
for CDR

States Using NFR-CRS for  
CDR and FIMR

States Not Using  
NFR-CRS



# Deaths that Occurred Due to Opioid Ingestion

NFR-CRS data from 1,339 deaths, that occurred to children ages 1-17 between 2004-2020



## AGE



15% 1-4 years old  
3% 5-9 years old  
11% 10-14 years old  
71% 15-17 years old



## RACE AND ETHNICITY



3% AI/AN, 2% Asian, 17%  
Black, 2% Multiracial, 76%  
white, and 18% Hispanic



## SEX



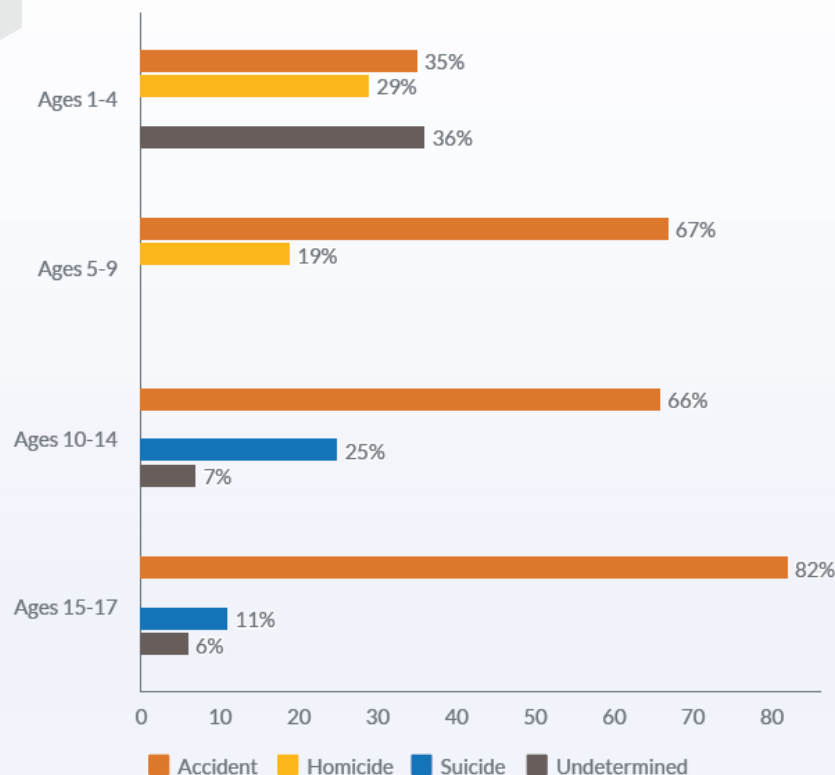
64% were male and 36% were  
female according to their  
death certificate



# Manner of Death and Child History

NFR-CRS data from 1,339 deaths, that occurred to children ages 1-17 between 2004-2020

## Manner of Death by Age Group



## Child History

- 45% had a history of child maltreatment as a victim
- 36% had a prior disability or chronic illness

### Among Youth 10-17 Years Old

- 88% had a history of substance use
- 69% had problems in school
- 65% had received prior mental health services
- 39% were receiving mental health services at time of death

# Incident and Investigation Information

NFR-CRS data from 1,339 deaths, that occurred to children ages 1-17 between 2004-2020



## Investigation

99% of deaths had had toxicology testing; 96% had a death investigation completed; 95% had an autopsy conducted.



## Type of Incident

84% were an accidental overdose/acute intoxication; 10% were a deliberate poisoning.



## Place of Incident

65% occurred at the child's home; 14% occurred at a friend's house.



## Geographic Area

43% of the deaths occurred in urban areas; 39% in suburban areas; 17% in rural areas.

# Type of Opioid Substance

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NFR-CRS data from 1,339 deaths, that occurred to children ages 1-17 between 2004-2020



## Type of Opioid Substance\*

- 90% prescription opioid pain medication (including fentanyl)
- 9% illicitly manufactured fentanyl/fentanyl analog
- 6% heroin

\* Substance categories total beyond 100%. More than one substance could have been identified at the time of investigation as contributing to the death.



# Polysubstance Deaths

NFR-CRS data from 686 deaths, that occurred to children ages 1-17 between 2004-2020

51% (n=686) of opioid-related deaths were attributed to two or more substances (i.e., polysubstance).

This includes deaths where more than one type of opioid contributed (e.g., fentanyl and heroin).



## Number of Substances

- 59% two substances
- 27% three substances
- 14% four or more substances



## Other Contributing Substances Include\*:

- 57% prescription medication (non-opioid)
- 36% illicit substance (non-opioid)
- 18% over-the-counter medication
- 17% other substance (e.g., alcohol)



## Polysubstance by Manner

- 65% of suicide deaths were polysubstance
- 53% of accidental deaths were polysubstance



## Polysubstance by Age Group

83% of polysubstance deaths were in youth 15-17 years old

\* Substance categories total beyond 100%. More than one substance could have been identified at the time of investigation as contributing to the death.

# Reasons for Collaboration

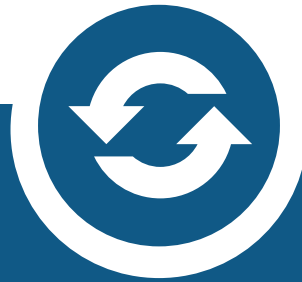
Why Fatality Review Programs May Seek Enhanced Collaboration or Alignment



## Maximizing Resources



Separate groups seen as parts of whole population and similar system or community-level recommendations



## Reduce Redundancy



Shared processes, shared partners, and may even share review of the same deaths



## Learn from Successes of Parallel Program



Learn how recommendations focus on systems-level risks that affect populations across the life course



# SHARED PROCESSES

## FATALITY REVIEW TEAMS:

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- Identify deaths
- Request records to inform death review
- Convene multidisciplinary teams
- Review individual deaths
- Identify risk and protective factors
- Identify systems gaps
- Compile aggregate data
- Make prevention recommendations
- Improve communication and linkages among local and state agencies to enhance coordination and collaboration
- Share data with community collaborators to move data forward and catalyze action



# Overdose Fatality Review

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Identifying System Gaps and Innovative Community-specific Overdose Prevention and Intervention Strategies



## Tell the Story



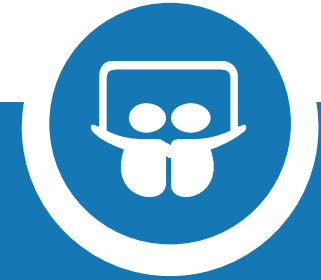
Tell each story, de-identified, to understand the missed opportunities for prevention and intervention



## Collect Data



Multidisciplinary review examines decedent's life cycle in terms of drug use, systems encounters, local conditions, etc.



## Take Action



Present recommendations to a governing committee to provide resources for implementation and framework for accountability



### Case Review Criteria

CDR recommends the review of deaths of children from birth to 17-years-old and prioritize sudden, unexpected deaths and child maltreatment. OFR teams primarily focus on the review of adult deaths and recommend a themed review process.



### Key Team Members and Partners

Both fatality review programs share many MDT members (child welfare, law enforcement, coroners/ME's, public health, etc.). OFR teams encourage including persons with lived experience in the review process.



### Unique Process Goals

Prevention, improved death scene investigation, and systems improvements are the goal for both programs. CDR teams strive to ensure the accurate identification and uniform reporting of the cause and manner of death for every incident reviewed.



### Unique Process Features

CDR teams share identifiable information and records with the review team. OFR records are de-identified for the review process.

A photograph of two young children running through a field of tall grass at sunset. The child in the foreground is wearing a yellow raincoat and blue boots, while the child behind is wearing a colorful floral jacket and pink pants. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow. A dark blue banner is overlaid on the bottom right of the image.

## UNIQUE PROCESSES

# Opportunities for Collaboration

Coordinated Efforts to Support Progress  
Across the Life Course

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- Improve Communication Throughout the Review Preparation Process.
- Shared Partners.
- Formalize Coordination of Different Programs.
- Share Data Collected to Support Planning Objectives.
- Amplify Shared Messages.







# SUCCESS STORIES

Utah and Wisconsin



# QUESTIONS

WHAT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WOULD BE HELPFUL?



## USE THE QUESTION-AND-ANSWER BOX

The box is located at the bottom of the screen.



## UNANSWERED QUESTIONS

All unanswered questions will be answered and posted on the National Center's website (URL: [www.ncfrp.org](http://www.ncfrp.org)).

# Utah overdose fatality review: CDR/OFR Collaboration

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Department of Health and  
Human Services  
Office of Health Promotion  
Violence and Injury Prevention

# Purpose of the Utah fatality reviews

The primary purpose of all fatality reviews is develop effective strategies to improve agency and community response to prevent and respond to fatalities as well as to cultivate discussion and action to establish a unified multi-agency approach to addressing public health issues.



# Utah code and subpoenas

- The police records, requested through the **Government Records Access Management Act (GRAMA) 63-G-2-206 UCA Sec 26-1-30**, will be used for legitimate surveillance and for the prevention of violent deaths.
- **Utah Admin Code Rule R386-703 (injury reporting rule)**  
Reportable injuries:
  - (j) Intentional Injuries
  - (k) Injuries Related to Substance Abuse



# Utah legislation

## House Bill 295, Fatality Review Amendments:

<https://le.utah.gov/~2020/bills/static/HB0295.html>

- Passed in 2020.
- Creates the Opioid Overdose Fatality Review Committee (OFRC).
- Outlines the use and inspection of vital records.
- Mandates the use and confidential distribution of the medical examiner's final report.
- Acknowledges the purpose and rules of closed meetings to discuss the medical examiner's final report and committee's recommendations.



# Fatality reviews in Utah overview

Statewide fatality reviews:

- Fatality review specialist at the Utah Department of Health and Human Services.
  - Conducts and facilitates 5 different fatality reviews.
  - Serves as a consultant for additional fatality reviews.
  - Assists as a training and technical assistance (TTA) provider for other national overdose fatality reviews.

# Fatality reviews in Utah

## Statewide fatality reviews:

- Advanced Clinical Child Fatality Review (SUID/SDY)
- Child Fatality Review
- Child Suicide Fatality Review
- Domestic Violence Fatality Review
- Overdose Fatality Review



# Overview of the CFRC

- Representatives from multiple agencies, jurisdictions, and fields.
- A small portion of the committee are data providers. These members are the only ones who receive the case list.
- Case information is de-identified prior to presenting to the committee and any observers for confidentiality.
- All attendees are required to sign a confidentiality agreement prior to attending a committee meeting.
- Meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month.



# Overview of OFRC



- Representatives from multiple agencies, jurisdictions, and fields.
- A small portion of the committee are data providers. These members are the only members who receive the case lists.
- Case information is de-identified prior to presenting to the committee and any observers for confidentiality.
- All attendees are required to sign a confidentiality agreement prior to attending a committee meeting.
- Cases are reviewed in “themes” due to the large amount of cases.

# Coordination between reviews

- Statewide reviews
- Centralized agencies
- Members of committees sit on multiple fatality reviews
- Data sharing between agencies
- Specialist has access to cross-review information
- Cases can be reviewed by multiple fatality review committees
- Reports are disseminated through one agency

### Chief Medical Examiner

- Education about determining cause and manner of death
- Expertise and technical support for interpreting autopsy and toxicology results
- Access to other data sources

### Opioid Fatality Examiner

- Conducts and prepares NOK interviews
- Shares information from other data sources, as appropriate
- Assists with case selection
- Subject matter expert

# CDR members: Utah Office of the Medical Examiner

## Assistant Medical Examiner

- Education about determining cause and manner of death
- Expertise and technical support for interpreting autopsy and toxicology results
- Access to other data sources

## Suicide Fatality Examiner

- Conducts and prepares NOK interviews
- Shares information from other data sources, as appropriate
- Subject matter expert



# Next of kin interviews



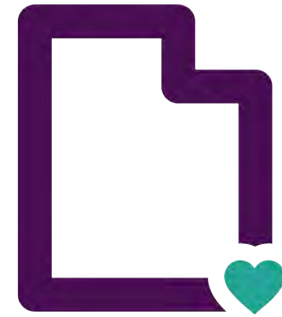
# Medical records



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Utah Department of  
**Health & Human**  
Services



# Voice for children's health







# Injury prevention and death review

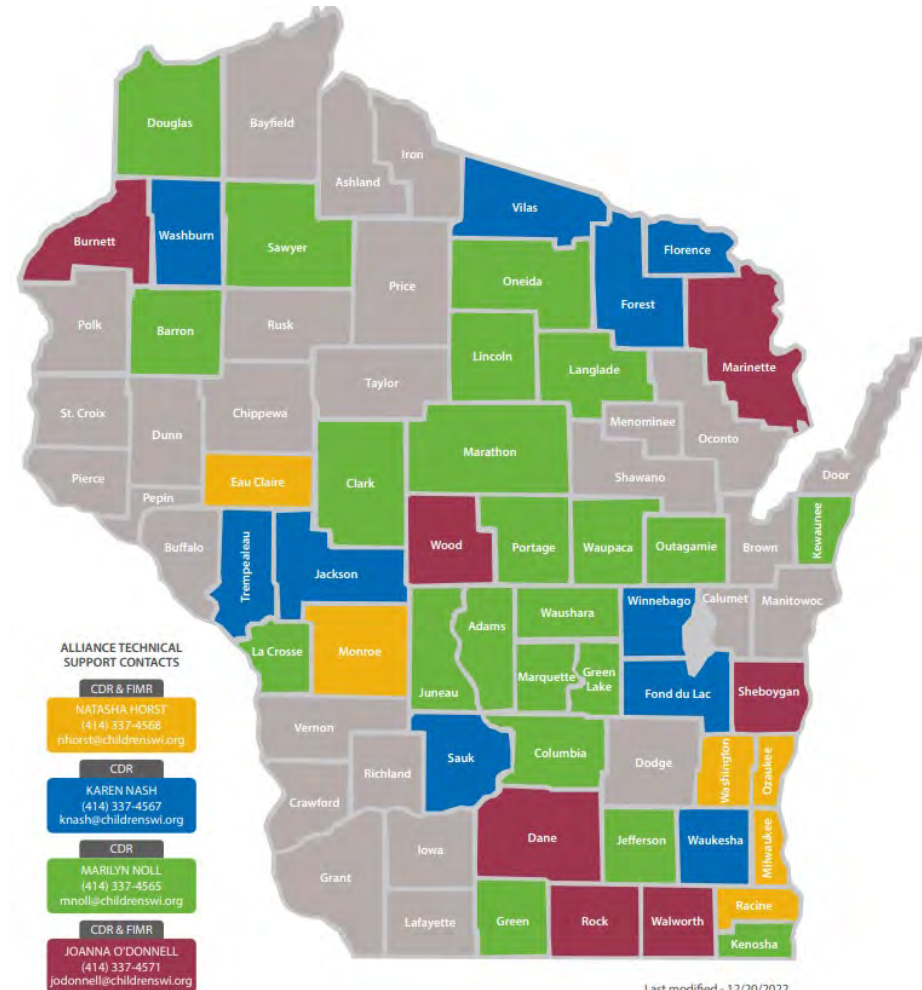


Keeping  
Kids Alive  
IN WISCONSIN

★ Children's Health  
Alliance of Wisconsin

# History of CDR in Wisconsin

- Funds were awarded to expand CDR statewide
- CDR teams increased from 10 to more than 50
- Impacts of COVID



# Goals

- Assemble multidisciplinary teams to meet, share, and discuss unexpected child fatalities
- Improve understanding of how and why children die by collecting information to create a complete picture of the incident
- Translate information to data that will lead to actionable prevention
- Influence policies and programs that promote child safety
- Increase collaboration with local and state partners

*Ultimate goal is to take action to improve child safety, prevent other deaths and make communities safer*



# Activities

- Facilitate the development of local child death review and fetal infant mortality review teams
- Assist teams with managing the review process, data collection, and analysis processes to identify trends
- Utilize prevention-focused data analysis to inform prevention recommendations
- Collaborate with and be a resource for injury prevention professionals







# Overdose Fatality Review (OFR)

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COLLABORATION OF WISCONSIN DEPT OF  
HEALTH SERVICES, WISCONSIN DEPT OF  
JUSTICE, AND MEDICAL COLLEGE OF  
WISCONSIN

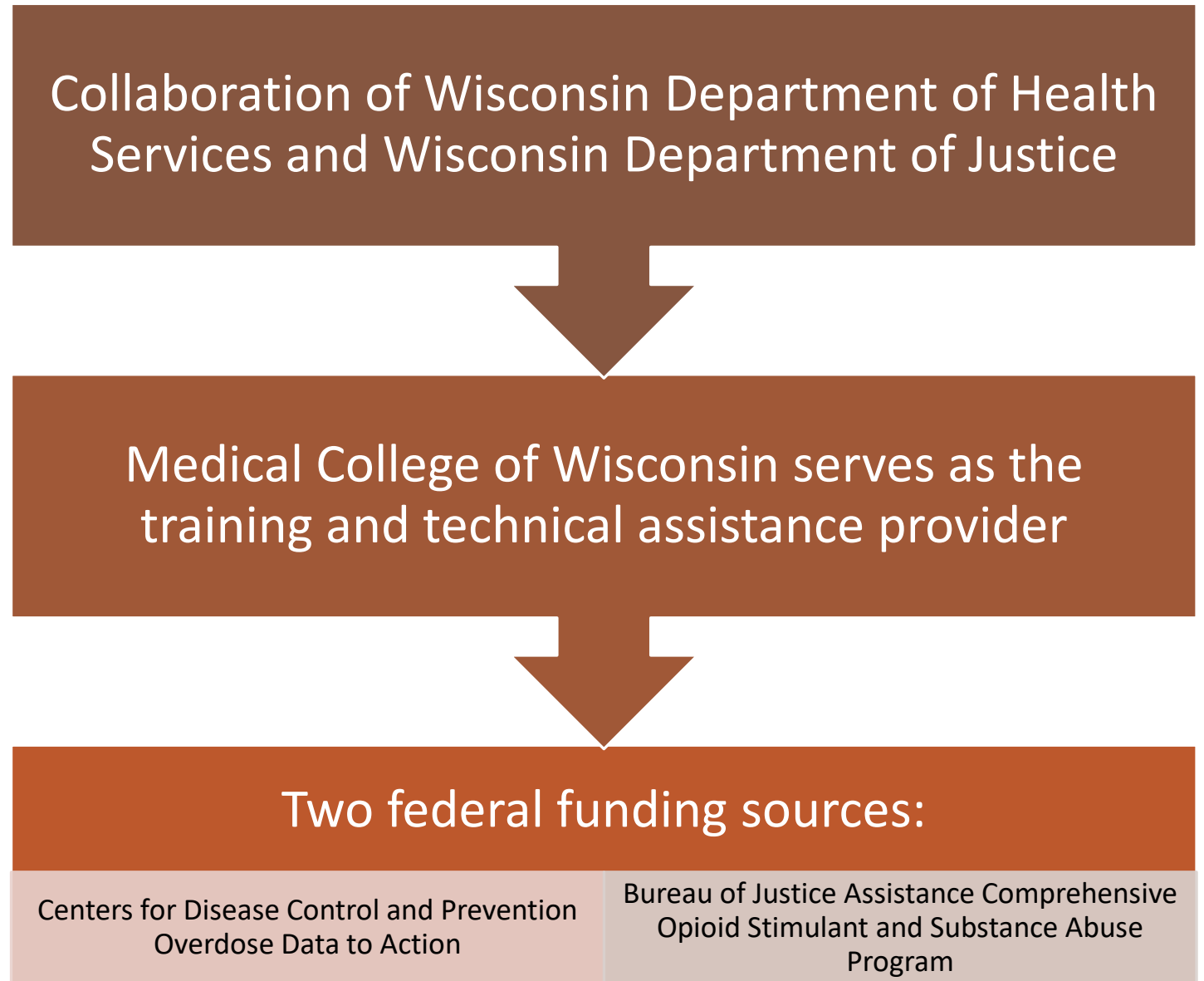
# What is an overdose fatality review?

A locally based, multi-disciplinary process for understanding risk factors and circumstances leading to fatal overdoses and identifying opportunities to prevent future overdoses.

Typical team membership includes:

- Public health
- Law enforcement (municipal police and/or sheriff)
- Coroner or medical examiner
- Emergency medical services
- Corrections
- District attorney's office
- Behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment providers
- Individuals with lived experience
- Healthcare

# Overdose Fatality Review in Wisconsin



# History of OFR

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Program began in 2016.

Current structure:

- 22 county-level teams representing 24 counties
- 4 local health department led teams in Milwaukee County that coordinate with the county team

Development of an OFR State Advisory Group in Spring 2021 that receives state-level recommendations from local teams.



# Goals of OFR

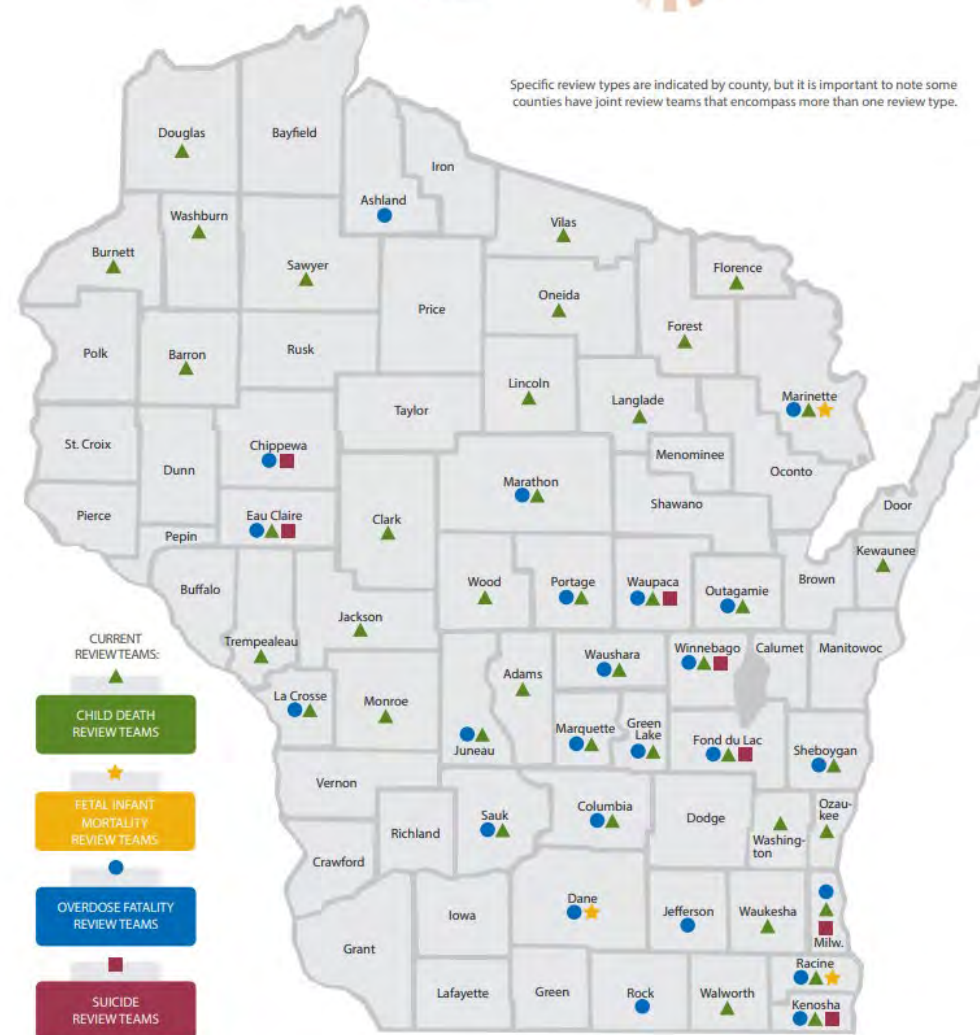
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To better understand the nature of overdose fatalities through **comprehensive information sharing**

To develop innovative, **proactive** responses

To **strategically** focus limited enforcement and intervention activities on identifiable risks

Last modified - 11/14/2022



# Coordination Between CDR & OFR

- Quarterly state coordinator meetings
- Share and offer feedback on program materials
- Speaking opportunities at meetings, conferences, etc.
- Promoted the joint model for counties, especially where there is overlap
- Shared data collection tools





# THANK YOU

[Knash@childrenswi.org](mailto:Knash@childrenswi.org) | [chawisconsin.org](http://chawisconsin.org)





# EVALUATION

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