



Cris Harrelson, Director

# Brunswick County Health Services

25 Courthouse Dr. NE; PO Box 9  
Bolivia, NC 28422  
(910) 253-2250 1-888-428-4429



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Brunswick County Commissioners/Board of Health

**FROM:** Cris Harrelson, Health Director  
Cherie Browning, CFPT Chairperson  
Brunswick County Child Fatality Prevention Team (CFPT)

**SUBJECT:** Local CFPT Annual Report

**DATE:** May 25, 2022

The North Carolina Statute, Article 14, 7B-1406 and the CFPT Agreement Addenda with local health departments requires Local Child Fatality Prevention Teams to advocate for system improvements and needed resources where gaps and deficiencies may exist and submit a report annually to their local county commissioners and boards of health.

The purpose of the local CFPTs are to:

- identify deficiencies in the delivery of services to children and families by public agencies,
- make and carry out recommendations for changes that will prevent future child deaths, and
- promote understanding of the causes of child deaths.

Attached is the Brunswick County CFPT annual report for your review for calendar year 2021.

Attachment

## **I. Introduction**

In 1993, the North Carolina General Assembly established a network of local Child Fatality Prevention Teams (CFPTs) across the state to confidentially review medical examiner reports, death certificates and other records of deceased residents under age 18. Each local team consists of representatives of public and nonpublic agencies in the community such as law enforcement, Guardian Ad Litem, health departments, among others, that provide services to children and their families.

The purpose of this report is to give a summary of the causes of death, the number of cases reviewed, recommendations for prevention, if any, that have been made and to share local team activities and accomplishments.

## **II. Role of the Brunswick County Commissioners and Board of Health**

- Receive annual reports which contain recommendations and advocate for system improvements and needed resources, if requested.
- Appoint members of the local team as identified by the membership.

## **III. Child Deaths by Cause, System Problems Identified, Recommendations for Prevention & Proposed Action**

In 2021, the Brunswick County CFPT reviewed five child deaths and identified no system problems or recommendations for future prevention efforts. Below are highlights:

Cause of Death	System Problem Identified	Recommendation	Proposed Action
perinatal - 22 weeks	None		
staph infection	None		
co-sleeping	None		
hanging	None		
hanging	None		

#### IV. Brunswick County CFPT Activities and Accomplishments

- The annual CFPT Activity Summary was completed and sent by the date requested.
- Safe Sleep information was posted on the Health & Human Services Facebook page in October.
- Individual reports were completed on child deaths reviewed by the team and were forwarded to the State Coordinator.
- Members completed Trillium's Annual Gaps and Needs Survey.
- Two team members who are members of the Resiliency Task Force, led a discussion on ACEs relating to teen suicide and the tools and resources available to those who work with children.
- Health Educators from the health department attended a CFPT meeting to lead a discussion on how they can help to educate the community on suicide prevention resources available.

#### V. Conclusion

Thank you to the members of the Brunswick County Commissioners/Board of Health for the opportunity to share with you the successes and dedicated work of the local team as we continue to review child fatalities, make recommendations, and take actions to prevent future child deaths. Please feel free to contact the Health Director or Chairperson at 910-253-2298/910-253-2319 respectively, should you have any questions about this report.



---

Health Director



---

Chairperson



---

Date