



**CFRT-CFPS
Presentation:**

**Child Welfare Interim
Study Committee**

July 18, 2023



COLORADO
Department of Human Services

Reviews deaths with the goal of improving systems such as the child welfare system



COLORADO
Department of Public Health & Environment

Reviews deaths to understand the circumstance contributing to deaths and make improvement to prevent future deaths, regardless of whether a child and their family were involved with any systems

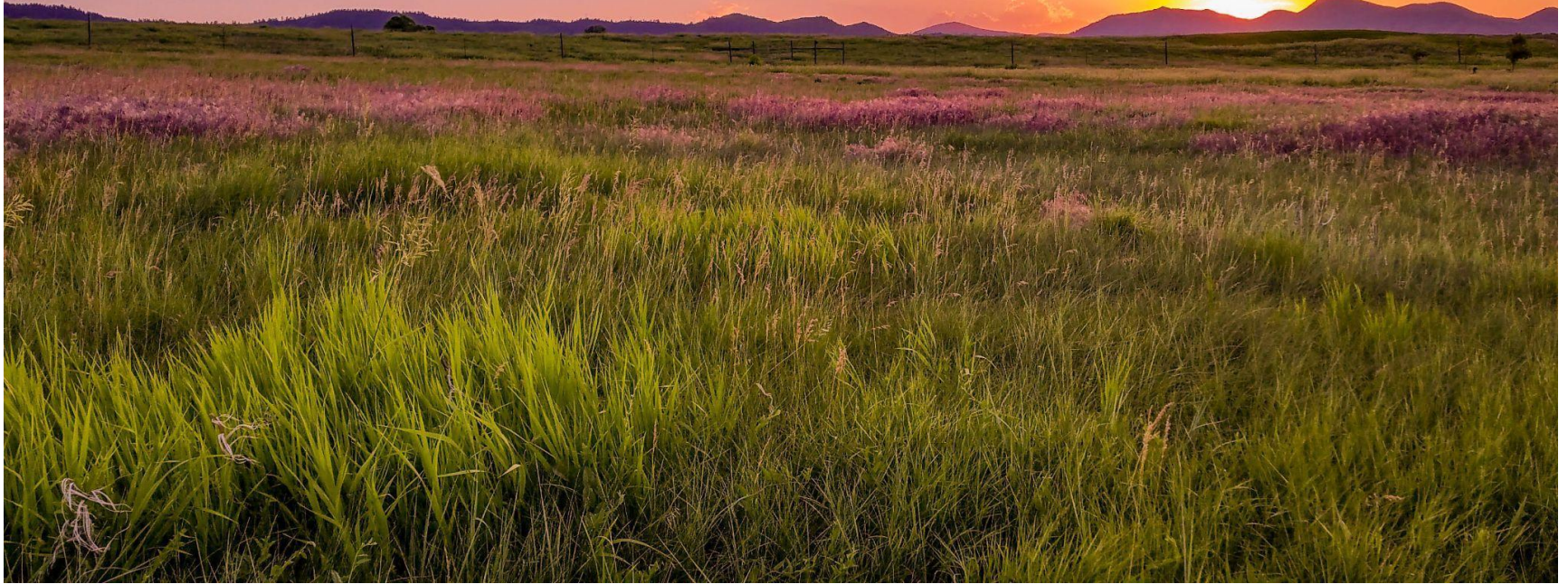
THE CHILD FATALITY PREVENTION SYSTEM (PUBLIC HEALTH PROCESS)

- Housed at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)
- Reviews every child death in the state, regardless of cause
- Notified of deaths through the vital records office
- Reviews take place after all other investigations are complete (about one-year lag time)
- 43 multidisciplinary county or regional teams review cases and develop and implement strategies to prevent future deaths
- 46-member State Review Team describes trends and patterns and recommends strategies to prevent future deaths

CHILD FATALITY REVIEW TEAM (HUMAN SERVICES PROCESS)

- Housed at the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS)
- Focuses specifically on deaths resulting from child maltreatment when there is previous involvement with the child welfare system
- Notified of deaths directly by county departments of human services within 24 hours
- Reviews take place within 45 business days of receiving all documentation
- 20-member multidisciplinary team conducts case reviews, identifies strengths and weaknesses regarding the delivery of services, and develops recommendations

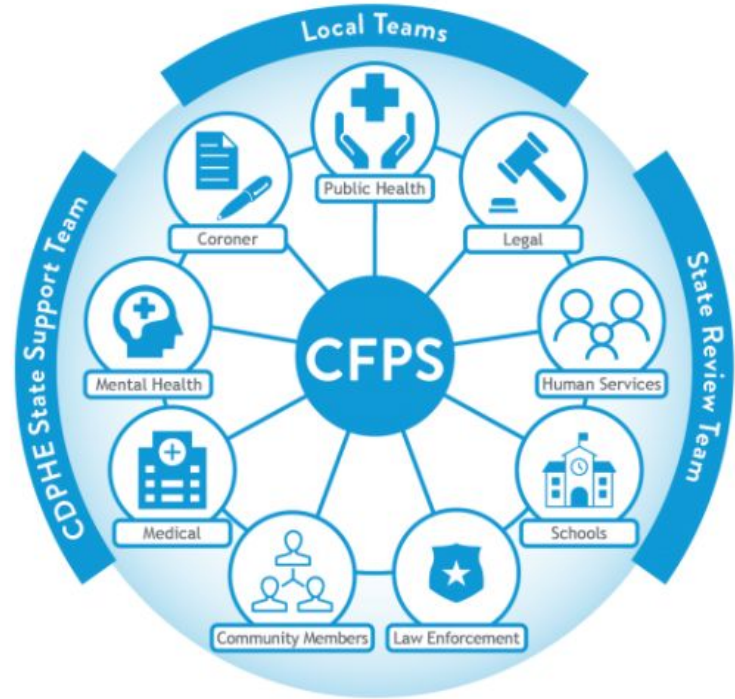
Colorado Child Fatality Prevention System



Child Fatality Prevention System

Types of child deaths reviewed:

- ❑ Motor vehicle/other transport
- ❑ Sudden unexpected infant deaths
- ❑ Child maltreatment
- ❑ Suicide
- ❑ Homicide
- ❑ Overdose and poisoning deaths
- ❑ Unintentional injury (fires, drowning, falls)
- ❑ Undetermined causes



CHILD FATALITY PREVENTION SYSTEM: 2023 ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Child Fatality Prevention Act; §§ 25-20.5-401 – 25-20.5-409 C.R.S.

July 1, 2023



2023 Annual Legislative Report

You can access this report, the CFPS
Data Dashboard, and past legislative
reports on the CFPS Collaboration
Website:

www.cochildfatalityprevention.com



“ Statistics are human
beings with
the tears wiped away. ”

— Paul Brodeur

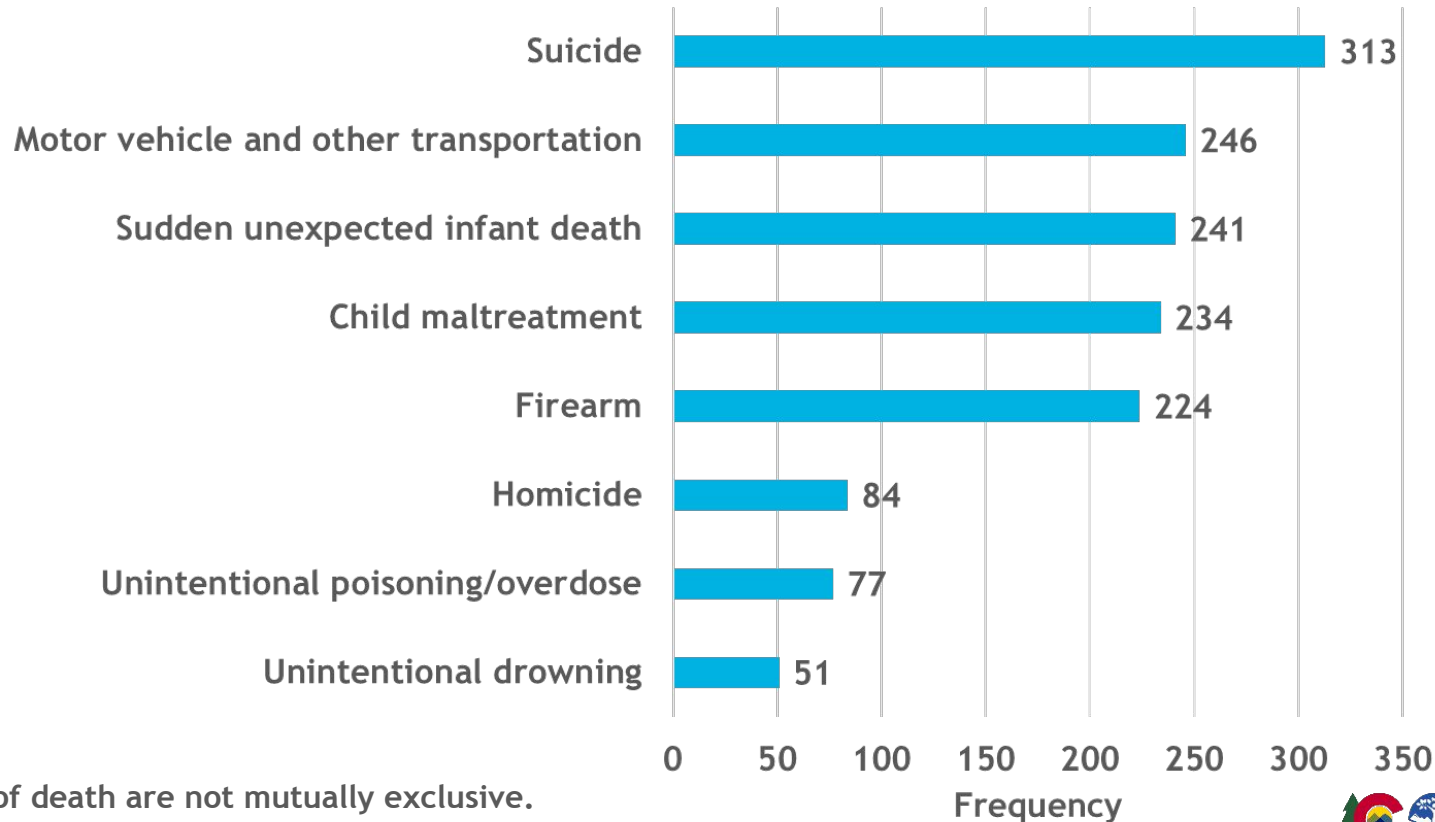
The impact of policies and systems on child deaths.

Generations of social, economic, and environmental inequities contribute to families losing infants, children, and youth.

These factors perpetuate disparities in child deaths by geography, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

CFPS strives to provide additional context and research about how inequities impact child deaths. **By changing policies and systems that create and perpetuate inequities, CFPS can reduce the number of child deaths that occur in Colorado.**

Leading causes of death for deaths occurring among those under age 18 in Colorado and reviewed by CFPS, 2017-2021 (n=1220)



Causes of death are not mutually exclusive.
Totals sum beyond n=1220.



CDHS Child Fatality Review Team



COLORADO
Department of Human Services

Child Fatality Review Team Overview

- Population
- Key Objectives of the Review Process
- Framework Guiding Review Process
- CFRT Annual Report



Completed Recommendations

CDPH CFPS & CDHS CFRT Joint Recommendations



COLORADO
Department of Human Services

2015

Modify Colorado Department of Human Services' rules regulating family foster care homes to better align with the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) infant safe sleep recommendations, including training for foster families regarding infant safe sleep.

2018

Raise awareness and provide education to child welfare providers and community agencies on safe firearm storage to prevent child deaths involving firearms.

Ongoing Recommendations

CDPH CFPS & CDHS CFRT Joint Recommendations



2016 & 2017

Strengthen practices related to sharing child maltreatment data across local agencies in Colorado.

2019 & 2020

Support policies that ensure access to quality, affordable child care for families.

2021

Support policies that expand access to community-based home visiting programs for all families with infants and young children.

Ongoing Recommendations

CDPH CFPS & CDHS CFRT Joint Recommendations



2022

Support policies that increase funding to support non-police community-based crisis response.

2023

Provide information to parents and communities in their preferred language about the risks associated with substance misuse, overdose, and evidence-informed strategies to reduce these risks, including how to:

1. Access and use naloxone and fentanyl test strips;
2. Respond to a suspected drug overdose, including information on Colorado's Good Samaritan Law;
3. Safely store and dispose of both prescription and illegal drugs;
4. Avoid accidental ingestion of drugs by young children; and
5. Have conversations with children about overdose and poisoning prevention in age-appropriate ways.

The image features a white rectangular frame on a light gray background. Inside the frame, there are several horizontal, overlapping brushstrokes in various shades of green, ranging from a vibrant lime green to a darker forest green. The word "Questions?" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font, centered within the frame and overlapping the green brushstrokes.

Questions?