2023 Annual Report from Buncombe County CCPT/CFPT

Presented by

Jennifer Mullendore, MD, MSPH
Chair, Buncombe County Community Child Protection Team/
Child Fatality Prevention Team
June 4, 2024
Purpose of NC Child Fatality Prevention System

- Develop a community-wide approach to child abuse & neglect
- Understand causes of childhood deaths
- Identify gaps/deficiencies in service delivery
- Make & implement recommendations for laws/rules/policies to prevent future child abuse, neglect & death
Community Child Protection Team

- Review selected active cases of children being served by Child Protective Services (CPS)

- Review cases in which a child died as a result of suspected abuse/neglect, **AND:**
  - a report of abuse/neglect was made about the child or family within the prior 12 months, **OR**
  - the child or family was a recipient of CPS within the prior 12 months.
Child Fatality Prevention Team

Review records of all cases of additional child fatalities.
Role of Board of County Commissioners

- Receive annual report from the local CCPT/CFPT
- Advocate for system improvements and needed resources, if requested
- Appoint members to the local CCPT/CFPT as designated by state statute
Number of Child Fatalities by Cause of Death, Buncombe County, 2022

- Accident: 6
- Birth Defect: 1
- Illness: 7
- Perinatal Condition: 6
- Sudden Unexplained Infant Death (SUID): 2
- Suicide: 4
- Homicide: 2

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics; Buncombe County CFPT
Number of Buncombe County Youth* Suicides by Year

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics

Youth* < 18 years of age
Number of Child Fatalities by Age, Buncombe County, 2022

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics; Buncombe County CFPT
Number of Infant Fatalities by Cause of Death, Buncombe County, 2022

- Birth Defects: 1
- Homicide: 2
- Illness: 1
- Perinatal Conditions: 6
- Sudden Unexplained Infant Death (SUID) -- Undetermined: 2

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics; Buncombe County CFPT
Number of Buncombe County Infant Fatalities Associated with Unsafe Sleep by Year

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics; Buncombe County CFPT

BUNCOMBE COUNTY
Number of Child Fatalities by Race/Ethnicity, Buncombe County, 2022

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics; Buncombe County CFPT

- **Black/Non-Hispanic**: 31%
- **White/Non-Hispanic**: 62%
- **Other/Hispanic**: 3.4%
- **White/Hispanic**: 3.4%

- **Age < 1 year**: Light blue
- **Ages 1 to 18 years**: Dark blue
Infant Mortality Disparity Ratio, 2018 - 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Non-Hispanic White Infant Mortality Rate</th>
<th>Non-Hispanic Black Infant Mortality Rate</th>
<th>Disparity Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>12.6</td>
<td>2.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buncombe County</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>2.36</td>
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In Buncombe County, Black infants are **2.36 times more likely** to die before their 1st birthday than white infants.

Addressing Deaths from Unsafe Sleep

Most sleep related deaths happen when a baby sleeps on the same surface as someone else.

https://safesleepnc.org/
Addressing Unsecured Firearms

NC S.A.F.E.
Secure All Firearms Effectively

It only takes a moment for a tragedy to happen. Fortunately, it only takes a moment to help prevent one as well. Protect kids and communities by safely securing your firearms.

SAFE STORAGE 101

https://www.ncsafe.org/

Gun Safety Event

Friday, June 7th
Pack Square Park

12:45pm
• Group photo – wear orange

2pm – 6pm
• Free youth-friendly activities, music, speakers, gun locks
• Food trucks
Addressing Youth Suicide

Youth Suicide: Starting a community conversation

Presented by
Buncombe County Child Fatality Prevention and Community Child Protection Team
Dr. Jennifer Mullendore, Chair
Rebecca Smith, Social Work Director
May 17, 2023
Questions?