



2024 Annual Report from Buncombe County Community Child Protection Team/Child Fatality Prevention Team

Presented by

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Team Chair

May 6, 2025



BUNCOMBE COUNTY



Purpose of NC Child Fatality Prevention System

- Develop a community-wide approach to child abuse & neglect
- Understand causes & contributing factors of childhood deaths
- Identify gaps or deficiencies in service delivery
- Identify & assist in helping implement evidence-driven strategies to prevent child death & promote child well-being
- Make & implement recommendations for changes to laws, rules, & policies to support children & prevent future child abuse, neglect & death

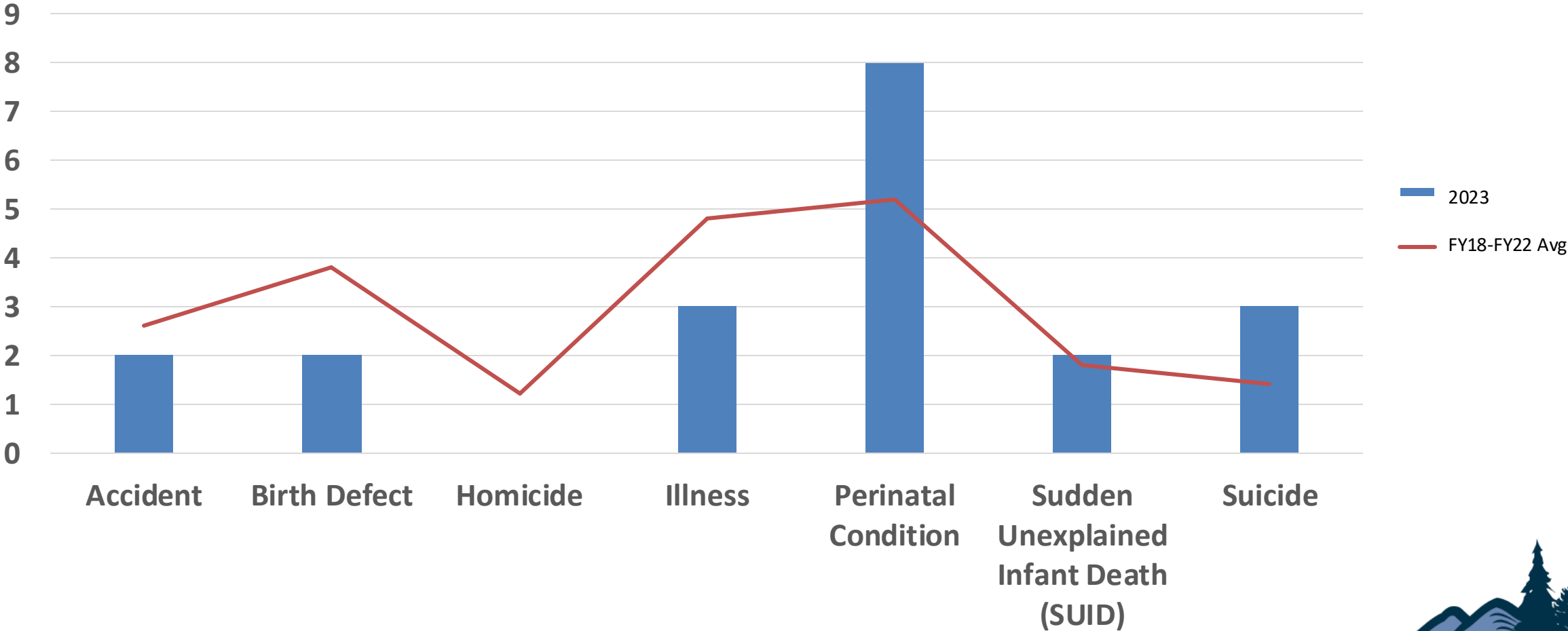


Role of Board County Commissioners

- 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



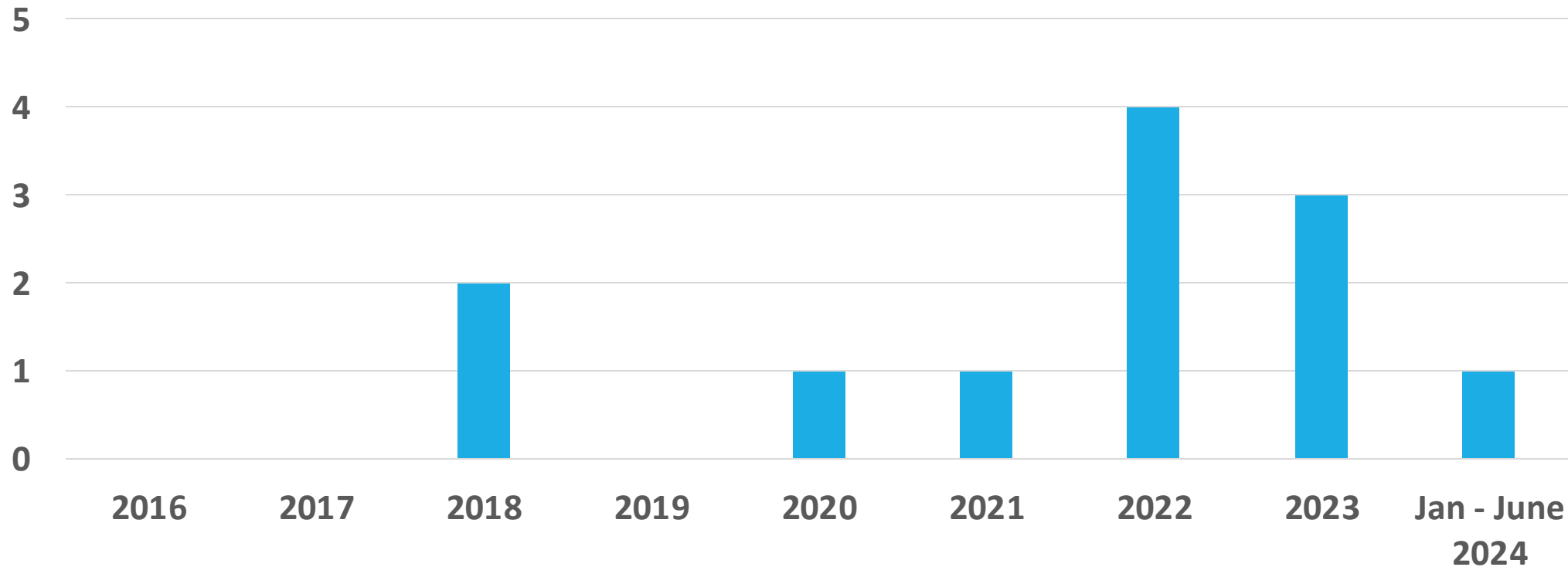
Number of Child Fatalities by Cause of Death, Buncombe County, 2023



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



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Addressing Youth Suicide



Buncombe County
Children's
Collaborative



Stay strong.
You belong.

988
SUICIDE
& CRISIS
LIFELINE

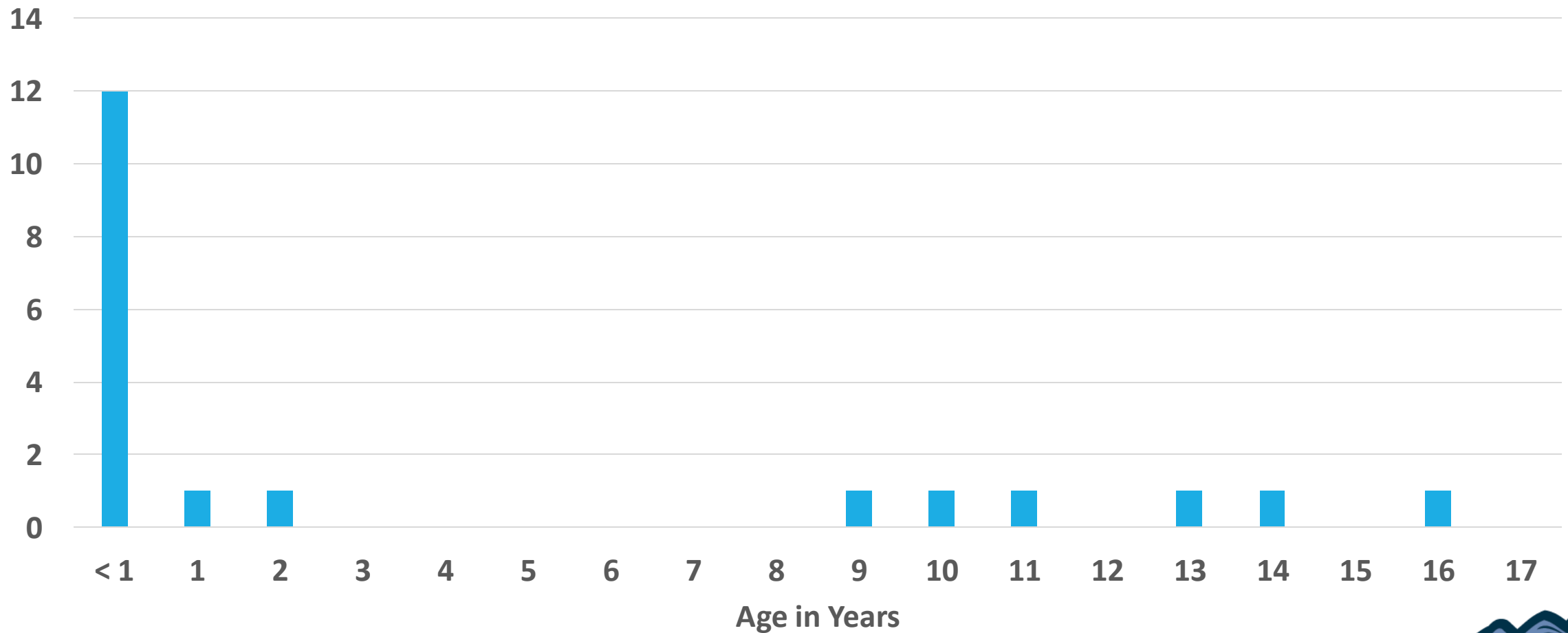
If you or someone you know
needs support now, call or text
988 or chat 988lifeline.org



BUNCOMBE COUNTY



Number of Child Fatalities by Age, Buncombe County, 2023



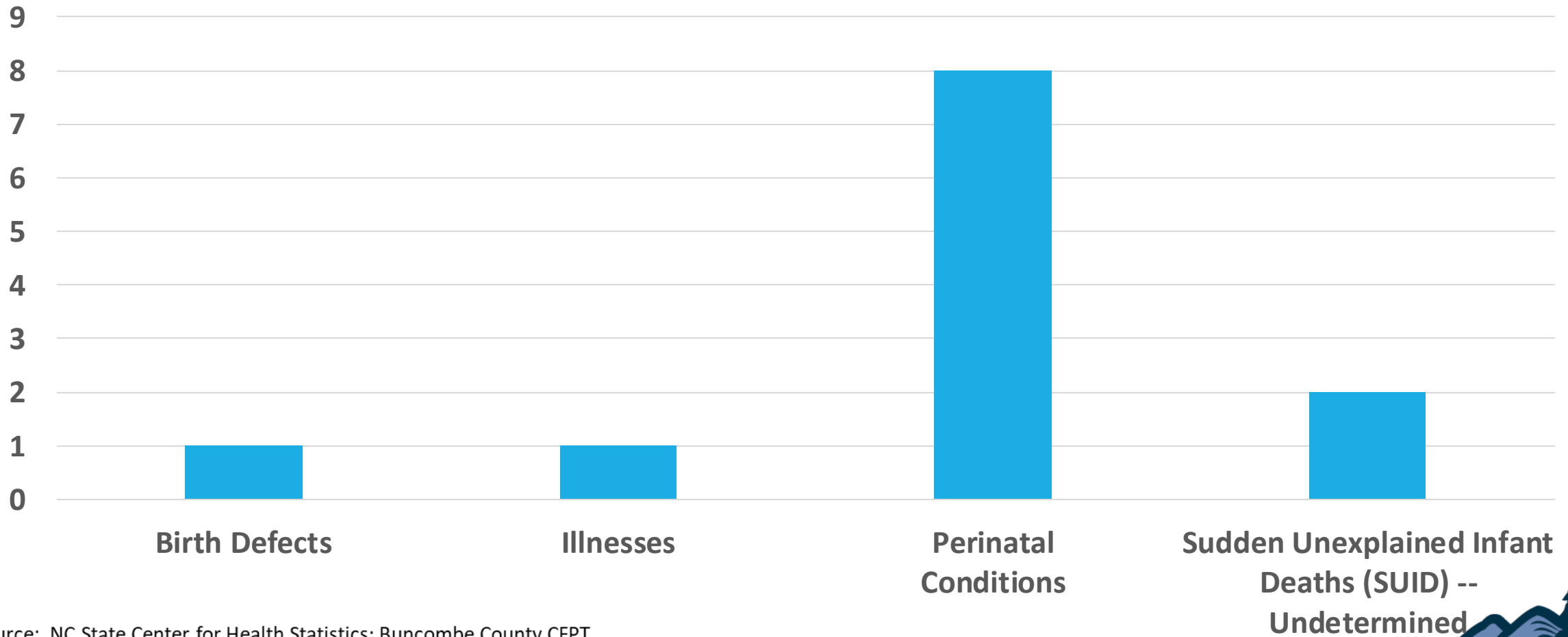
Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics; Buncombe County CFPT



BUNCOMBE COUNTY



Number of Infant Fatalities by Cause of Death, Buncombe County, 2023



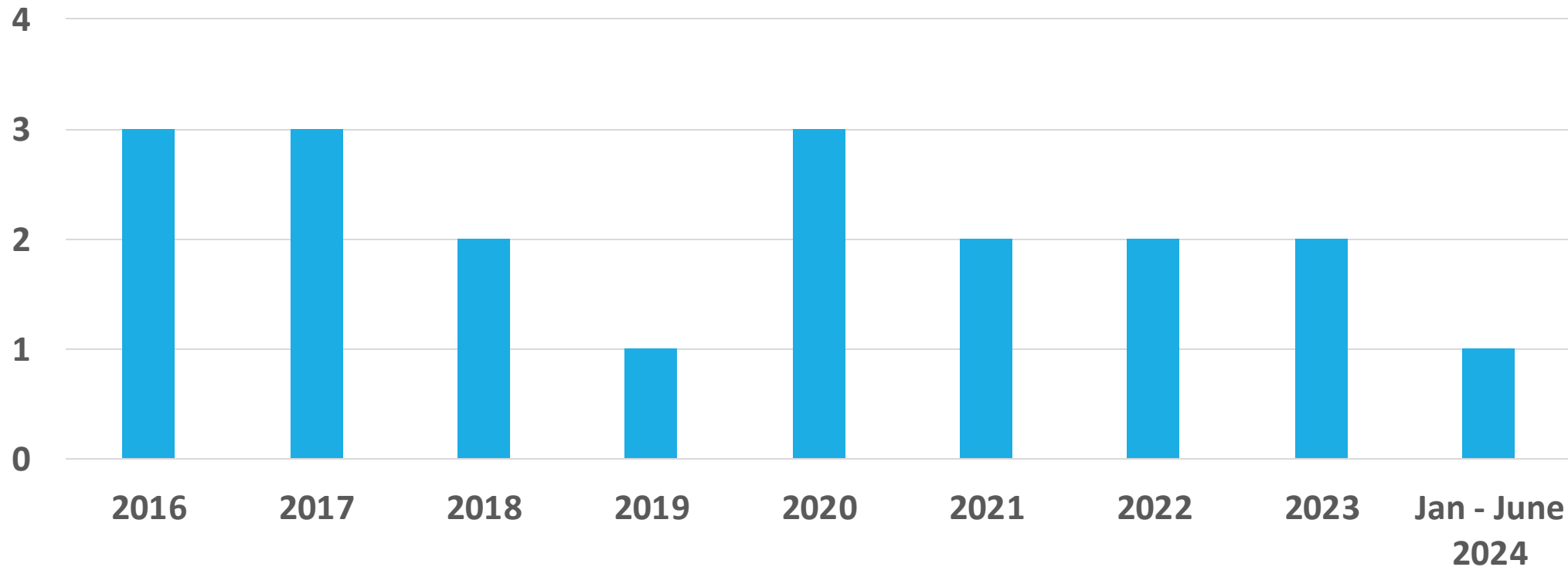
Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics; Buncombe County CFPT



BUNCOMBE COUNTY



Number of Buncombe County Infant Fatalities Associated with Unsafe Sleep by Year



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



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Addressing Deaths from Unsafe Sleep

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



<https://safesleepnc.org/>



BUNCOMBE COUNTY



Addressing Deaths from Unsafe Sleep



Paid Family Leave Is
a Public Health and
Health Equity Issue



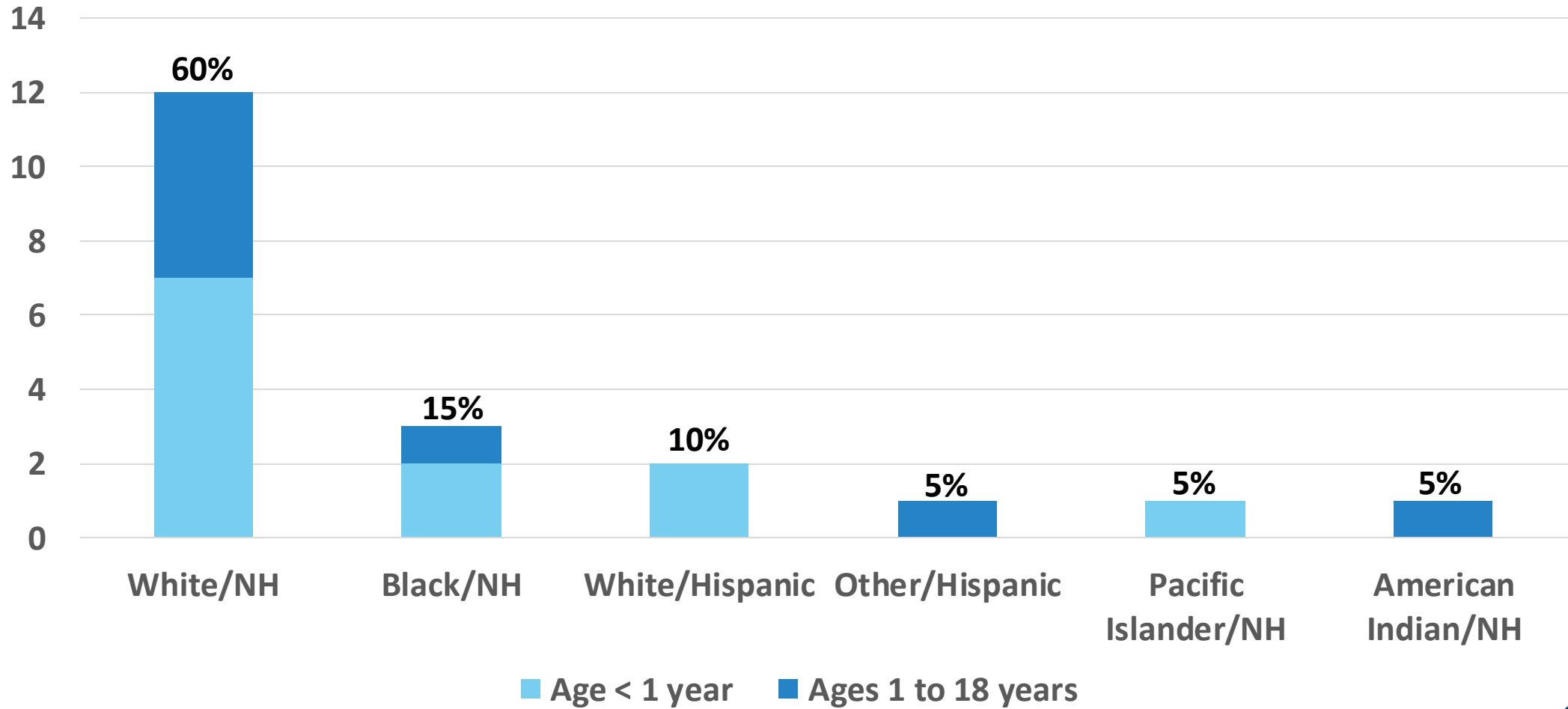
Source: Fact Sheet: Paid Family Leave Ensures Health Equity for All; changelabsolutions.org



BUNCOMBE COUNTY



Number of Child Fatalities by Race/Ethnicity, Buncombe County, 2023





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



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Infant Mortality Disparity Ratio, 2019 - 2023

	Non-Hispanic White Infant Mortality Rate	Non-Hispanic Black Infant Mortality Rate	Disparity Ratio
North Carolina	4.7	12.9	2.74 
Buncombe County	5.0	14.8	2.96 

In Buncombe County, Black infants are approximately 3 times more likely to die before their 1st birthday than white infants.

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics <https://schs.dph.ncdhhs.gov/data/vital/ims/2023/2023-IMR-TABLE-3B-FINAL-v2.html>



Strategies Recommended to Address Infant Mortality

- Infant Safe Sleep Educational Campaign
- Training of First Responders on Infant Safe Sleep
- Advocate for Paid Family Leave
- Address Social Determinants of Health and align with the NC Perinatal Health Strategic Plan objectives to improve preconception and maternal health outcomes for our Black population



Questions?