



American Academy of Pediatrics Orange County Chapter

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Project Report Partners for Child Fatality Prevention

**American Academy of Pediatrics-Orange County Chapter
A collaboration with the National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention and
AAP Section on Child Death Review and Prevention**

2021

Project Description.

Partners for Child Fatality Prevention (PCFP) was designed to develop a sustainable partnership between our Child Death Review Team (CDRT) and AAP-Orange County Chapter (AAP-OC) that shares, translates, and disseminates data with recommendations to inform local prevention interventions and advocacy platforms. Our project enhances the capacity of pediatricians and multidisciplinary/multi-sector partners with the knowledge, skills, and practices to promote prevention and decrease fatalities.

The American Academy of Pediatrics- Orange County. CA4, District IX AAP.

Founded in 1982, AAP-OC is the Hub for Children’s Health in Orange County. Injury, Violence, and Poison Prevention (COIVPP-OC) is a cornerstone of our Chapter Strategic Plan, which works to address the most pressing and current health concerns facing the youth in our community. Representatives of COIVPP-OC, Mental Health and School Health Committees, and our ACES Aware projects have been recruited as Project Team participants along with our members who serve on the Child Death Review Team of Orange County. Our Committees and Chapter Initiatives are multidisciplinary and include affiliate members, community-based organizations, academic institutions, public agencies, and pediatric residents. Our multiple initiatives are presented on our [Chapter website](#). Our previous work with CDRT data included “Foundations for Child Drowning Surveillance Project” and our AAP-NCE abstract, “Patterns of Drowning for Young Children: Implications for Prevention,” funded by the CA Department of Public Health Kids’ Plate Program. (PI’s Phyllis Agran, Diane Winn, Jamie McDonald). These documents are available on our [Injury and Violence Prevention webpage](#). Our Chapter project expanded beyond Orange County to other chapters and counties in CA. As a result of this project, our COIVPP-OC has prioritized an enhanced partnership with our CDRT.

Our Community.

Orange County, CA (OC), represents 3.2 million, 34 cities, 22.5% children (27.7% poverty). The child population is 49% Hispanic, 25% White, 17% Asian-American, 7.5% Other, and 1.3% African-American. AAP-OC, the “Hub for Children’s Health,” shares the CDRT-OC mission of preventing fatalities by understanding system failures. Our



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multidisciplinary Injury Prevention Committee and the Coroner identified the need for sharing and disseminating data with prevention recommendations. These data by cause of fatality are essential to inform interventions and policy advocacy for pediatricians and our multidisciplinary community partners. The [Orange County Equity Map](#) spotlights health and social disparities in the county down to city and neighborhood levels that impact health.

Child Death Review Team, Orange County California

The CDRT is chaired by the OC Sheriff-Coroner's Department. The Senior Deputy Coroner reviews a proportion of cases <18 years and fetuses >20 weeks. Eighty-nine cases were reviewed and reported in [The Orange County Child Death Review Report 2014](#). The 2014 report was preceded by the [Orange Child Death Review Team 5-Year Report 2007-2011](#). CDRT's focus is ensuring quality multi-agency response to child deaths through increased communication, collaboration, and education. Partners for Child Fatality Prevention was designed to strengthen our collaboration to translate CDRT findings into feasible action items for our chapter, pediatricians, and community partners.

Summary of Project Outcomes.

1. **Leadership Team Created.** Partners for Child Fatality Prevention (PCFP) Leadership Team was created and expanded with new partners. It is a project of our AAP-OC Committee on Injury, Poison, and Violence Prevention.
2. **Child Fatality Data Reviewed.** Child fatality data was reviewed including 1) national data from WISQARS; 2) California data through our California Department of Public Health Epi-Center online database and personal communications; and, 3) Orange County data provided by our CDRT members.
3. **Three Educational Webinars Conducted.** Our project proposal included one webinar on the role of CDRT, the process and the role of pediatricians in the fatality review process, and how review informs on prevention of future fatalities. Our team determined that we should drill down on the leading causes of preventable child fatalities by data review and educational webinars. Two webinars were supported by this grant, and CME and MOC Part 2 credits were provided for each.
4. **Produced Compendium of AAP Policy Statements and Technical Reports.** The Compendium included policies and technical reports related to leading causes of child fatality in our state and county. The Compendium was posted on our [project webpage](#).
5. **Created Website for [Partners for Child Fatality Prevention](#).** The project website was launched on our [Injury and Violence Prevention Initiative](#) Chapter website with a link to the project page.



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6. **Engaged with [CA State Senator Josh Newman](#)** regarding 1) incremental improvements to the California Pool Safety Law (2017) which he authored; and 2) the introduction of a new bill: [SB 855](#) (Newman) Childhood Drowning Data Collection Pilot Program. SB 855 will create a statewide childhood drowning data collection system through a three-year pilot program to be administered by the Department of Public Health (CDPH). The program will collect detailed data on childhood drownings and near-drownings that result in significant health consequences, focusing on swimming pool incidents among children aged one through four years old. The data collected will help inform prospective public policies designed to decrease instances of childhood drownings.
7. **Project Team Advocacy Session for CA Pediatric Residency Programs (9/17/2021):** Landscape of CA Drowning Prevention Legislation: Where We Are and Where We Are Going?
8. **Developed a Sustainable Collaboration.** Webinar 3, Youth Suicide: Too Young To Die was held on September 30, 2021, with supplemental support from another project. Grants have been submitted to support components of Partners for Child Fatality Prevention.
9. **Advocating for reactivation of the CA Child Death Review Council and the FCANS (Fatal Child Abuse and Neglect Surveillance) Program**, defunded in 2008 during the Great Recession.
10. **Created a new Chapter Initiative. Partners for Childhood Drowning Prevention: Foundations.** We will conduct a Public Education & Awareness campaign with training modules for both pediatric health care providers and parents. A strategic plan, patterned after the forthcoming Water Safety USA National Water Safety Action Plan will be developed on the prevention of drowning among children 1 to 4 years of age in pools/spas.
Partners for Childhood Drowning Prevention: Advocacy focuses on promoting policy change at the local and state levels in partnership with AAP-California. We, (AAP-California) and the California State Alliance of YMCAs are co-sponsors of [Senate Bill 855](#): Childhood Drowning Data Collection Pilot Project, authored by Senator Josh Newman and coauthors Thomas Umberg, Patricia Bates, and Anthony Portantino.

Team, Partners, and Collaborators.

Founding Team (all pediatricians are AAP-OC Chapter members and all are COVIPP-OC members):

Phyllis Agran, MD, MPH, FAAP (PI). General Pediatrics, Pediatric Gastroenterology, Professor UC Irvine School of Medicine, former member AAP COIVPP Executive Committee.



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David Nunez, MD, MPH, FAAP. Local Title V MCAH Director. Orange County Health Care Agency, member of the Orange County Child Death Review Team.

Van Nguyen Greco, MD, FAAP. Child Abuse Pediatrician Professor UC Irvine, School of Medicine and member of the Orange County Child Death Review Team.

Vinh Lam MD, FAAP. Pediatric Surgeon and Co-Chair AAP-OC Committee on Injury, Poison and Violence Prevention.

Sandra Murray, MD, FAAP. Child Abuse Pediatrician Professor UC Irvine and former member of the Orange County Child Death Review Team.

Diane Winn, RN, MPH. Former CDRT-OC Member and Child Injury Prevention Researcher and Manager Childhood Injury Prevention Research Unit, UC Irvine.

Ameer Mody, MD MPH, FAAP. Associate Director, Division of Emergency and Transport Medicine, Director, Emergency Department Associate Program, Director.

Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC.

Harry Pellman MD, FAAP. AAP-OC CME Chair.

Additional Members:

Katherine Gitz, MD, FAAP. Emergency Medicine. Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Mary Jo Quintero, RN, PNL. Valley Children's Hospital (Central Valley and Fresno County).

Mark Simonian, MD, FAAP. Pediatrician and Water Safety Leader CA Chapter 1 (Northern CA) and Central Valley. Founder and Chair, Water Safety Council of Fresno County.

Lee Lombardo, LCSW, YMCA.

Sara Brown, PhD. UC Irvine School of Nursing. Community and Population Health.

Erin Malone, MPH. Riverside Public Health Systems and member Riverside Child Death Review Team.

AAP-OC Staff:

Jaya Bhalla, AAP-OC Project Coordinator.

Emma Course, AAP-OC CME Coordinator.

Bianca Tomuta, AAP-OC Program Manager.

Jamie McDonald, MPH, Executive Director AAP-OC.

Consultants and Partners:

Renay Bradley, PhD, Chief Epidemiology and Surveillance Section Injury and Violence Prevention Branch California Department of Public Health.

Nakia Best PhD, School of Nursing UC Irvine

Alfonso Valdez, Professor UCI & Director Public Policy Laboratory.



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Clinic in the Park. Chair Executive Advisory Committee; Board of Directors Higher Ground Youth & Families Services; Board of Directors Laura House - Domestic Violence Shelter.

[Clinic in the Park](#) is a project fiscally sponsored by AAP-OC, designed to connect children to public benefits and community resources, perform safety net health screenings, and provide health education along with essential child safety equipment. We are a multidisciplinary collaborative of more than 50 community-based organizations, public and private agencies, academic institutions, health professional volunteers, and students with an aligned mission of promoting the health and well-being of children. Our collaborators are invited to join our webinar series and provide input in future activities.

References

Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect; Committee on Injury, Violence, and Poison Prevention; Council on Community Pediatrics. American Academy of Pediatrics. Policy Statement — Child Fatality Review. *Pediatrics*. 2010 Sep;126(3):592-6. DOI: 10.1542/peds.2010-2006. Epub 2010 Aug 30. PMID: 20805149.

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National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention. <https://www.ncfrp.org/>. The National Fatality Review-Case Reporting System Data Form https://www.ncfrp.org/wp-content/uploads/NCRPCD-Docs/CDR_CRS_v5-1.pdf

National Center Guidance on Drowning Deaths (contains data) https://www.ncfrp.org/wp-content/uploads/Drowning_Guidance.pdf

National Center Quick-Look on Drowning <https://www.ncfrp.org/center-resources/quick-looks/accidental-drowning-deaths/>

National Center Guidance on Reviewing Suicides (contains data) https://www.ncfrp.org/wp-content/uploads/Suicide_Guidance.pdf

National Center Guidance on Understanding Adolescent Mental Health through CDR data (contains data) https://www.ncfrp.org/wp-content/uploads/Title_V_Adolescent_Mental_Health.pdf



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Orange County Children's Partnership. The 26th Annual Report on the Conditions of Children in Orange County California.

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