

**The Child Fatality  
Prevention Team**

*Learning From Our Past  
To Protect Their Future*

## MISSION

Local Child Fatality Prevention Teams (CFPTs) were created by state law to help keep our children safe and healthy.

Since 1995, local Child Fatality Prevention Teams have been reviewing child fatalities and searching for ways to prevent child deaths.

Each of North Carolina's 100 counties has a local team that reviews the county's fatalities of children under the age of 18.



## PROCESS

Each local team is composed of appointed members representing agencies such as the health department, department of social services, police department, district attorney's office, guardian ad litem program, school system, medical examiner's office, fire department, and other child advocacy organizations.

In reviewing child fatalities, Child Fatality Prevention Teams:







- 1 Identify the causes of child fatalities,
- 2 Identify ways to improve the delivery of services to children and families, and
- 3 Make and carry out recommendations for changes that could prevent future child fatalities.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS!







Local teams have reviewed thousands of child fatalities and have made many recommendations. These recommendations are used by local and state policy makers to enact system changes to better protect children.

During the past several years CFPT recommendations have been responsible for a number of advancements.

### Locally -

-  improved local agency coordination
-  improved parenting education
-  more car seats, smoke detectors and bicycle helmets to needy families
-  safer intersections
-  warning signs at ponds
-  hundreds of child safety campaigns

### Statewide -

-  an amended DWI law
-  a strengthened child passenger safety law
-  a "zero tolerance" law for underage drinkers who drive
-  a rental property smoke detector law
-  a graduated drivers licensing program
-  an increased penalty for illegally selling guns to a minor



*"It is through the work of the local teams that we can discover ways to improve agencies, laws and policies in ways that accurately reflect the needs of children in our community."*

*Local CFPT Member*