

**REPORT ON CHILD DEATHS
DUE TO ABUSE OR NEGLECT IN VIRGINIA
DURING FISCAL YEAR 2008 - 2009**

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REPORT ON CHILD DEATHS DUE TO ABUSE OR NEGLECT IN VIRGINIA DURING FISCAL YEAR 2008

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Local departments of social services investigated 74 reports of child deaths suspected to be caused by child maltreatment for fiscal year (FY) 2008. This is an increase of 14 reports from FY 2007.
- Reports were founded for 35 children, six more founded child abuse fatalities than in FY 2007. There were 39 reports that were unfounded.
- The children who died as a result of child abuse or neglect ranged in age from birth to 17 years. Of the 35 children who died from maltreatment, 23 (65.7 %) were birth through three years of age. This is consistent with national data and previous state data that have found young children to be the most vulnerable.
- Twenty-six children died from physical neglect; 18 children died from physical abuse and 4 children died due to medical neglect. Some children were abused or neglected in more than one way and/or by more than one caretaker.
- Eight children died from shaking injuries; five children died from gunshot wounds; six children drowned.
- Of the 45 caretakers in founded investigations, 40% were mothers and 40% were fathers. This is the same as national data and previous state data that found parent(s) to be responsible for about 80 % of child maltreatment deaths.
- Of the 45 caretakers found responsible for the 35 child deaths, 24 were women and 20 were men. The gender of one caretaker was unknown because the abuser could not be identified. This is similar to the national data that have found more female than male perpetrators.
- Twenty (44.4 %) of the 45 perpetrators were between the ages of 20 and 29. These data are similar to national data and previous state data that confirm most caretakers to be young adults in their mid-twenties.
- The families of 13 children who died as a result of child abuse or neglect were known to the child welfare system in some capacity.

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CHILD DEATHS

**Dispositions of CPS Complaints with a Child Death by Locality
FY 2008**

Local Department	Founded	Unfounded	Pending/Appealed	Total
ACCOMACK	0	1	0	1
ALEXANDRIA	2	0	0	2
ALLEGHANY/COVINGTON	3	0	0	3
BATH	1	0	0	1
BEDFORD	0	1	0	1
CAMPBELL	1	0	0	1
CHESAPEAKE	3	3	0	6
CHESTERFIELD	1	0	0	1
FAIRFAX	1	0	0	1
FAUQUIER	1	0	0	1
FRANKLIN COUNTY	0	2	0	2
FREDERICK	1	0	0	1
HALIFAX	1	0	0	1
HAMPTON	1	0	0	1
HANOVER	0	1	0	1
HENRY-MARTINSVILLE	0	3	0	3
JAMES CITY CO	1	0	0	1
KING WILLIAM	1	0	0	1
LOUDOUN	0	3	0	3
LOUISA	0	1	0	1
MANASSAS PARK	0	1	0	1
MECKLENBURG	0	1	0	1
MONTGOMERY	2	0	0	2
NEWPORT NEWS	1	3	0	4
NORFOLK	1	4	0	5
PETERSBURG	1	0	0	1
PORTSMOUTH	1	0	0	1
PRINCE GEORGE	0	1	0	1
PRINCE WILLIAM	0	1	0	1
PULASKI	0	1	0	1
RICHMOND CITY	1	1	0	2
ROCKBRIDGE/ BUENA VISTA/ LEXINGTON	1	0	0	1
SPOTSYLVANIA	1	1	0	2
STAFFORD	4	0	0	4
STAUNTON/AUGUSTA	0	1	0	1
SUFFOLK	1	0	0	1

VIRGINIA BEACH	2	7	0	9
WARREN	0	1	0	1
WASHINGTON	1	0	0	1
WESTMORELAND	0	1	0	1
Total	35	39	0	74

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2009

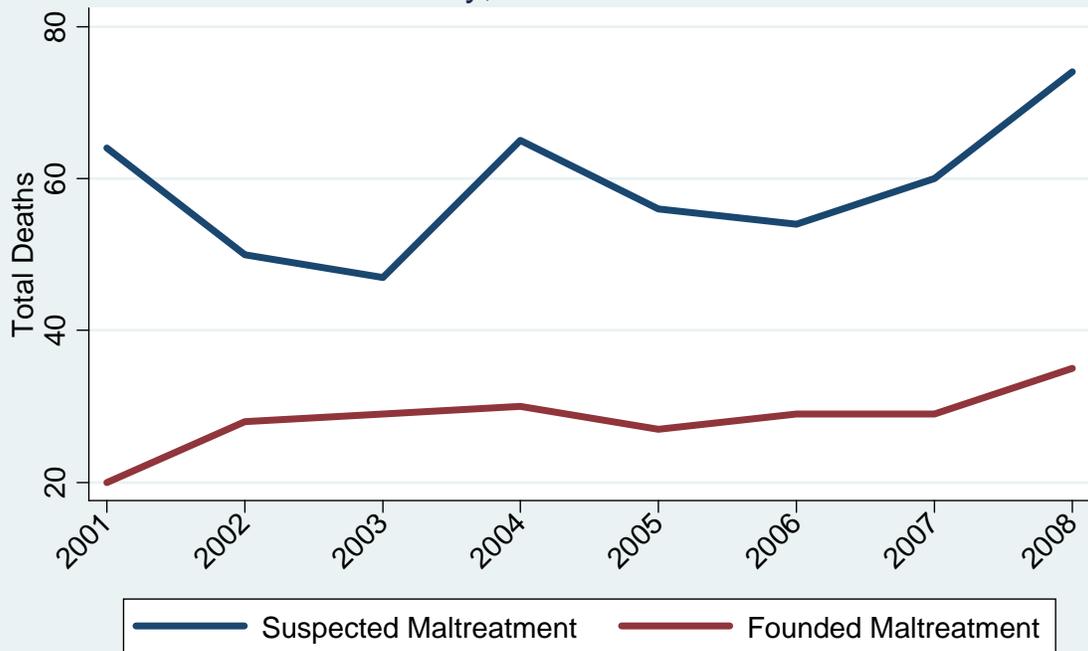
Death Rate of Children Due to Abuse or Neglect FY 2001 – FY 2008

State Fiscal Year	Number of Death Reports Investigated	Number of Deaths Due to Abuse/Neglect	Death Rate (per 100,000 children) ¹
2001	64	20	1.02
2002	50	28	1.41
2003	47	29	1.45
2004	65	30	1.49
2005	56	27	1.33
2006	54	29	1.42
2007	60	29	1.42
2008	74	35	1.71

¹Death rate is calculated as number of deaths due to abuse/neglect divided by the state child population
Sources: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2009; Census State Population Estimates

The number of children who died as the result of child maltreatment increased from FY 2007 to FY 2008. In FY 2008, the child death rate due to abuse or neglect increased to 1.71 from 1.42 in FY 2007. The data indicates an increase in the child death rate from 1.02 in FY 2001 to 1.71 in FY 2008.

Child Deaths in Virginia, by Suspected and Founded Maltreatment Annually, SFY2001-2008



Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2009

The graph above presents the number of child death reports that were investigated and the number of deaths that were a result of founded abuse or neglect. In FY 2008, the number of child deaths due to abuse or neglect (the bottom line of the graph) increased after a period of stability between FY 2002 and FY 2007. The number of reports of child deaths (the top line in the graph) has fluctuated since FY 2001 but has increased the past three years.

Comparison of Child Deaths Due to Abuse and Neglect to National Data

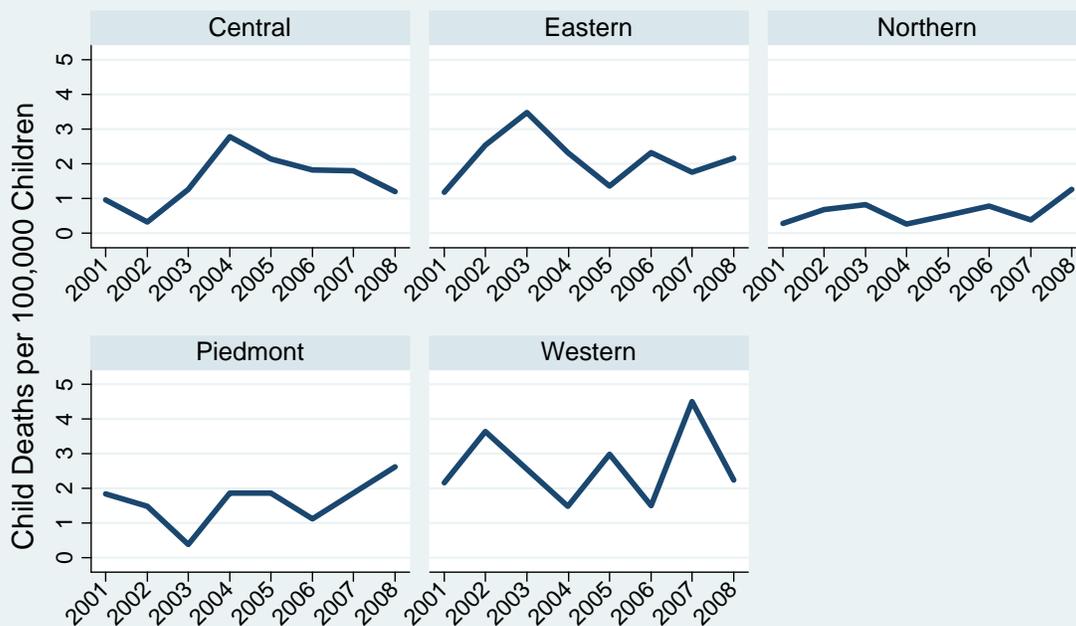
Rates of Child Deaths Due to Abuse and Neglect 1990-2006



Source: NCANDS data from <http://ndas.cwla.org>

The National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) 2006 data documents that Virginia's rate of founded child maltreatment deaths has been similar to the national average over the past 16 years (the period for which national data are available), and Virginia's rate appears to have declined slightly over time. In 2006 (the most recent national data), the Virginia rate was 1.44 against a national rate of 1.96 per 100,000 children. Nationally over the same period, the rate has not changed on average.

Rates of Founded Maltreatment Deaths By Region Annually SFY2001-2008



Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2009

In FY 2008, the Eastern region area had 11 child deaths and the Northern region had 10 deaths. The Piedmont region had seven deaths and the Central region had four child deaths. There were three child deaths in the Western region. This year the child deaths in the Piedmont region were unusually high. However, 3 of the deaths were a sibling group murdered by their father in Alleghany County. Stafford County had four child deaths due to abuse and neglect. Chesapeake had three child deaths due to abuse and neglect.

Since FY 2001, the *number* of child deaths due to founded maltreatment has been highest in the Eastern region, an average of 11 deaths per year compared to three deaths per year in the Western region. This is partly because the Eastern region is relatively populous. However, the *rate* of child deaths due to founded maltreatment has been highest in the Western region in four of the six years. In other words, adjusting for population, the Western region has the highest death rate due to founded maltreatment. The Northern region has had the lowest death rate. Keep in mind that these comparisons across regions are based on small numbers.

**Children Who Died From Abuse or Neglect by Age
FY 2006 - 2008**

Age Category	Fiscal Year 2006		Fiscal Year 2007		Fiscal Year 2008	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Birth to 12 months	19	65.5	15	51.7	12	34.3
13 months to 3 years	5	17.2	8	27.6	11	31.4
4 to 7 years	2	6.9	5	17.2	5	14.3
8 to 12 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	11.4
13 years and over	3	10.3	1	3.5	3	8.6
Total	29	100.0	29	100.0	35	100.0

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2009

Children who died from child maltreatment in FY 2008 ranged in age from birth to 17 years. Of the 35 children who died from child maltreatment, 12 (34.3 %) were less than one year of age. This is consistent with national data and FY 2007 state data that have found young children to be the most vulnerable. All three children over the age of 13 died from gunshot wounds inflicted by a father.

**Children Who Died From Abuse or Neglect by Race
FY 2006 - 2008**

Race	Fiscal Year 2006		Fiscal Year 2007		Fiscal Year 2008	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Black	11	37.9	10	34.5	10	28.6
White	17	58.6	15	51.7	21	60.0
Multi-racial	0	0.0	3	10.3	4	11.4
Asian	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Hispanic	1	3.5	1	3.5	0	0.0
Total	29	100.0	29	100.0	35	100.0

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2009

In FY 2008, 10 children who died as a result of child maltreatment were African-American, 21 children were white, and four children were biracial. Between FY 2006 and 2008, more white children died as a result of child abuse or neglect than African-American children. However, the rate of child deaths due to child abuse or neglect is higher among African-American children than among white children. This is consistent with national data that shows African-American children to be over-represented in child deaths due to child maltreatment.

**Children Who Died From Abuse or Neglect by Gender
FY 2006 - 2008**

Gender	Fiscal Year 2006		Fiscal Year 2007		Fiscal Year 2008	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Female	11	37.9	7	24.1	17	48.6
Male	18	62.1	22	75.9	18	51.4
Total	29	100.0	29	100.0	35	100.0

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2009

In FY 2008, there were 17 (48.6 %) females and 18 (51.4 %) males who died due to abuse or neglect. This compares to 11 females (37.9 %) and 18 (62.1 %) males in FY 2006 who died from abuse or neglect. Virginia's data for SY 2008 is similar to national data and previous state data that found males to have a higher rate of child maltreatment fatalities than females. One explanation for the increase in female victims is 3 female siblings were among the child deaths in FY 2008.

CARETAKERS

Caretakers in Child Deaths from Abuse or Neglect FY 2006 - 2008

Caretaker Type	Fiscal Year 2006		Fiscal Year 2007		Fiscal Year 2008	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Mother	13	33.3	21	55.3	18	40.0
Father	12	30.8	10	26.3	18	40.0
Stepparent	0	0.0	1	2.6	0	0.0
Grandparent	2	5.1	0	0.0	1	2.2
Aunt	2	5.1	0	0.0	0	0.0
Cousin	1	2.6	0	0.0	0	0.0
Paramour	5	12.8	3	7.9	3	6.7
Babysitter	4	7.7	2	5.3	0	0.0
Group Home Staff	1	2.6	0	0.0	0	0.0
Daycare Provider	0	0.0	1	2.6	3	6.7
Other	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	4.4
Total Caretakers	40	100.0	38	100.0	45	100.0

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2009

Local departments of social services found 45 caretakers to be responsible for the deaths of 35 children due to child abuse/neglect in FY 2008. This is seven more caretakers than in FY 2007. Some victims were abused by more than one caretaker.

Most caretakers were related to the victim or resided with the victim. Out of the 45 caretakers, 36 (80.0 %) were biological parents or adoptive parents. This is similar to FY 2007 that found 81.6 % of caretakers to be parents of the child victim.

Three of the 45 (6.7 %) caretakers were out of family providers. This is a slight decrease from FY 2007 that found 7.9% of all caretakers were in out of family settings.

Three caretakers (6.7%) were the mother's paramour. This is the same number of paramours as FY 2007.

**Caretakers in Child Deaths from Abuse or Neglect by Race
FY 2007 and 2008**

Race	Fiscal Year 2007		Fiscal Year 2008	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Black	10	26.3	17	37.8
White	25	65.8	27	60.0
Hispanic	1	2.6	0	0.0
Multi-racial	1	2.6	0	0.0
Unknown	1	2.6	1	2.2
Total Caretakers	38	100.0	45	100.0

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2009

In FY 2008, 17 (37.8 %) caretakers were African-American, and 27 (60.0 %) were white. The race of one (2.2 %) caretaker was unknown. This is an increase in the number of African-American caretakers from FY 2007.

**Caretakers in Child Deaths from Abuse or Neglect by Gender
FY 2006 - 2008**

Gender	Fiscal Year 2006		Fiscal Year 2007		Fiscal Year 2008	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Female	23	57.5	22	57.9	24	53.3
Male	17	42.5	16	42.1	20	44.4
Unknown	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	2.2
Total Caretakers	40	100.0	38	100.0	45	100.0

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2009

In FY 2008, of the 45 caretakers found to be responsible for child deaths there were 24 females and 20 males. The gender of one caretaker was unknown. This is similar to the gender of caretakers in previous state data that finds more female than male caretakers responsible for child deaths.

**Caretakers in Child Deaths from Abuse or Neglect by Age
FY 2008**

Age Category	Number of Caretakers	Percent
Under 20 years	4	8.9
20 to 29 years	20	44.4
30 to 39 years	12	26.7
40 to 49 years	6	13.3
50 to 59 years	2	4.4
Unknown	1	2.2
Total	45	100.0

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2009

Twenty (44.4 %) of the 45 perpetrators were between the ages of 20 and 29. These data are similar to national data and previous state data that confirm most caretakers to be young adults in their mid-twenties.

TYPES OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Types of Abuse in Child Deaths from Abuse or Neglect FY 2008

Abuse Type	Number of Children	Percent
Medical Neglect	4	8.3
Physical Neglect	26	54.2
Physical Abuse	18	37.5
Total children ¹	48	100.0

¹Duplicated count because some children experienced more than one type of neglect or abuse;

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2009

In FY 2008, 35 children died as a result of at least one type of neglect. Some children were neglected or abused in more than one way. Twenty-six (54.2%) children died due to physical neglect. Eighteen (37.5%) children died from physical abuse and 4 (8.3%) children died as a result of medical neglect. This data is consistent with national data that shows physical neglect is responsible for most child deaths.

Type of Neglect in Child Deaths FY 2007 and 2008

Type of Neglect	Fiscal Year 2007		Fiscal Year 2008	
	Number of Children	Percent	Number of Children	Percent
Abandonment	2	8.3	0	0.0
Drowning	1	4.1	1	3.6
Inadequate or dangerous shelter	1	4.1	2	7.1
Lack of supervision	13	54.1	15	53.6
Other/No Information	2	8.3	5	17.9
Medical Neglect	5	20.8	3	10.7
Malnutrition	0	0.0	1	3.6
Gunshot	0	0.0	1	3.6
Total children ¹	24	100.0	28	100.0

¹Duplicated count because some children experienced more than one type of neglect or abuse;

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2009

The most prevalent type of neglect is lack of supervision. Fifteen (53.6 %) children died from this type of neglect. Examples of deaths that occurred from a lack of supervision include five

children who drowned in swimming pools, a bathroom toilet or when left unattended by the parent in the bath.

The next most frequent type of neglect in child deaths was medical neglect. Three (10.7 %) children died due to the caretaker’s failure to provide or to seek medical care for the child.

There were two deaths due to suffocation that occurred while the infant was sleeping in the bed or sofa with the parent. There appeared to be drug or alcohol use by the parents. The third death occurred when an infant was placed in a bed surrounded by pillows and left unsupervised by the unregulated child care provider.

There were 3 child deaths that occurred while an infant was placed in a car seat in the house for many hours without supervision. It is possible the car seat was being used instead of a crib.

Type of Abuse in Child Deaths FY 2007 and 2008

Type of Physical Abuse	FY 2007		FY 2008	
	Number of Children	Percent	Number of Children	Percent
Asphyxiation	2	15.3	0	0.0
Battered child syndrome	1	7.6	0	0.0
Bone Fracture	0	0.0	1	5.6
Bruises	1	7.6	2	11.1
Drowning	0	0.0	2	11.1
Gunshot	0	0.0	4	22.2
Poisoning	2	15.3	0	0.0
Shaking	1	7.6	8	44.4
Stabbing	1	7.6	0	0.0
Other or Unspecified Type	5	38.5	1	5.6
Total children ¹	13	100.0	18	100.0

¹Duplicated count because some children experienced more than one type of neglect or abuse
Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2009

In FY 2008, 18 children died as a result of at least one type of abuse. Some children were neglected or abused in more than one way. Eight (44.4%) children died from injuries caused by shaking injuries and 2 (11.1%) children died from injuries due to blunt force trauma. This is a significant increase of deaths due to shaking from FY 2007 when only 1 (7.6%) child died from this type of abuse.

Four children died when their father shot them. Three of these children were siblings and the father committed suicide.

FAMILIES AND THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

Compared to families and caretakers with no previous child welfare involvement, families and caretakers previously known to the child welfare system were more likely to have been abused as a child, been in foster care or other out of home setting. Research substantiates that these factors are associated with child abuse and neglect. These factors are considered in the structured decision making tool for assessing risk of future abuse and neglect that is being piloted in 45 local departments of social services.

Prior Abuse and/or Neglect in Child Deaths from Abuse or Neglect FY 2008

Prior Abuse/Neglect	Number	Percent
Yes	13	37.1
No	21	60.0
Unknown	1	2.9
Total	35	100.0

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2009

There were 13 families with prior or current child welfare or Child Protective Services (CPS) involvement in FY 2008. Two children died during an open investigation or family assessment. In two cases, the mother of the victim child had prior CPS reports resulting in other children being placed with relatives. The foster child who died had been in a founded investigation involving his parents that resulted in his placement into foster care. There were four families with at least two prior CPS reports, one family with eight prior reports that included four screened out reports. In FY 2008, there were more screened out reports than in prior years. This may indicate local agencies are more compliant with the requirement to document screened out reports.

One family had prior CPS history on the child's parent, one family had a single screened out CPS report and one family had received voluntary family services from the local agency.

CHILD DEATH PREVENTION ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

The Child Abuse Prevention Month Conference was held April 7, 2008 in Richmond, Virginia with approximately 175 people in attendance. The program included *Hugs and Kisses*, a child sexual abuse prevention play for elementary school children, was presented by Theatre IV of Richmond in recognition of 25 years of performances; a keynote address on child sexual abuse by Cordelia Anderson who is an expert in this field; presentation of awards by the Governor's Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect to seven individuals and organizations for outstanding work in the field of child abuse and neglect; and a panel presentation of local sexual abuse prevention programs. This conference was a collaborative effort between the Virginia Department of Social Services and Prevent Child Abuse Virginia in partnership with the Governor's Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect, the Child Abuse Prevention Committee (CAPC) and the Virginia Coalition for Child Abuse Prevention.

CPS Prevention Staff provided ongoing grant management for 39 Healthy Families (HF) programs funded by the General Assembly and 23 prevention programs funded through the Community-Based Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention (CBCAP) program and the Virginia Family Violence Prevention Program (VFVPP) Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention funding streams.

CAPC continued to work on activities related to the nine strategies of the Blue Ribbon Plan for Child Abuse Prevention. CAPC is supporting the effort to launch a pilot project to prevent Inflicted Traumatic Brain Injury. Dr. Michelle Clayton, CAPC Chairperson, is working through Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters has submitted a proposal for this project.

The Division of Injury and Violence Prevention (DIVP), Office of Family Health Services, Virginia Department of Health sponsored a campaign about the dangers of leaving children unattended in vehicles. A static window cling warning parents about some of the dangers of leaving children unattended in vehicles was developed. Approximately 150 clings were sent to all law enforcement offices throughout the state with the request that they be distributed by officers to local businesses and retailers for display in windows and doors to catch the attention of patrons entering/exiting various establishments. A radio PSA that discussed these dangers was also developed.

The Hopewell Child Fatality Team was established in March 2008 by a resolution issued by the Hopewell City Council. Their focus is on infant deaths. They have reviewed past records and determined that over the past six years that there have been 12 infant deaths and one near death. The age range of the children was 10 weeks to three months of age. In April 2009, the Hopewell Team is planning to hold an "Infant and Child Safety and Health Symposium" to coincide with the activities of child abuse prevention month. The Hopewell Child Fatality Team is also considering combining efforts with the City of Petersburg and Price George County. In addition, Fairfax County has also established a Child Fatality Review Team.

VDSS completed a workload study that included the use of SDM, and while it was determined that SDM agencies spent more time assessing child safety and risk, it was determined that the time spent was necessary in order to better predict behaviors that may cause a child to be re-abused, increase accuracy and consistency in decision making, and to improve outcomes for children and families. A new contract with the Children's Research Center has been finalized with plans to phase in localities in 2009. SDM is a practice that compliments child welfare transformation.

APPENDIX

Table of Cases

Report of Child Deaths Due to Abuse or Neglect in Virginia During Fiscal Year 2008
Appendix: Table of Founded Investigations with a Child Death

Locality	Child Sex	Child Race	Child Birthdate/ Age at Death	Date of Death	Complaint Date	Abuser	Abuser Age	Abuser Race	Abuser Sex	Abuse/Neglect Type	Disposition	Criminal Justice Involvement	Prior CPS/ Other Child Welfare Services	Summary
Alexandria	Male	Multi-racial	7/26/2007 7 Months	10/17/2007	3/21/2008	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Physical Abuse/Shaking	Founded	Yes	None	The child had reportedly been sick with an upper respiratory infection. The police did not contact CPS because it was not a suspicious death. The autopsy revealed the child had been shaken but manner of death and abuser could not be determined. There had been a domestic violence complaint a few days prior to the child's death.
Alexandria	Male	White	5/28/1996 11 Years, 9 Months	5/20/2008	5/13/2008	Mother	38	White	Female	Physical Neglect/Lack of Supervision Medical Neglect	Founded	Unknown	Three CPS reports were screened out. Family had received voluntary services.	A child died from injuries that were not treated for at least 16 hours. The injury occurred while the mother left the children unattended to go to a bar with a friend and did not leave contact information in case of an emergency.
Alleghany	Female	White	1/2/1993 14 Years, 6 Months	8/27/2007	8/27/2007	Father	41	White	Male	Physical Abuse/Gunshot	Founded	No	None	The child and her two siblings were shot by their father who then committed suicide.
Alleghany	Female	White	1/27/1990 17 Years, 6 Months	8/27/2007	8/27/2007	Father	41	White	Male	Physical Abuse/Gunshot	Founded	No	None	The child and her two siblings were shot by their father who then committed suicide.
Alleghany	Female	White	10/10/1998 8 Years, 9 months	8/27/2007	8/27/2007	Father	41	White	Male	Physical Abuse/Gunshot	Founded	No	None	The child and her two siblings were shot by their father who then committed suicide.
Bath	Male	White	4/18/2003 4 Years, 3 Months	8/11/2007	8/16/2007	Mother	48	White	Female	Physical Abuse/Drowning	Founded	Yes	Prior CPS sexual abuse report involving older siblings	The child while playing on a raft in river. Eyewitnesses reported the mother was a long distance from the river with obstructed view of the river.
Campbell	Female	Black	7/1/2007 Newborn	7/1/2007	7/2/2007	Mother	30	Black	Female	Physical Neglect/Lack of Supervision Physical Abuse/Drowning	Founded	No	None	The mother gave birth to infant at home in bathroom toilet. The newborn drowned.
Chesapeake	Male	Black	2/16/2007 5 Months	8/12/2007	8/12/2007	Mother	26	Black	Female	Physical Neglect/Lack of Supervision	Founded	No	8 prior CPS reports included 3 Family Assessments, 1 Unfounded Investigation and 4 invalid complaints.	The infant was strapped into a car seat and placed in a crib for 11 hours without adequate supervision.
Chesapeake	Male	White	6/28/2007 6 Months	1/16/2008	1/16/2008	Unregulated Child Care Provider	27	White	Female	Physical Neglect	Founded	No	None	The child was in the care of an unregulated child care provider who put him in a bed surrounded by pillows and he suffocated. She knew he was unwell but didn't check on him for at least 30 minutes. The provider was caring for 5 additional young children.
Chesapeake	Male	Black	12/28/2007 1 Month	2/11/2008	2/12/2008	Mother Father	19 19	Black Black	Female Male	Physical Neglect Physical Abuse/Shaking	Founded	Unknown	CPS history on father when he was a child. The mother was raised by a relative.	The mother said child was crying when she went to sleep and that the father picked him up.
Chesterfield	Male	Black	10/16/2006 1 year, 5 Months	4/27/2008	4/28/2008	Mother	26	Black	Female	Physical Neglect Lack of Supervision	Founded	Unknown	One prior report that was screened out due to lack of information to meet definition of abuse or neglect.	A child drowned in a backyard swimming pool. The mother left to take a nap but did not specify which of the other adults at the pool was responsible to watch the child.
Fairfax Co.	Female	White	4/8/2002 5 Years, 4 Months	8/31/2007	9/4/2007	Father	39	White	Male	Physical Neglect/Lack of Supervision	Founded	Unknown	None	The child was in the children's swimming pool at a fitness center with his six year old sibling. The father was 100 feet away from the pool in the hot tub because he said there were no chairs at the children's pool. He noticed the child was missing some time later and the child was found at the bottom of the pool.

Report of Child Deaths Due to Abuse or Neglect in Virginia During Fiscal Year 2008
Appendix: Table of Founded Investigations with a Child Death

Locality	Child Sex	Child Race	Child Birthdate/ Age at Death	Date of Death	Complaint Date	Abuser	Abuser Age	Abuser Race	Abuser Sex	Abuse/Neglect Type	Disposition	Criminal Justice Involvement	Prior CPS/ Other Child Welfare Services	Summary
Fauquier	Male	White	3/18/2000 8 Years, 2 Months	5/16/2008	5/19/2008	Mother's Paramour	38	White	Male	Physical Neglect Lack of Supervision	Founded	Yes	One prior screened out CPS referral	A child who was not wearing a seat belt died when a car driven by the mother's paramour crashed. The paramour was charged with manslaughter and driving under the influence.
Frederick	Male	White	10/19/2007 5 Months	3/16/2008	3/2/2008	Father	20	White	Male	Physical Abuse/Shaking	Founded	Unknown	Two prior physical neglect reports	The father admitted he shook the child and dropped him.
Halifax	Female	Multi-racial	12/3/2007 1 Month	1/2/2008	12/21/2007	Father	20	Black		Physical Abuse/Shaking	Founded	Yes	None	The father of the child admitted to shaking and dropping the child.
Hampton	Male	White	3/31/1997 10 Years, 8 Months	1/30/2008	1/30/2008	Foster Mother	50	Black	Female	Physical Neglect/Other	Founded	Yes	Prior founded complaint involving victim's parents	As the result of an automobile accident, the child who was in the cargo carrier of the car and not wearing a seat belt was ejected from the vehicle and died from the injuries. The driver of the vehicle was the child's foster mother.
James City	Male	White	7/16/2007 3 Months	10/18/2007	10/18/2007	Father	27	White	Male	Physical Abuse/Shaking and Bruises	Founded	Yes	None	The child died from injuries he received while in the care of his father. Later, the father was found dead from possible drug overdose.
King William	Female	White	1/23/2007 9 Months	12/17/2007	12/15/2007	Mother Grandmother	22 51	White White	Female Female	Physical Neglect/Inadequate Shelter Physical Neglect/Lack of Supervision	Founded	No	None	The child's mother and grandmother left her asleep in a bedroom without confirming that other adults in the home would watch her. The child was later found unconscious on the bedroom floor with apparent physical injuries that could not be proven as physical abuse. The lack of supervision disposition for the mother and grandmother was made because they did not make an adequate plan for the child's care when they left the home. The inadequate shelter disposition was made based on evidence that the home was in deplorable condition and unsafe for the victim child and other children living in the home.
Montgomery	Male	White	11/21/2007 1 Month	12/21/2007	12/21/2007	Mother Father	23 24	White White	Female Male	Physical Neglect/Lack of Supervision	Founded	Unknown	None	The child died while sleeping in parent's bed. Both parents were drunk and could not provide proper supervision or care for the infant.
Montgomery	Male	White	11/15/2006 1 Year, 2 Months	2/9/2008	2/12/2008	Mother Mother's Paramour	22 28	White White	Female Male	Physical Neglect/Lack of Supervision Physical Abuse/Shaking	Founded	Yes	Pending CPS investigation of physical abuse at time of child's death. Prior Family Assessment involving mother alleging drug use and physical neglect.	The mother's paramour admitted shaking the child which resulted in the child's death. The mother did not adequately protect the child.
Newport News	Male	Black	3/19/2002 6 Years	3/12/2008	3/14/2008	Mother Father	31 32	Black Black	Female Male	Physical Neglect/Gunshot Physical Neglect/Lack of Supervision	Founded	No	None	A child shot himself at home. Both parents were in the house and guns were unsecured in a closet.
Norfolk	Female	Multi-racial	6/20/2007 8 Months	4/8/2008	4/8/2008	Mother Father	22 21	Black White	Female Male	Physical Neglect/Inadequate Shelter Physical Neglect/Malnutrition	Founded	Unknown	None	The child was brought to hospital and later died. She was severely malnourished and had severe rashes on chin/mouth, shoulder & vaginal areas that were bleeding. The child was one of twins and neither child had gained weight in 8 months. The parents had cancelled checkups.

Report of Child Deaths Due to Abuse or Neglect in Virginia During Fiscal Year 2008
Appendix: Table of Founded Investigations with a Child Death

Locality	Child Sex	Child Race	Child Birthdate/ Age at Death	Date of Death	Complaint Date	Abuser	Abuser Age	Abuser Race	Abuser Sex	Abuse/Neglect Type	Disposition	Criminal Justice Involvement	Prior CPS/ Other Child Welfare Services	Summary
Petersburg	Male	Black	6/29/2007 4 Months	11/10/2007	11/10/2007	Unregulated Child Care Provider	20	Black	Female	Physical Neglect/Other	Founded	No	None	A child died from overlaying. The child's mother had placed infant in care of a friend who then placed the child in the care of her sister. It was determined that the mother's friend knew the child was dead when she gave child to her sister to keep and had failed to seek medical attention or notify the authorities.
Portsmouth	Female	White	12/28/2007 2 Months	2/28/2008	2/21/2008	Father	31	White	Male	Physical Abuse/Shaking	Founded	Yes	None	The father admitted he hit the child with his open hand. The child had numerous injuries.
Richmond	Female	Black	1/28/2003 4 Years, 5 Months	8/6/2007	8/6/2007	Mother Mother's Paramour	21 22	Black Black	Female Female	Physical Neglect/Lack of Supervision Physical Abuse/Bruises	Founded	Yes	Two prior Family Assessments and one complaint that was screened out.	The child died from injuries inflicted by the mother's female paramour who was later convicted of murder. The mother did not adequately supervise child to prevent injuries.
Rockbridge	Male	White	9/15/2006 1 Year, 1 Month	10/9/2007	10/9/2007	Mother	36	White	Female	Physical Neglect/Lack of Supervision	Founded	Yes	2 other children were removed from the mother's custody due to CPS reports.	A child drowned in the bathtub after his mother left him alone with his two year old sibling. The mother pled guilty to felony child neglect.
Spotsylvania	Female	White	11/18/1993 13 Years/8 Months	8/21/2007	8/21/2007	Father	43	White	Male	Physical Abuse/Gunshot	Founded	Yes	Physical neglect and sexual abuse referral pending.	The father who was intoxicated shot the child and injured her adult sibling.
Stafford	Male	White	6/13/2002 5 Years, 2 Months	9/8/2007	9/8/2007	Mother	45	White	Female	Physical Neglect/Lack of Supervision	Founded	No	None	A child drowned in a hotel pool across street from where he lived with his mother and her paramour. He allegedly left the room while mother was sleeping.
Stafford	Female	Multi-racial	9/22/2007 Newborn	9/22/2007	9/22/2007	Mother	30	White	Female	Medical Neglect	Founded	Unknown	None	The newborn died shortly after birth. The mother did not immediately seek medical attention.
Stafford	Female	White	10/8/2005 2 Years	10/10/2007	10/10/2007	Mother Father	32 35	White White	Female Male	Medical Neglect Physical Neglect/Lack of Supervision	Founded	Unknown	None	A child who was strapped into a car seat choked to death on a car seat buckle. There was lack of supervision because the child had been placed in a separate bedroom.
Stafford	Female	Black	2/25/2008 2 Months	4/29/2008	4/24/2008	Father	22	Black	Male	Physical Abuse/Shaking	Founded	Yes	No prior CPS on father. There were 2 prior reports on mother for other children.	The child died from head injuries that occurred while in care of his father. Subsequent tests revealed a displaced fractured femur, bilateral retinal hemorrhages & questionable other fractures. The father gave inconsistent stories about how the child was injured. The father was charged with the murder.
Suffolk	Female	Black	9/20/2007 5 Months	4/1/2008	3/31/2008	Mother Father	18 19	Black Black	Female Male	Physical Abuse/Bone Fracture Medical Neglect	Founded	Unknown	None	The child died from blunt force trauma to the head. There were old and new injuries and multiple skull fractures present on the child. The parents had not sought medical treatment for the injuries.
Virginia Beach	Male	Black	10/16/2005 22 Months	8/23/2007	8/23/2007	Father	21	Black	Male	Physical Abuse/Other	Founded	Unknown	None	The child died from injuries that occurred while the father was physically disciplining the child.
Virginia Beach	Female	White	8/18/2006 1 Year, 2 Months	10/30/2007	10/24/2007	Unregulated Child Care Provider	38	White	Female	Physical Neglect/Drowning	Founded	Yes	None	A child fell into a swimming pool and drowned while in the care of an unregulated child care provider who was caring for 12 children, 9 of whom were under the age of 4. The provider pled guilty to a misdemeanor.

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Washington	Female	White	11/28/2007 4 Months	4/20/2008	4/20/2008	Mother Father	26 28	White White	Female Male	Physical Neglect/Lack of Supervision	Founded	Unknown	None	The parents kept the child in a walk-in closet and used a car seat for sleeping. The parents did not check on child for more than 12 hours.