

**REPORT ON CHILD DEATHS
DUE TO ABUSE OR NEGLECT IN VIRGINIA
DURING FISCAL YEAR 2007**

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March 2008

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Local departments of social services investigated 60 reports of child deaths suspected to be caused by child maltreatment for fiscal year (FY) 2007 (July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007). Reports were founded for 29 children, the same number of founded child abuse fatalities as in FY 2006. There were 31 reports that were unfounded.
- The children who died as a result of child abuse or neglect ranged in age from birth to 15 years. Of the 29 children who died from maltreatment, 23 (79.3 %) were birth to four years of age. This is consistent with national data and previous state data that have found young children to be the most vulnerable.
- One or both parents were responsible for the deaths of 25 (86.2 %) children. This is slightly higher than national data and previous state data that found parent(s) to be responsible for about 80 % of child maltreatment deaths.
- Of the 38 caretakers found responsible for the child deaths, 22 were women and 16 were men. This is similar to the national data that have found more female than male perpetrators.
- Twenty-four (60 %) of the 38 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 10 children who died as a result of child abuse or neglect were known to the child welfare system in some capacity.
- The Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) continues to support collaborative efforts at the state and local levels to decrease the number of child fatalities due to child abuse and neglect in Virginia

RECOMMENDATIONS

Goal: Promote interagency partnerships to prevent child fatalities due to child abuse and neglect

- The Child Abuse Prevention Committee (CAPC), under the auspices of the Governor's Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect, will continue to support and monitor the nine strategies of the Blue Ribbon Plan. The CAPC operates in partnership with VDSS and Prevent Child Abuse Virginia. Planned activities include a statewide prevention

conference in April 2008 focused on prevention of child sexual abuse. CAPC also has linkages with the Statewide Parent Education Work Group.

- VDSS will continue to work with the Virginia Department of Health, Office of Family Health Services to develop an ongoing statewide public awareness campaign to educate parents, caregivers, children, and citizens of the dangers of leaving a child unattended in and around a vehicle.
- VDSS and the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner will continue to support existing local/regional child fatality review teams. Interest in establishing a regional team has been expressed by Hopewell, Petersburg, Prince George and Dinwiddie and also in the Lynchburg area and Loudoun County.

Goal: Reduce child maltreatment fatalities among infants and young children

- VDSS will continue to support community prevention activities by staffing a child abuse prevention unit within the Division of Family Services to provide technical assistance, program evaluation, and grant administration to community based child abuse prevention programs.
- VDSS will continue to pilot a Structured Decision Making (SDM) model in 45 localities to guide Child Protective Services (CPS) and foster care workers in the safety and protection of children. The SDM model utilizes tools to help CPS and foster care workers make more accurate and reliable assessments of safety and long-term risk. VDSS is currently engaged in a workload study to determine if additional resources are needed prior to making a decision regarding statewide implementation of the SDM model.

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CHILD DEATHS

During fiscal year (FY) 2007, local departments of social services investigated 60 reports of child abuse or neglect that involved a child fatality. Reports were founded involving 29 children and unfounded involving 31 children.

**Dispositions of CPS Complaints with a Child Death by Locality
FY 2007**

Local Department	Founded	Unfounded	Pending/Appealed	Total Deaths Investigated
ALBEMARLE	1	0	0	1
BEDFORD	1	0	0	1
BRISTOL	1	0	0	1
BUCHANAN	1	0	0	1
CHESAPEAKE	1	7	0	8
CHESTERFIELD	1	0	0	1
CLARKE	0	1	0	1
CULPEPER	0	1	0	1
CUMBERLAND	1	0	0	1
DINWIDDIE	1	0	0	1
ESSEX	0	1	0	1
FAIRFAX	1	1	0	2
FLUVANNA	0	1	0	1
FRANKLIN CITY	1	0	0	1
GRAYSON	1	0	0	1
HAMPTON	1	0	0	1
HANOVER	0	1	0	1
HENRICO	0	1	0	1
LOUDOUN	0	2	0	2
LYNCHBURG	0	1	0	1
MATHEWS	0	1	0	1
MECKLENBURG	0	1	0	1
MONTGOMERY	2	0	0	2
NEW KENT	0	1	0	1
NEWPORT NEWS	1	0	0	1
NORFOLK	1	3	0	4
PETERSBURG	1	1	0	2
PORTSMOUTH	1	1	0	2
PRINCE WILLIAM	1	0	0	1
RICHMOND CITY	3	4	0	7
ROANOKE CITY	3	0	0	3
STAFFORD	1	0	0	1
SUSSEX	1	0	0	1
VIRGINIA BEACH	1	2	0	3
WASHINGTON	1	0	0	1
Total	29	31	0	60

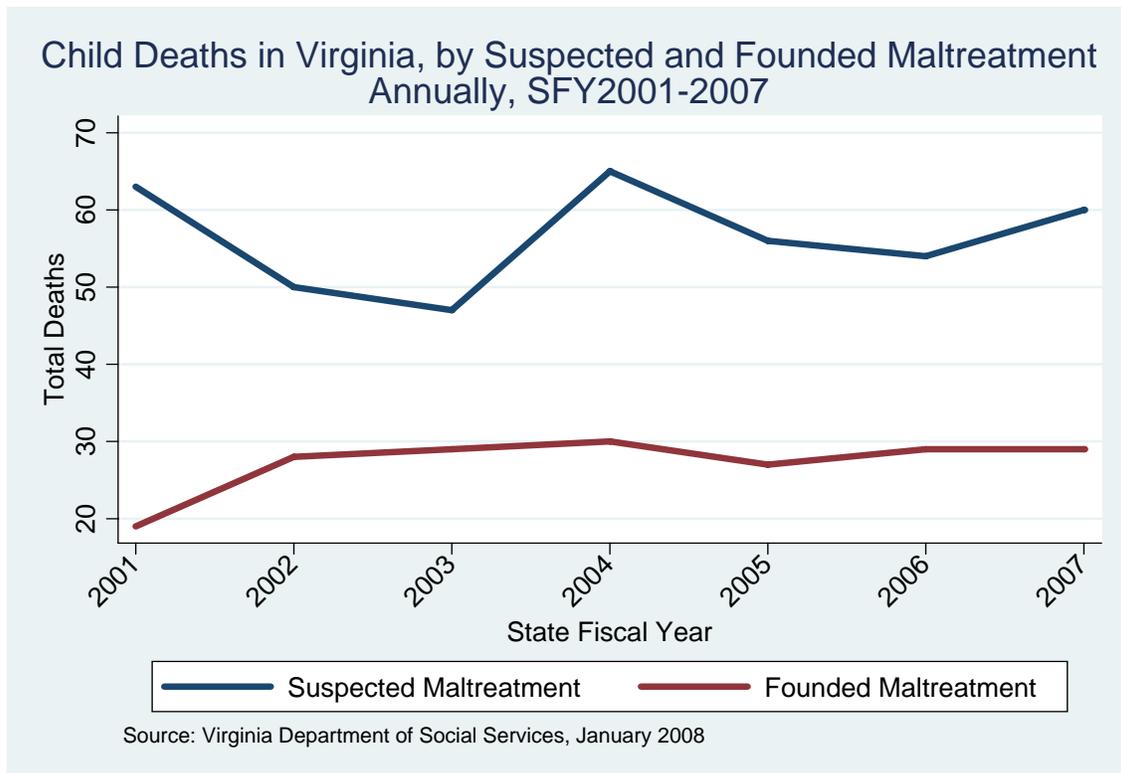
Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2008

Death Rate of Children Due to Abuse or Neglect FY 2001 – FY 2007

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	1.48
2005	56	27	1.38
2006	54	29	1.42
2007	60	29	1.42

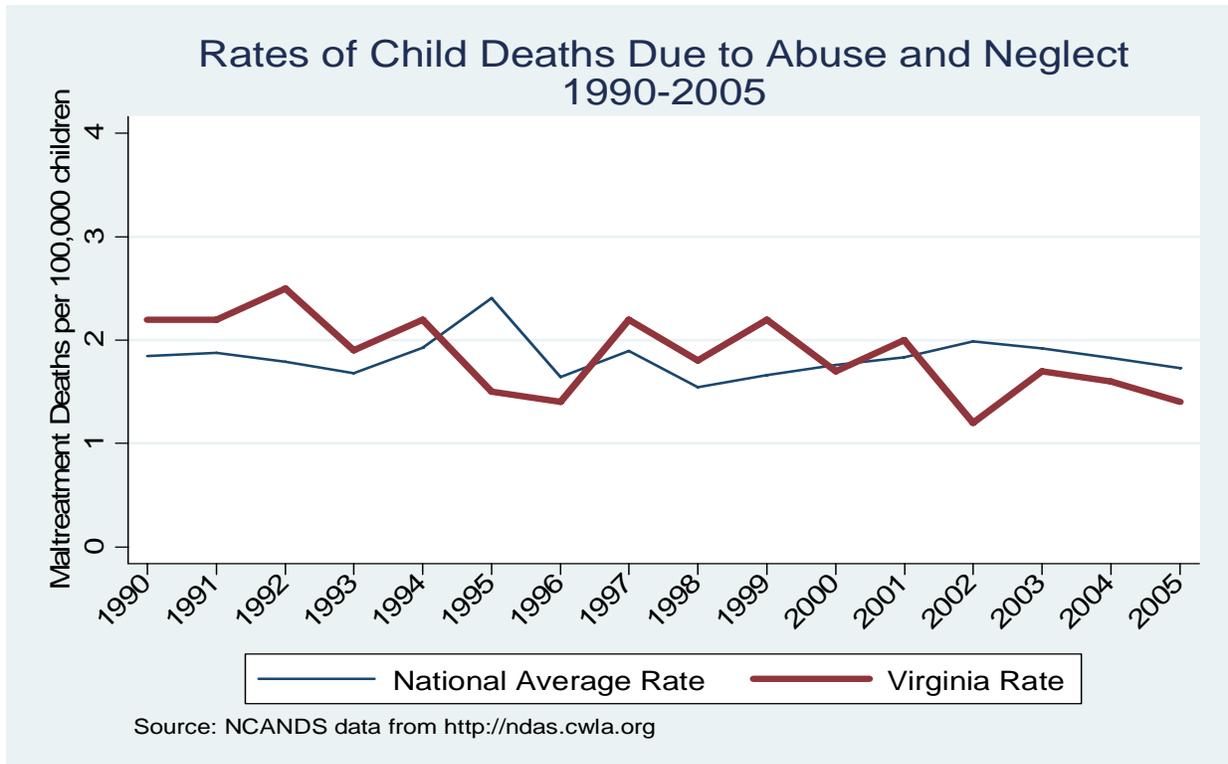
¹Death rate is calculated as number of deaths due to abuse/neglect divided by the state child population
Sources: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2008; Census State Population Estimates

The number of children who died as the result of child maltreatment remained the same from FY 2006 to FY 2007. There have been fewer than 30 child deaths each year since FY 2002. In FY 2007, the child death rate due to abuse or neglect was 1.42. The death rate did not increase from FY 2006. The data indicates an increase in the child death rate from 1.02 in FY 2001 to 1.42 in FY 2007.



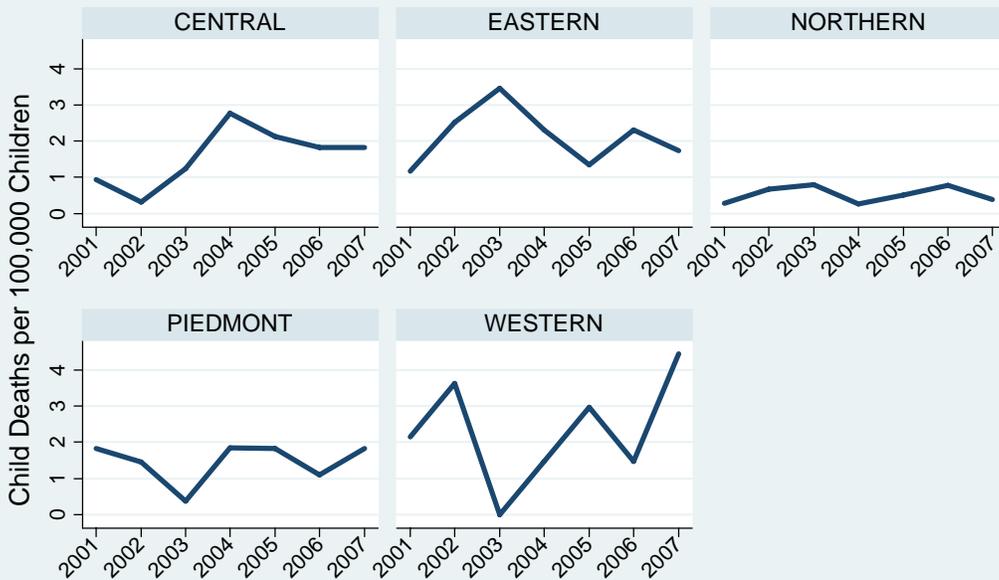
The graph above presents the number of child death reports that were investigated and the number of deaths that were a result of founded abuse or neglect. The number of child deaths due to abuse or neglect (the bottom line of the graph) has been stable since FY 2002 after a significant increase in FY 2001. The number of reports of child deaths (the top line in the graph) has fluctuated since 2001.

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



National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) 2005 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 2005 (the most recent national data), Virginia was 22nd out of 48 reporting states in the child maltreatment death rate (ranked from lowest to highest.) Since 1990, Virginia's rate of child deaths due to maltreatment has declined on average by 4.5 % per year. Nationally over the same period, the rate has not changed on average.

Rates of Founded Maltreatment Deaths By Region Annually SFY2001-2007



Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2008

In FY 2007, the cities of Roanoke and Richmond each had three child deaths due to abuse and neglect. The Eastern region area had seven child deaths. There were six deaths in the Western region, including two deaths in Montgomery County. This is a significant increase for this region of the state.

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 and FY 2007

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

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2008

Children who died from child maltreatment in FY 2007 ranged in age from birth to 15 years. Of the 29 children who died from child maltreatment, 15 (51.7 %) were less than one year of age. This is consistent with national data and FY 2006 state data that have found young children to be the most vulnerable.

**Children Who Died From Abuse or Neglect by Race and Ethnicity
FY 2006 and FY 2007**

Race	Fiscal Year 2006		Fiscal Year 2007	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Black	11	37.9	10	34.5
White	17	58.6	15	51.7
Biracial	0	0.0	3	10.3
Hispanic	1	3.5	1	3.5
Total	29	100.0	29	100.0

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2008

In FY 2007, 10 children who died as a result of child maltreatment were African-American, 15 children were white, three children were biracial and one child was of Hispanic ethnicity. In FY 2006 and 2007, more white children died as a result of child abuse or neglect than African-American children. However, the rate of child deaths because of 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 and FY 2007**

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

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2008

In FY 2007, there were seven (24.1 %) females and 22 (75.9 %) 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. This is consistent with national data and previous state data that found males to have a higher rate of child maltreatment fatalities than females.

CARETAKERS

Caretakers in Child Deaths from Abuse or Neglect FY 2006 and FY 2007

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

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2008

Local departments of social services found 38 caretakers to be responsible for the deaths of 29 children due to child abuse/neglect in FY 2007. This is two fewer caretakers than in FY 2006. Some victims were abused by more than one caretaker.

Most caretakers were related to the victim or resided with the victim. Out of the 38 caretakers, 32 (84.2 %) were biological parents, adoptive parents or stepparents. This is an increase from FY 2006 that found 64.1 % of caretakers to be parents of the child victim.

Three of the 38 (7.9 %) caretakers were out of family providers including two unregulated babysitters and 1 licensed daycare provider. This is a slight decrease from FY 2006 that found 8.3 % of all caretakers were in out of family settings.

Three caretakers (7.9 %) were the mother's paramour. This is a decrease from FY 2006 that found 12.8 % of the caretakers were a paramour.

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

Race	Number	Percent
Black	10	26.3
White	25	65.8
Hispanic	1	2.6
Biracial	1	2.6
Unknown	1	2.6
Total Caretakers	38	100.0

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2008

In FY 2007, 10 (26.3 %) caretakers were African-American, 25 (65.8 %) were white, one (2.6 %) was biracial and one (2.6 %) was of Hispanic ethnicity. The race of one (2.6 %) caretaker was unknown.

This distribution is somewhat different from FY 2006 when there were 18 African-American caretakers, 22 white caretakers, one caretaker of Hispanic ethnicity and one caretaker where the race was not known.

Caretakers in Child Deaths from Abuse or Neglect by Gender FY 2006 and FY 2007

Gender	Fiscal Year 2006		Fiscal Year 2007	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Female	23	57.5	22	57.9
Male	17	42.5	16	42.1
Total Caretakers	40	100.0	38	100.0

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2008

In FY 2007, of the 38 caretakers found to be responsible for child deaths there were 22 females and 16 males. This is similar to the gender of caretakers in previous state data that finds more female than male caretakers responsible for child deaths. Twenty-five (65.8 %) of the 38 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

Type of Neglect in Child Deaths FY 2007

Type of Neglect	Number of Children	Percent
Abandonment	2	8.3
Drowning	1	4.1
Inadequate or dangerous shelter	1	4.1
Lack of supervision	13	54.1
Other	2	8.3
Medical Neglect	5	20.8
Total children ¹	24	

¹Duplicated count because some children experienced more than one type of neglect or abuse;
Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2008

In FY 2007, 24 children died as a result of at least one type of neglect. Some children were neglected or abused in more than one way. The most prevalent type of neglect is lack of supervision. Thirteen (54.1 %) children died from this type of neglect. Examples of deaths that occurred from a lack of supervision include two children who died in house fires. Four children 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. Five (20.8 %) children died due to the caretaker's failure to provide or to seek medical care for the child. One newborn child died from neglect by the mother at birth.

There were three deaths that occurred while the infant was sleeping in the bed or sofa with the parent. In all of these situations, there appeared to be drug or alcohol use by the parent or grandparent.

Type of Abuse in Child Deaths FY 2007

Type of Physical Abuse	Number of Children	Percent
Asphyxiation	2	15.3
Battered child syndrome	1	7.6
Bruises	1	7.6
Poisoning	2	15.3
Shaking	1	7.6
Stabbing	1	7.6
Other or Unspecified Type	5	38.5
Total children ¹	13	

¹Duplicated count because some children experienced more than one type of neglect or abuse
Source: Virginia Department of Social Services, January 2008

In FY 2007, 13 children died as a result of at least one type of abuse. Some children were neglected or abused in more than one way. Most child deaths were due to abuse involved blunt force trauma to the child. Two children were poisoned by their fathers. A mother stabbed her son to death. A father strangled his son. One child died from being shaken by his father.

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.

Risk Factors in Child Deaths from Abuse/Neglect FY 2007

Risk Factor	Child	Family, including Parents, Siblings and Relatives
Previous/Current Child Welfare Services or CPS, including screened out reports	6	4
Child's Special Needs	1	

There were 10 families with prior or current child welfare or Child Protective Services (CPS) involvement in FY 2007. Two children died during an open family assessment. One child was in a prior family assessment. One child was in a founded investigation for lack of supervision involving the victim and his siblings. One child was in a founded investigation of lack of

supervision complaint involving a former babysitter. One child had been the subject of a screened out report in the year prior to the child's death.

The remaining four families had prior CPS or other child welfare involvement including the foster care placement of siblings of the victim or the mother of the victim in two families. There were two prior family assessments or investigations involving older siblings of the victim.

In FY 2007, there was one child death involving a child with special health needs whose lack of medication to treat the seizure disorder contributed to his death.

ACTIONS TAKEN IN FY 2007

Actions taken to assess the problem of child maltreatment fatalities in Virginia and to develop recommendations for prevention during FY 2007 included:

- The State Child Fatality Review Team (Team) initiated its review of child homicides. Many of the children have been involved in the juvenile justice and/or foster care system. The review is scheduled to be completed in 2009.
- VDSS and the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner continued to support local/regional child fatality review teams, including the Hampton Roads Child Fatality Team.
- VDSS assisted the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner with data collection for the National Violent Death Reporting System.
- Child Abuse Prevention Committee (CAPC), under the auspices of the Governor's Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect met bi-monthly to support and monitor the nine strategies of the Blue Ribbon Plan. A conference entitled *Prevention Comes First: A Shared Vision* was held in April 2007 to promote evidence based child abuse prevention programs. Dr. James Mercy from the Centers for Disease Control spoke on the Adverse Childhood Experiences Study. Workshops were held on topics such as Parents as Teachers, Parent Leadership, Family and Schools Together, Abuse and Neglect of Children with Disabilities, Dare To Be You, and Advocacy.

Actions taken to prevent child maltreatment fatalities in Virginia:

- VDSS continued to pilot Structured Decision Making (SDM) in 45 localities to guide CPS and foster care workers in the safety and protection of children. The SDM model utilizes tools to help CPS and foster care workers make more accurate and reliable assessments of safety issues and long-term risk.
- VDSS is revising and reorganizing the CPS guidance manual for local departments of social services. There will be a separate section for child deaths that will include all Code of Virginia citations and regulations pertaining to CPS and child abuse and neglect as well as policies approved by the State Board of Social Services that provide additional guidance to local departments when a report of child death due to abuse or neglect is

received. In addition, the data collection instruments for reporting on child deaths from the beginning of the investigation to its conclusion are being revised.

- VDSS' Child Protective Services Unit continued to administer the statewide Healthy Families Program which includes 38 local sites in 87 communities and one state level program. During FY 2007, there were 3,847 families that received Healthy Families services in Virginia. Funding for the Healthy Family Program is provided through a General Assembly appropriation which for FY 2007 was \$5,472,779.
- During 2007, VDSS continued to administer the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Program, a combination of the Virginia Family Violence Prevention Program funds (\$500,000) and the Federal Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) funds (\$591,802). This program includes 23 prevention programs throughout the State. One program has statewide impact on child abuse prevention. During Federal Fiscal Year 2007, a total of 1,822 families received prevention services in Virginia through this program.
- VDSS included information about the dangers of parent/infant co-sleeping in the 2008 child abuse prevention month packet.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Goal: Promote interagency partnerships to prevent child fatalities due to child abuse and neglect

- The Child Abuse Prevention Committee (CAPC), under the auspices of the Governor's Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect, will continue to support and monitor the nine strategies of the Blue Ribbon Plan. The CAPC operates in partnership with VDSS and Prevent Child Abuse Virginia. Planned activities include a statewide prevention conference in April 2008 focused on prevention of child sexual abuse. CAPC also has linkages with the Statewide Parent Education Work Group.
- VDSS will continue to work with the Office of Family Health Services, Virginia Department of Health to develop an ongoing statewide public awareness campaign to educate parents, caregivers, children, and citizens of the dangers of leaving a child unattended in and around a vehicle.
- VDSS and the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner will continue to support existing local/regional child fatality review teams. Interest in establishing a regional team has been expressed by Hopewell, Petersburg, Prince George and Dinwiddie and also in the Lynchburg area and Loudoun County.

Goal: Reduce child maltreatment fatalities among infants and young children

- VDSS will continue to support community prevention activities by staffing a child abuse prevention unit within the Division of Family Services to provide technical assistance,

program evaluation, and grant administration to community based child abuse prevention programs.

- VDSS will continue to pilot a SDM model in 45 localities to guide CPS and foster care workers in the safety and protection of children. The SDM model utilizes tools to help CPS and foster care workers make more accurate and reliable assessments of safety and long-term risk. VDSS is currently engaged in a workload study to determine if additional resources are needed prior to making a decision regarding statewide implementation of SDM.

APPENDIX

Table of Cases

Report On Child Deaths Due to Abuse or Neglect in Virginia During Fiscal Year 2007
APPENDIX: Table of Founded Investigations with a Child Death

Agency	Sex	Race	Date of Birth/ Age at Death	Date of Death	Date of Complaint	Abuser Relation to Child	Age	Sex	Race	Type Abuse/Neglect Resulting in Death	Disposition	Criminal Justice Status	Previous CPS or Other Child Welfare Involvement
Albemarle	Female	White	3/1/06 8 months	11/15/2006	11/14/2006	Mother's Paramour	29	Male	White	Physical Abuse: Other	Founded	Unknown	None
Bedford	Male	Black	10/5/06 2 1/2 months	12/26/2006	12/26/2006	Father	24	Male	Black	Physical Abuse: Shaking	Founded	The father was charged with first degree murder.	None
Bristol	Male	White	8/4/05 14 months	10/30/2006	10/31/2006	Mother Father	17 19	Female Male	White White	Physical Neglect: Drowning	Founded	None	None
Buchanan	Male	White	5/10/07 7 weeks	6/30/2007	6/30/2007	Mother Father	21 31	Female Male	White White	Medical Neglect	Founded	Both parents have drug history with law enforcement. The mother was released from jail to have baby and will have to return to jail.	The mother was in foster care due to her mother's alcoholism.
Chesapeake	Male	White	8/17/06 1 month	9/16/2006	9/16/2006	Mother Father	23 26	Female Male	White White	Physical Neglect: Lack of Supervision Physical Abuse: Poisoning	Founded	None	None
Chesterfield	Male	White	6/24/05 1 year	10/18/2006	10/19/2006	Babysitter	41	Female	White	Physical Neglect	Founded	The babysitter was convicted of involuntary manslaughter.	None
Cumberland	Male	White	10/28/04 2 years	5/8/2007	5/8/2007	Babysitter	56	Male	White	Physical Abuse	Founded	Unknown	None
Dinwiddie	Male	White	1/18/00 6 years	11/26/2006	11/30/2006	Mother	28	female	White	Physical Abuse: Stabbing	Founded	Mother charged with capital murder.	None
Fairfax	Male	Black	12/2/04 21 months	9/12/2006	9/12/2006	Daycare Provider Not Regulated	24	Male	White	Physical Abuse: Battered Child Syndrome	Founded	The babysitter was convicted of murder.	None
Franklin City	Male	Black	8/24/06 5 months	2/1/2007	2/1/2007	Mother	23	Female	White	Physical Neglect: Lack of Supervision	Founded	Unknown	None
Grayson	Female	Biracial	10/26/07 5 months	3/27/2007	3/27/2007	Mother Father	16 21	Female Male	White Biracial	Physical Abuse: Other	Founded	Unknown	There was an open family assessment at the time of the child's death.
Hampton	Male	Black	4/8/2006 14 months	6/27/2007	6/26/2007	Mother	26	Female	Black	Physical Neglect: Lack of Supervision	Founded	None	None
Montgomery	Male	White	10/26/06 2 weeks	11/12/2006	11/12/2006	Mother Father	20 20	Female Male	White White	Physical Neglect: Lack of Supervision; Inadequate or Dangerous Shelter	Founded	Unknown	None
Montgomery	Male	White	11/30/06 4 1/2 months	4/15/2007	4/24/2007	Mother Paramour	24 25	Female Male	White White	Physical Neglect: Lack of Supervision Physical Abuse:	Founded	Unknown	None
Newport News	Male	White	5/14/06 1 year	6/6/2007	6/6/2007	Father	26	Male	White	Physical Neglect: Lack of Supervision	Founded	Unknown	There was a screened out report in August 2006 about the father not supervising the older sibling.
Norfolk	Female	White	10/22/03 3 1/2 years	6/29/2007	6/29/2007	Mother Father	36 43	Female Male	White White	Physical Neglect: Lack of Supervision	Founded	Unknown	None
Petersburg	Male	Black	5/18/06 4 months	9/1/2006	9/1/2006	Mother	33	Female	Black	Physical Neglect: Lack of Supervision	Founded	None	None

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Portsmouth	Male	Biracial	10/13/05 10 months	8/23/2006	8/23/2006	Mother	20 years	Female	Black	Medical Neglect Physical Abuse: Asphyxiation	Founded	The mother was charged with murder.	There was an open Family Assessment at the time of the child's death..
Prince William	Male	Hispanic	8/18/02 3 1/2 years	7/11/06	7/11/2006	Mother	20 years	Female	Hispanic	Physical Neglect: Lack of Supervision	Founded	None	There was one prior lack of supervision complaint involving the child and a former babysitter.
Richmond City	Female	Black	3/29/06 9 months	12/3/2006	12/4/2006	Mother	24	Female	Black	Physical Neglect: Lack of Supervision	Founded	Unknown	The older children of the victim had been removed from the mother's custody in 2003 and 2005. In 2006, there were 2 family assessments involving the victim and siblings but no services were provided because the mother refused and the court did not enter an order.
Richmond City	Male	Black	10/26/04 1 year	7/27/2006	7/27/2006	Mother	22	Female	Black	Physical Neglect: Lack of Supervision	Founded	None	There is one founded investigation in December 2004 for lack of supervision involving the victim and his siblings.
Richmond City	Male	Black	2/13/07 Newborn	2/13/2007	2/14/2007	Mother	16	Female	Black	Physical Neglect: Abandonment Medical Neglect:	Founded	The mother pled no contest to involuntary manslaughter.	There is no prior history involving the mother of the victim, but her older brother was in foster care for delinquent sexual behavior.
Roanoke City	Male	Black	1/1/06 9 months	10/18/2006	10/18/2006	Father	28	Male	Black	Physical Abuse: Poisoning	Founded	Unknown	None
Roanoke City	Male	White	7/6/06 4 months	11/4/2006	11/4/2006	Mother	26	Female	White	Physical Neglect: Other	Founded	None	None
Roanoke City	Male	White	7/11/91 15 years	5/10/2007	7/9/07	Mother	Unknown	Female	White	Physical Neglect: Lack of Supervision	Founded	The mother pled guilty to allowing an unlicensed person to drive.	None
Stafford	Female	Black	11/2/02 3 years	8/16/2006	8/13/2006	Mother Paramour	22 20	Female Male	Black Unknown	Physical Abuse: Other Physical Neglect: Lack of Supervision	Founded	The paramour was convicted of felony child abuse in September 2007.	There were 2 screened out complaints in 2006 involving the victim and siblings.
Sussex	Male	Biracial	7/11/02 4 years	8/29/2006	8/30/2006	Mother Stepfather	25 30	Female Male	White Black	Medical Neglect Physical Abuse: Bruises	Founded	The stepfather was charged with second degree murder. The mother was charged with felony child neglect.	None
Virginia Beach	Female	White	4/23/04 2 years	11/28/2006	11/28/06 (no referral was made, article seen in paper by CPS)	Father	35	Male	White	Physical Abuse: Asphyxiation	Founded	Law enforcement investigation determined the father had killed the child. However, the father was killed that same day in an automobile accident.	None
Washington	Female	White	1/07 4 months	5/15/2007	5/15/2007	Mother	27	Female	White	Physical Neglect; Lack of Supervision	Founded	Unknown	One founded investigation for lack of supervision in 2006 involving 2 older siblings of the victim.

Summary of Circumstances
When the child was taken to the hospital, tests showed old fractures, along with retinal hemorrhage and brain inflammation. The medical examiner determined the cause of death was blunt force injury.
The father confessed to police to shaking the child because he was crying.
The child drowned in water collected in a swimming pool cover. Both parents were at home asleep. It was not known how the child got out of the house.
The mother found the child dead in the bed with the grandmother. Medication for breathing problems had been prescribed for the child two days before the child died. The mother did not fill the prescription. Both parents have drug abuse issues and the grandmother was legally drunk when the police responded to the home.
The father admitted to putting whiskey in the child's formula. The medical examiner determined the cause of death was due to acute alcohol poisoning.
While at the babysitter's home, the child died while confined to a crib over which a board and other objects had been placed to prevent child from standing.
There were conflicting reports about the child choking on food while at the babysitter's home. The medical examiner determined cause of death due to blunt force trauma.
The mother stabbed her child to death.
The day care provider left the child at home in the care of her husband for several hours. When she returned the child was dead in his crib. The medical examiner determined the cause of death was due to blunt force trauma.
The child died in a fire at family's residence begun by siblings. Mom was not in the house at the time of the fire.
The child was brought to the hospital with unexplained rash and other possible injuries. The medical examiner determined the cause of death was due to blunt force trauma to the head.
The mother left the toddler and older sibling unsupervised in the bath tub and the toddler drowned.
There were conflicting stories about where the child was when he died. It is possible infant was on couch with father who rolled over on him. There were concerns that both parents abused drugs and alcohol. The father was drunk at the hospital and law enforcement found drug paraphernalia at the home.
The mother was taking prescription medication that made her unable to care for the child. She and infant were spending night with boyfriend who admitted putting comforter over the infant so they would not hear him cry and they could sleep.
The child's father was preparing lunch and noticed the child was missing. The child was found head first in the toilet.
Child playing in pool with father who went inside with wife while she changed into bathing suit. Dad returned to find daughter in deep end of pool-transported to hospital where she was pronounced dead.
The mother went to work and did not make sure there was a responsible adult to care for the child. The child's body was found in the bedroom wedged between the mattress and the ball.

The child had a seizure disorder but mother did not give medication as prescribed.
The child drowned in a neighbor's pool. The mother was found asleep at home.
The mother was not properly supervising the children when the child's older sibling who had psychological problems forced food down the child's throat.
The child died from burns suffered in a house fire started by the sibling's older sisters, while the mother was at home asleep.
The mother came to the hospital for bleeding that confirmed she had recently given birth. The police went to her home and found the newborn was dead.
The child was alone with the father when he suffered a puncture wound in the chest. The medical examiner determined the cause of death was due to volatile organic liquid poisoning.
The mother fell asleep with the child on the sofa. When she awoke, she was lying on top of the infant. The mother was on prescription medication and had been drinking.
The mother allowed her son to drive alone when he only had a learner's permit. The child was killed when he lost control of the car while traveling at high speed.
The mother's boyfriend beat the child to death and the mother was present.
The child was brought to the hospital with injuries that had been inflicted during a time when the stepfather was the only person with the child.
The child's body was found in the driveway of a vacant house. The medical examiner determined the child had been beaten and strangled.
The child was put to bed by mother and not checked on again for many hours. There were unexplained injuries to the child. The mother tested positive for drugs at the time the child died.