

Texas Child Fatality Review Team Member Agreement

It is agreed that team members must sign the Child Fatality Review Team (CFRT) Member Agreement:

- When forming a new local CFRT.
- When joining a local CFRT.
- Prior to participating in a child fatality review meeting.

Team members may sign the Member Agreement physically or electronically. Team leaders must keep a copy of the Member Agreement and email a copy to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) state injury prevention coordinator.

Agreements:

Members agree they will collaborate with a multi-disciplinary team to understand preventable child deaths and develop recommendations for intervention and prevention strategies.

Members agree the local CFRT objectives are to:

- Promote cooperation, communication, and coordination among organizations involved in responding to child fatalities.
- Assure the accurate reporting of child fatalities by age, location, cause, manner, and circumstance.
- Support child death investigation and certification.
- Implement investigative guidelines and child fatality recommendations.
- Improve recognition of child fatalities from abuse and neglect, genetic diseases, inadequate medical care, and public health dangers through analysis of patterns and trends.
- Enhance the general awareness and understanding of how and why children die.
- Identify system-based barriers to child health and safety that, when removed, will ultimately reduce preventable child fatality numbers.
- Initiate local prevention efforts to reduce preventable child fatality numbers as indicated by child fatality review findings.

Members agree the local CFRT membership may be comprised of, but not limited to, the following professionals:

- Criminal Prosecutor
- Sheriff
- Medical Examiner
- Justice of the Peace
- Police Chief
- Pediatrician
- Child Educator
- Child Mental Health Provider
- Public health professional
- A Child Protective Services Specialist
- A Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Service Provider
- Neonatologist
- Child advocate
- Juvenile probation officer
- Child Abuse Prevention Specialist

Members agree the child fatality review process requires review of individual child deaths and confidentiality is inherent in the involved reports, measures will be taken to protect confidentiality.

All local CFRT members will sign a confidentiality agreement prohibiting any unauthorized dissemination of information beyond the purpose of the CFRT. See the [Child Fatality Review Team Operations Protocol](#) for more information.

Members agree data will be submitted by the local CFRT to the National Fatality Review Case Reporting System where it will be maintained for the purpose of establishing state reports with standardized, non-identified, aggregate data from local CFRTs throughout Texas.

Name of Child Fatality Review Team: _____

The following member makes this agreement:

Member Name

Member Organization

Signature

Date