



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Public Health
Department No.: 041
For Agenda Of: November 10, 2020
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Van Do-Reynoso, MPH, PhD
Director(s) Public Health Department
Contact Info: Kelley Barragan 805-681-5476
SUBJECT: Child Death Review Team Report 2017-2018

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors consider the following recommendations:

- a) Receive and file a report from the Child Death Review Team on deaths of children in Santa Barbara County for the period January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2018.
- b) Determine that these above action is not a "Project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section 15378(b)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines, since the action consists of organizational or administrative activities of the government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to provide the Board with a report on Child Death Reviews in Santa Barbara County. The Child Death Review Team (CDRT) was created pursuant to Penal Code section 11174.32 to review child deaths and their causes, explore means to avert similar deaths and, where available, compile statistical data to identify trends. The current report includes data from calendar years 2017 and 2018.

Background:

The CDRT is a county-wide interagency task force with the purpose of preventing childhood fatalities through comprehensive and multidisciplinary assessment of child deaths. Members include law enforcement, social services, and key community service providers. The team has produced a report summarizing child deaths in our county. A copy of this report is provided for your reference.

The accompanying CDRT report in Santa Barbara County includes the deaths of children through the age of 17 and covers the time period of January 2017 through December 2018. The report reflects causes of child deaths and recommendations to prevent future deaths. During this two year period of time, there were 72 total childhood deaths in Santa Barbara County, with the majority due to medical conditions.

The Santa Barbara County CDRT is made possible by the members themselves and the agencies that commit their time to this endeavor. The dedicated efforts of all team members are sincerely appreciated. Activities will continue to strengthen this review process and recommend action to prevent future child deaths.

A press release will be sent to the media, copies of the report will be made available upon request and is posted on the Board of Supervisors Agendas and Minutes website and on the Public Health Department website.

Key points of the 2017-2018 CDRT Report:

- The majority of child deaths were due to medical conditions or unpreventable disease. In 2017, 73.5% (25/34) of all deaths were due to medical conditions; 2018, 71.1% (27/38) of all deaths were due to medical conditions.
- Suicides account for 20% of the deaths in SBC adolescents in 2017-2018 which was similarly observed in the previous CDRT report.
- Unsafe sleeping conditions, such as bed sharing, were factors in several of the accidental and undetermined deaths of infants and young children.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: N/A

Fiscal Analysis:

There are no fiscal or facilities impacts to accepting this report and reviewing the recommendations.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:
0

FTEs:
0

Special Instructions:

Please return one (1) electronic Minute Order to Kelly.Lazarus@sbcphd.org.

Attachments:

- A. Child Death Review Team Report 2017-2018

Authored by:

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