CALDWELL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Health Director
Anna Cook, MPH

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Mission: To Promote, Protect, and Improve the Health of Our Community

5/26/2026

Local child Fatality Prevention Team Background:

North Carolina Session Law (NCSL) 2023-134 enacted changes to strengthen the state's child fatality prevention system which included the establishment of a State Office of Child Fatality Prevention (CFP State Office) within the Division of Public Health (DPH), Department of Health and Human Services (the Department), made changes to the Child Fatality Prevention System, and made it mandatory to report child fatalities into the National Fatality Review Case Reporting System (NFRCRS).

The NFR-CRS is a web-based system hosted by the National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention within the Center for National Prevention Initiatives of the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI) and is used by many states to provide child death review teams with a data system for capturing, analyzing, and reporting of information shared at a child death or serious injury review. MPHI has a Cooperative Agreement with the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, to manage the National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention.

Per NCSL 2023-134, Local Teams are defined as a multidisciplinary child death review team that is either a single or multicounty team responsible for performing any type of child fatality review pursuant to Article 14 of Chapter 7B of the General Statutes.

This program receives an Agreement Addendum which provides funding for the Local Team to conduct child fatality reviews pursuant to Article 14 of Chapter 7B of the General Statutes as well as continue use of the NFR-CRS.

The Local Teams are expected to (1) conduct child fatality review pursuant to Article 14 of Chapter 7B of the General Statutes; (2) identify gaps or deficiencies

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that may exist in order to improve the delivery of services to children and families; (3) make recommendations for changes and carry out changes that could prevent future child fatalities; and (4) educate their communities on how to prevent children dying in their counties.

The Caldwell County Local Team has identified the following recommendations for systemic improvements based on reviews during the 2025 calendar year:

1) Increase safe sleep education

The Caldwell County Local Team did not identify any needed resources to address identified gaps and deficiencies in the existing system.

Caldwell County Local Team conducted 2 meetings in 2025:
April 17, 2025
October 16, 2025
We reviewed over 10 childhood deaths, most deaths were regarding unsafe sleep and/or congenital disorders.

Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Anna Cook
Health Director
Local Child Fatality Prevention Team Chairperson