

**Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment**

Minutes: Q4 2023 Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, November 16, 2023

Zoom

**ATTENDANCE**

**Attendees:**

Representative Taylor Rehfeldt, SD Legislature,  
Chair

Senator Helene Duhamel, SD Legislature, Vice-Chair

Haifa AbouSamra, USD

Pamela Bennett, SD DSS, CPS

Pamela Carriveau, SD BOR

Shana Cerny, Advocate

Beth Dokken, SD DOH

Daniele Dosch, FBI

Krista Heeren-Graber, SDNAFVSA

Nikki Eining, Advocate

Sheri Fischer, Sanford Health

Brooke Jones, Child's Voice

Wendy Kloepfner, State's Attorney

Kathy LaPlante, Advocate

Tatewin Means, Advocate

Teresa Nieto, Advocate

Tifanie Petro, Children's Home Society

Pauletta Red Willow, Advocate

Senator Tim Reed, Advocate

Laura Scheibe, SD DOE

Terri Mielitz, Advocate

**Not in Attendance:**

Sara Kelly, UJS

Paul Stevens, Advocate

Stacy Reitmeier, Avera Health

Toby Russell, ICAC.

Representative Linda Duba, Advocate

Shirley Bad Wound, Advocate

Brittany Novotny, CAC-SD

**Guests & CPCM Staff:**

Michael Lindgren on behalf of Brittany Novotny,  
Advocate

Chrissie Young, Director, Secretary

Darla Biel, Assistant Director

Beth Bruggeman, Program Coordinator

Alex VanVoorhis, Program Coordinator

Brandi Miller, Program Specialist

Mina Doerner, Program Assistant

**Agenda Items**

**Call to Order:** 8:30 a.m. by Representative Taylor Rehfeldt.

**Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum:** Secretary, Chrissie Young, confirmed attendees and that we had a quorum after all members joined during roll call.

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** Representative Taylor asked for any corrections to the last meeting's minutes. No corrections presented. Representative Taylor asked for a motion to approve. Senator Tim Reed so moved. Dean Haifa offered a second. Motion was approved.

### CPCM Updates

CPCM Staff provided written updates to Board Members prior to the meeting. Representative Taylor asked if any Board Members had questions or comments on those written updates; there were none. See attached for written report. Director, Chrissie Young, asked the Board Members to please note the upcoming dates at the end of the written report.

- Childrens Day at the Capitol, January 24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Tables are already fully booked. We are also accepting sponsorships. Please reference our website for more information on how to sponsor or join.
- Ray of Hope Breakfast, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. Register online and join us in welcoming Warren Binford as our keynote speaker from the Kempe Foundation.
- Child Welfare Legal Workshop, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Warren will be a speaker at this event as well.
- We also plan to host a reception for Warren Binford on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. We will share more details with the Board at a later date.

### Partner Updates

Partner agencies were asked to provide written updates. These were provided to Board Members prior to the meeting. Representative Rehfeldt asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board on these updates; there were none.

Krista Heeren-Graber provided a verbal update on activities at the South Dakota Network Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault. She noted that most of their updates are also available on [The Network website](#). February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, they will be in Pierre, SD for their quarterly membership meeting. The first two hours will be training on sexual assault. SANE nurses will present. The training is designed for advocates and newer personnel to field. They will also host an evening reception for legislators on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Hope to talk with legislators about the victim services funding as they are devastated by funding cut. Krista affirmed this is a State-wide issue and we must all work together.

Pauletta Red Willow: Nov 21, 2023 @ MMIP Awareness walk in Kyle, SD. Also hosting this walk on November 30, 2023 in Bismarck, ND. All board members are invited and welcome to join.

### Open Discussion & Action Items

**Kempe Center:** Darla provided an update on her and Dean Samra's visit to the Kempe Center on August 17, 2023. She provided a link to a jam board for members to use as they think of ideas, comments, or thoughts about her presentation. Darla noted that the Kempe Center's mission is similar to our own. Their center started in 1972 and in 1976 they were able to develop a new arm; the Kempe Foundation which has the ability to do more advocacy and fundraising as its own 501c3.

Other programs and departments at Kempe Center:

- [CARE Network-Child Abuse Response & Evaluation Network](#)
- [Krystal Grint](#) Child Welfare Training System Workforce
- [John Kruljac](#) Kempe Foundation: Supported 3 bills recently: [HB 231108](#) This act creates a task force to study victim and survivor awareness and responsiveness training requirements for judicial personnel (task force) in the office for victims programs in the division of criminal justice. [HB23-1024](#) Relative and Kin Placement of a Child. [SB23-082](#)-Fostering Success Voucher Program. The purpose of the program is to provide housing vouchers and case management services to eligible youth.

- [Sue Kerns](#) Grant-writing
- [Gwyn Barley](#) Director of Educational Innovation & Advancement
- [Warren Binford](#), JD, EdM-children rights scholar-WH Lea for Justice Endowed Chair for Pediatric Law, Policy & Ethics. She is also our keynote speaker for our April events as noted above in the minutes.
- [Fostering Healthy Futures](#). Also has a podcast.

Discussion: Tifanie Petro presented at Kempe Center’s annual conference this year. They have a virtual, international platform for their annual conference. Children’s Home Society shared about ACE’s and the Resilient Communities model. Tiffanie noted they are able to have more speakers and diversity by using a virtual platform.

Discussion: Darla noted that Kempe’s funding is also heavily reliant on soft/grant funding.

Discussion: Shana Cerny just returned from a visit to Western Michigan’s [Resiliency Center for Families and Children](#) which was established in 2020 to address the multifaceted needs of those experiencing trauma, toxic stress, chronic disability, neurodevelopmental disorders, and/or addictions.

At this center, a Social Worker and an Occupational Therapist evaluate child(ren) and caregiver(s) and provide comprehensive recommendations and intervention services as needed. Their center receives referrals from court systems, school districts, medical providers, etc. They also have a pediatrician on their team. Willing to train USD to use their CAAS model for our medical school. Darla and Shana will connect after this meeting to discuss further.

**Director Vision & Observations:** Chrissie shared her initial observations after being with the center for the last couple weeks. The center’s strategic plan is robust and may be overly ambitious with a team of 6 full time employees. She hopes to conduct a study of the market – what’s going on in the industry, in our state, with our partners, where are their gaps we can fill and make an impact on quickly. She would like to focus on doing a few things, really well. She hopes to revisit and revise the strategic plan sometime over the next 3-6 months and would like to get feedback from all board members before then.

### **Other/Previous Business**

Representative Rehfeldt noted an action item from our February 2023 board meeting to review and discuss our committees and workgroups. Chrissie asked if anyone has notes or remembers who may be on each of our standing and ad hoc committees.

- Executive
- Nominating
- Tribal Communities Workgroup
- Grants Committee
- Mandatory Reporter workgroup has completed their projects and has dissolved.
- Senator Reed suggested that we revitalize the Legislative Committee to help CPCM focus on and prioritize which bills they should watch.

Discussion: Sheri Fischer offered to join the Legislative committee as a representative from the healthcare field. She also brought up a concern she noticed in a recent DOH Death Report. She said if an infant dies, they may not receive an autopsy as it is left to parental choice. She noted a low number of

autopsies for infants and children. Are we missing something from a child abuse perspective by allowing the parents to decide if there should be an autopsy?

Discussion: Wendy shared the rules in the Madison Hospital system – an attended vs unattended death. Coroner or States attorney can order an autopsy in the case of an unattended death. If the child dies at a hospital (attended death) and law enforcement or DSS have not been notified, an autopsy may not be ordered and yes, is left up to the parents. In the case of an attended death, a coroner may not be notified. Hospital policies may affect the low rate of autopsy requests. Goes back to mandatory reporting -doctors/nurses, etc. need to report as soon as possible if they suspect abuse or neglect. How do child advocates step in? Religious beliefs may also be in play regarding whether a parent wants an autopsy or not.

Discussion: Representative Rehfeldt agreed and said that mandatory reporting should occur through death; especially in a suspicious or unexpected/unexplained death. She will look into data from other states through the Legislative Research Council and will report out at our next meeting. She will also investigate what other states have in their statutes.

Discussion: There was some conversation around the state’s data collection and aggregation of data. Dokken at DOH offered to contact Secretary Magstadt and believes she could facilitate data collection without having to legislate.

Several group members shared details on who was on each committee, etc. Chrissie agreed to follow-up with each committee/all members to determine next steps and confirm or identify committee members.

### **Action Items**

Representative Rehfeldt recapped the following action items to the Advisory Board:

- Representative Rehfeldt will utilize the Legislative Research Council to gather data on infant deaths and autopsies completed in other states, as well as other state statutes. She will report out on this in our next meeting.
- Chrissie will contact committee/workgroup members as identified during the meeting to confirm members and identify next steps before our next meeting.
  - Nominating committee will need to identify members for Executive Committee and make recommendations for filling empty board seats prior to our annual meeting in April.
- Beth Dokken will connect with Secretary Magstadt about statewide data collection regarding a database and/or death report.

### **Next Meetings**

The CPCM Advisory Board will meet quarterly on the following dates:

- January 18, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.
- April – TBD – may coordinate around timing of Breakfast and/or Child Welfare Legal Workshop
- August – TBD
- November – TBD

### **Adjourn**

Representative Rehfeldt asked for a motion to the adjourn the meeting. Wendy moved the motion; Helene seconded the motion. Motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned at 9:49 a.m.