

Wisconsin Citizen Review Panel Annual Report
January 1-December 31, 2015

Name of Panel:	St Croix County Citizen Review Panel
Contact Person & Title:	Sheryl Herberg, St Croix County SW Jim Allison, St Croix County SW

Briefly describe the panel's meeting schedule and number/types of meetings, including subcommittee and workgroup meetings, held in 2015.

The panel attempts to meet monthly, every third Tuesday from 11:30 am- 1:00 pm at the Family Resource Center Office in Baldwin, Wisconsin. The panel met nine times in 2015.

Please provide a summary of the panel's activities in regards to:

1. Evaluating the extent to which the State and the local child protection agencies are fulfilling their child protection responsibilities.
The Panel has reviewed cases both locally and statewide using public disclosure reports and local news stories.
2. Evaluating local and State progress under the State CAPTA Plan.
3. Activities related to public outreach and comment to assess the impact of current child protection procedures and practices on children and families in the community.
 1. Panel members planned and provided two county trainings regarding the use of four simulator dolls for educational purposes related to shaken baby syndrome, prenatal drug exposure and fetal alcohol syndrome. The dolls were purchased by the panel in 2014. Ongoing trainings are being provided in local schools and conferences by St Croix County Public Health.
 2. "Purple Cry" materials were provided to local hospitals to be given to all families delivering babies in St Croix County. Materials are delivered by parent educators with the Family Resource St Croix Valley.
 3. The panel collaborated with the Polk County Citizen Review Panel in hosting an "Abusive Head Trauma Summit" bringing in Dr. Lynn Sheets, Children's Hospital of Milwaukee as a guest speaker. The event was attended by more than fifty people.

Did the panel conduct any reviews of CPS cases, child fatalities and near fatalities? If yes, please describe.

No.

Please describe any other panel activities or issues addressed in 2015.

1. Training opportunities were provided for two panel members to attend the State CRP conference in August, 2015.
2. Training opportunities were provided for two panel members to attend the Midwest Injury Prevention Alliance Conference in November, 2015
3. Sexual abuse publications were purchased to be given to children and families in St Croix County who are in need.

Please describe activities planned or held to date in 2016.

1. Provide County training on the subject of domestic violence and its effect on children.(February/March, 2016)
2. Research into the perceived rise in unborn child abuse and drug affected children, to include a review of available St Croix County Data.
3. Continue to participate in on-going state-wide GAL project.
4. Expand CRP membership with invites to Drug Task Force and Child Death Review Team.
5. Support training in Trauma-Informed Care and ACE Research.
6. Review and consider purchase of further books on the subject of sexual abuse prevention to be distributed county wide.

Panel recommendations to improve child protection services at the local level:

The panel asks for clarification of the proper channels by which to obtain Child Protection data, aggregate as well as actual cases for the purpose of researching trends in child maltreatment, making recommendations and taking action to improve the child welfare system.

Panel recommendations to improve child protection services at the State level:

The panel asks that more consideration be given to the location of state sponsored trainings to better accommodate the western and northern regions of the state.

The panel also recommends a review and clarification of Statutes pertaining to child abuse and neglect. The panel is concerned about the vagueness of language used in determining the substantiation of abuse and neglect leaving much up to interpretation.

Optional/additional information or comments:

Please submit the **completed CRP Annual Report** and the **panel's current membership list** to the State of Wisconsin Department of Children and Families by e-mailing copies to Paula Brown at PaulaL.Brown@wisconsin.gov. The annual report and the DCF response to each report will be posted on the DCF Citizen Review Panel web page at http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/children/citizen_review/default.htm. Thank you.