

**Fetal and Infant Mortality Review
Conference Call Minutes
September 26, 2007**

Toll-free number: (888) 808-6959
Conference Code: 0281037

Facilitator: Louise Jones
Recorder: Marie Melton

Attendance:

FIMR Sites and Support	Present
Northeast Florida Healthy Start Coalition, Inc.	X
Bay, Franklin, Gulf Healthy Start Coalition, Inc.	X
Broward Healthy Start Coalition, Inc.	X
Chipola Healthy Start	X
Healthy Start Coalition of Miami-Dade, Inc.	X
Escambia County Healthy Start Coalition, Inc.	X
Healthy Start Coalition of Flagler and Volusia Counties, Inc.	X
Healthy Start Coalition of Hardee/Highlands/Polk Counties, Inc.	X
Capital Area Healthy Start Coalition, Inc.	X
Healthy Start Coalition of Pinellas County, Inc.	X
Healthy Start Coalition of Sarasota County, Inc.	X
Jason Stamm, BASINET Technical Assistance	X
Dani Noell, FIMR Technical Assistance	X

Headquarter Attendees: Betsy Wood, Mike Mason, Marie Melton, and Louise Jones

Welcome- Louise Jones, facilitator:

Louise Jones welcomed all to our second quarterly Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) conference call. Louise also mentioned a mandatory training for Division employees was being held at the same time, so many of our regular headquarters attendees were unable to participate in the call.

Introductions of Dani Noell & Jason Stamm:

Dani Noell was introduced to the group. Dani has worked for many years in the State of Florida, as well with the NFIMR and is available to offer technical assistance on abstracting, maternal interviews, working with Case Review Teams, and Community Action Groups.

Jason Stamm was introduced to the group. Jason is with Go Beyond, the developers of the BASINET system and is available to offer technical assistance for BASINET issues.

Topics:

1. Status of Updated HIPAA Letter- Mike Mason

The letter has been revised and is now in approval process for the Surgeon General's signature.

There was a question regarding whether or not the state had a specific time period requirement during which a provider had to respond. Mike emphasized that we cannot mandate a provider to allow us access to records, we can only request their participation.

There was also a recommendation that it may be helpful to have a cover letter (in addition to the Surgeon General's HIPAA letter) describing the local FIMR initiative, including a local contact, should the provider want to speak to someone regarding the FIMR process.

2. SIDS/Safe Sleep Initiative- Leslie Pearce, Healthy Start Coalition of Flagler and Volusia Counties, Inc.

Leslie shared information regarding their activities during the month of October for SIDS Awareness Month.

- Fan Project - "SIDS Sunday", Sunday, October 14, 2007. The coalition will distribute 6,000 fans, printed with SIDS prevention information, in churches in the black community.
- Beds for Babies Gala - Saturday, October 13, 2007. On this date, a fundraiser will be held for the coalition's crib project. The local newspaper is also providing a full page wrapper to promote the gala and the "Beds for Babies Campaign".

Leslie will send their SIDS information to be distributed to the call participants.

3. FIMR Logo- Michelle Reese

Michelle asked if the State had a standard FIMR logo. There is not a statewide Florida FIMR logo, since FIMR is designed to be a locally driven project. The National Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (NFIMR) has designed and uses a national logo for NFIMR. Through the group discussion, call participants learned that many local projects are using the NFIMR logo; however some projects have developed their own. This is a local decision.

4. BASINET Update/ Questions- Jason Stamm

Jason provided the group with an overview of the upcoming enhancements to Basinet. Jason asked the group to send him any questions on the enhancements.

5. FIMR Process- Dani Noell

Dani explained that she will be a technical assistance (TA) resource for to the local FIMR projects. In providing this TA resource, Dani may call the local projects to assess their individual TA needs and determine if there are trends across projects.

One item already identified in the first FIMR conference call was how to approach providers to request access to records. Dani stated that, when she request records, she has found that faxing the request to the provider, along with the HIPPA letter, has been a successful strategy.

Dani asked the group to share strategies on obtaining a maternal interview. Contract managers report that in reviewing the FIMR reports, there seems to be a decrease in the number of maternal interviews completed.

Jennifer Highlands, Healthy Start Coalition of Sarasota County (HSC), shared that they have considered using the bereavement support facilitators to help obtain the interview after the group session.

Dani reported that she has found using county health department or Healthy Start nurses to help obtain the interview a successful strategy in the past. Dani shared that the general recommendation is to try to obtain the maternal interview within 6 weeks after the fetal or infant loss.

Pinellas HSC shared that a Los Angeles County, California FIMR uses a mail survey called LA Hope to obtain maternal information and receives about a 70% return rate. Los Angeles County FIMR does not abstract medical records.

Dani asked how the projects are energizing and renewing their FIMR case review teams and community action groups. Call participants shared that sometimes it is difficult to recruit new members or many have older members who do not want to leave the team.

8. Questions and Comments- All

Question: Carol Brady asked for an update on the Black Infant Mortality Project.

Answer: Mike answered that the grant application process is coming out soon and was unable to discuss any further information with them since the grant awards will be a competitive process.

Question: Carol asked how the Black Infant Mortality Project will be able to meld with a current FIMR project since the bill requires certain disciplines to be a part of the FIMR group.

Answer: Mike answered that local projects will be able to determine any integration once the grant application is released.

The group decided that the next call will be moved from December 26, 2007 to December 12, 2007.

If you have topics e-mail Louise Jones at Louise_Jones@doh.state.fl.us to put on the agenda for the next meeting on December 12, 2007

LJ/dm/mm