



**Florida Injury Prevention Advisory Council and Goal Teams  
Meeting Summary Minutes  
Office of Injury Prevention  
Embassy Suites Westshore -Tampa, Florida    October 16-17, 2007**

**Tuesday – October 16, 2007**

- **Welcome, Introductions, and Opening Remarks** – Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan, M.S., Manager, Office of Injury Prevention (OIP).  
Ms. VanderWerf-Hourigan opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and reviewing the contents of the meeting notebook that was provided for each member. An attendance list is Attachment 1.
- **2007 Injury Prevention Award** – Freida Travis, M.S., Office of Injury Prevention  
Deborah Mulligan, M.D., was presented the Second Annual Florida Injury Prevention Award. Dr. Mulligan was selected by the Injury Prevention Award subcommittee which reviewed six nominations. The award was presented to Dr. Mulligan by Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan.
- **Injury Prevention in Communities for a Lifetime** – Karen Pelham, Wellness and Public Safety Manager, Florida Department of Elder Affairs.  
Ms. Pelham presented background data on the frequency and risk factors of elderly falls. She then demonstrated some of the exercises that can be taught to at-risk individuals to increase balance and muscle strength. Ms. Pelham gave an overview of Communities for a Lifetime, a statewide initiative that assists in planning and implementing improvements to benefit local residents. Ms. Pelham ended her presentation with a demonstration on how to properly get up after a fall in the home.
- **Office of Injury Prevention Update** – Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan, M.S.  
Ms. VanderWerf-Hourigan reviewed the October OIP Update document, provided in the meeting notebook. The highlights included the addition of the new Injury Epidemiologist, Kyla Shelton, to the OIP staff and updates on the numerous grants that the office is currently working on. Ms. VanderWerf-Hourigan also reviewed the OIP accomplishments from Summer 2002 – Fall 2007.
- **Updates from FIPAC, Goal Team Leaders and Members** – See Attachment 2.
- **Develop 2008 Action Plan**  
Goal Teams met to develop the 2008 Action Plan document, focusing on their specific goals. Each goal team leader will submit recommendations for the 2008 Action Plan to the OIP. The draft plan will be sent for review to the FLDOH strategic plan Goal Team Leaders. The final document will be sent to the members of FIPAC and posted on the OIP website.
- **Strategic Planning 2009 – 2013 Florida Injury Prevention Strategic Plan**– Lynne Drawdy, Office of Public Health Preparedness.  
Ms. Drawdy facilitated a planning session for improvements to the successor plan process. The PowerPoint presentation used is Attachment 3. Once the successor plan is drafted, it will be sent to FIPAC members, key state agencies, and other injury prevention stakeholders for review and comment.
- **Day One Wrap-up** – Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan, M.S.



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- **Overview of Day Two** - Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan, M.S., Manager, Office of Injury Prevention (OIP).
- **Florida’s Statistics** – Kyla Shelton, M.P.H., Injury Epidemiologist, Office of Injury Prevention. Ms. Shelton discussed the most recent data findings for Florida. She reviewed injury-related deaths, non-fatal hospitalizations and emergency department visits. She also focused on specific leading mechanisms of injury including poisonings, motor vehicle crashes, falls and drownings.
- **Sustainability** – Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan, M.S.  
The planning history and sustainability considerations for strategic planning were reviewed. Ms. VanderWerf-Hourigan detailed the potential barriers to obtaining funding for the OIP and the FIPAC.
- **2009-2013 Florida Injury Prevention Strategic Plan** - Lynne Drawdy, Office of Public Health Preparedness.  
Ms. Drawdy facilitated the initial planning process of the 2009-2013 Florida Injury Prevention Strategic Plan. The plan goals were reviewed and reformatted to align with the goals and objectives. The PowerPoint presentation used is Attachment 3.
- **Next Steps** – Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan, M.S.  
The next FIPAC meeting was discussed and dates were suggested. The next FIPAC meeting will be held in May 2008 with the IP 101 course also held in mid-May. The two meetings will be separate, unlike last year. IP 101 will be held in conjunction with Safe Kids Coordinators meeting. Also the Drowning Prevention Marketing Symposium will be held in conjunction with the Florida Swimming Pool Association’s Safety Forum, April 10-11 in Orlando.

**Evaluation of the meeting.**

- **Negatives** - Seating was difficult to work with. Need more table space.
- **Positives** - New members thought the meeting was very informational and enlightening. Updates given by the members were excellent. The information on injuries other than motor vehicle crashes was an eye opener. Karen Pelham’s presentation on falls was excellent. Organization was spectacular. The meeting was an efficient way to organize new plan.



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**Attachment 1 - Attendees:**

Name	Organization
Akins, Michelle	Department of Health (DOH), Children's Medical Services, Child Death Review
Allen, Lorraine	Florida Department of Education
Bultman, Syndi	Lee Memorial Hospital
Byers, Patricia	University of Miami
Carvallo, Nancy	Agency for Health Care Administration
Clarke, Dianne	Operation PAR, Inc.
Davis, Jan	DOH, Sexual Violence Prevention Program
Dearwater, Steve	Jackson Memorial Hospital
Dreker, Sandra	Brain Injury Association of Florida
Edwards, Reginald	Florida Highway Patrol
Gruener, Leilani	DOH, Office of Injury Prevention
Hotz, Gillian	Ryder Trauma Center, Jackson Memorial Hospital
Humbert, Nancy	Miami Children's Hospital
Khedkar, Jasmine	Bike Safety Program, University of Florida
King, Michele	Child Advocacy Program, The Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida
Llau, Anthoni	Miami-Dade County Health Department (CHD)
Liller, Karen	University of South Florida
Littnan, Susan	Citrus CHD
Lo, Michael	DOH, Office of Trauma
Loomas, Wendy	Pinellas CHD
McCloskey, Steve	Duval CHD, Injury Prevention
McDevitt, Susan	DOH, Office of Trauma
McDougle, Bonnie	Tampa General Hospital/Florida Poison Information Center
Mulligan, Deborah	Nova Southeastern University
Nelson, Joe	DOH, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Medical Director
Parker, Jane	DOH, Office of Injury Prevention
Pelham, Karen	Florida Department of Elder Affairs
Rappa, Marisa	The Children's Advocacy Center at St. Joseph's Children's Hospital of Tampa

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<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Rice, Bonnie	Pediatric Rehab Program, Tampa General Hospital
Richter, Cory	Public Information, Education and Relations Committee for EMS
Salvas, Ralph	DOH, Office of Injury Prevention
Santucci, Pamela	Broward CHD
Shelton, Kyla	DOH, Office of Injury Prevention
Sobowale, Olumide	Lakeland Regional Medical Center, Trauma Center
Sutherland, Mimi	University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital
Tesoro, Mark	Lee CHD
Travis, Freida	DOH, Office of Injury Prevention
Trussell, Marianne	Florida Department of Transportation
VanderWerf-Hourigan, Lisa	DOH, Office of Injury Prevention
White, Elizabeth	DOH, Children's Medical Services
Yukari, Takata	Bike Safety Program, University of Florida



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**Attachment 2 - Updates from FIPAC, Goal Team Leaders, and Members:**

**Michelle Akins** – State Child Abuse Death Review. The Child Death Review saw almost 170 cases this year. Approximately fifty-three were drowning cases, which is the leading cause for child abuse deaths. The State Child Death Review Committee is looking to answer the question, “Why are these kids drowning?” And what do we need to do to prevent them. They are encouraging law enforcement and emergency medical personnel (EMS) to include more detail on the environment in reports as well as identifying if the caretakers were under the influence of drugs or alcohol. They are making strides in co-sleeping and unsafe sleeping deaths by training to first responders and law enforcement on the use of doll reenactments. This will assist the medical examiner in determining the cause of death to infants. The training is being provided by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement as well as other State Members. The goal is to have more thorough investigations of infant deaths in hopes of preventing future ones.

**Lorraine Allen** –Started a new job as the Director of Homeless Education within the Florida Department of Education.

**Syndi Bultman** – A three hour driver program will be started in January for new drivers. There is also currently an eight-hour, court ordered, driver program to provide further injury prevention education for individuals who are stopped for driving infractions. The driver programs are not yet in other counties, only in Lee.

**Patricia Byers** – The Committee on Trauma is trying to advocate for the “Walk Safe” programs. Safe driving videos continue to be used in schools. There were several executive committee conference calls to find legislators friendly to trauma and injury prevention issues. Committee on Trauma members made a special trip to Tallahassee to meet with the Surgeon General to discuss important trauma and injury prevention issues. Meetings were held with EMS to work toward having the EMS pre-hospital data set match up with the Trauma registry database.

**Nancy Carvallo** – The Agency for Healthcare Administration is currently working on data collection and collecting hospital discharge data.

**Dianne Clark** – House Bill 1155 passed and was signed by the Governor. The bill focuses on substance use and abuse. Tamper proof physician prescription pads and limitations on number of pills that can be shipped via mail will also assist in regulating prescription medications. For the 2008 Legislative Session House Bill 25, relating to Fetal Alcohol syndrome, was filed. Work continues on trying to get a physician registry of individuals using certain narcotics.

**Jan Davis** – Department of Health, Violence Prevention. The program is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and staff is writing the first statewide violence prevention strategic plan. There is a steering committee as well as planning committee.

**Steve Dearwater** – Data and Surveillance Goal Team Leader. The injury surveillance efforts at the OIP will shift from its current focus of primarily data collection and analysis and begin to emphasize more data dissemination to stakeholders. One goal would be to release a bi-monthly fact sheet every 2-3 months that focuses on specific injury mechanisms or population sub groups. The fact sheets will emphasize data from death certificates, hospitalizations and/or emergency department visits and also present prevention points. Discussions with the membership will be held online in coming months regarding the format and readability of these sheets. We are evaluating methods to present statewide data by rural and non-rural



regions. The Goal Team is communicating with the CDC Injury Center and the National Center for Health Statistics regarding revising our data definitions for hospitalized and emergency department injuries to reflect the new definitions they are advocating. This would result in a substantial increase in the number of nonfatal cases we previously reported for hospitalized and emergency department injury.

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**Sandra Dreker** – Brain Injury Association of Florida. There are several different ways to get a brain injury therefore there can not be a focus on a single injury mechanism. The Brain Injury Association is a resource for information through programs, printed materials, and training. The Association just hired Shirley Copeland as a prevention specialist who will be “gearing up” a program for seniors on preventing falls and brain injuries.

**Trooper Reggie Edwards** – Representing Lt. Colonel Larry Austin. Trooper Edwards is one of the six child passenger safety technicians for the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP). This past year FHP was able to lead law enforcement on child passenger safety. New light boxes in vehicles are being developed. The new box will act similar to the black box in a plane and will hopefully curb problems that the law enforcement deals with regarding motor vehicle crashes.

**Gillian Hotz** – There was a statewide dissemination of “Walk Safe” Program. Nine of the ten original trauma centers involved in the original “Walk Safe” grant are committed to the program. National Walk to School Day was the kick-off for the “Walk Safe” program. A curriculum-based program was given to the trauma centers. Six of the nine programs involved participated on the National Walk to School Day at their particular schools. The report will be available in the near future and so far, it has been a very positive experience. The goal is for “Walk Safe” to be a statewide program and staff will be re-submitting the grant application to help expand to other counties and other trauma centers. The “Safe Routes to School” federal initiative will look at how children bike/walk to school with grant dollars passing through the Department of Transportation. A National meeting will be held in Michigan on November 5-7<sup>th</sup>. Goal Team #5 reviewed many research studies on injury prevention best practice interventions. They reviewed what makes a “good study” on the selected four major injury mechanisms: drowning, falls, motor vehicle crashes and pedestrian injuries. Goal Team #5 also identified best practices from Harborview and Manitoba, Canada. Goal Team #5 will begin formatting information to be displayed on the OIP website showcasing the best three or four injury prevention best practice research and linking to other information resources.

**Nancy Humbert** – Miami Children’s Hospital. The State Attorney’s office is working on preventing firearm injuries through the use of gun locks and prepared an educational packet to be handed out by pediatricians. In Miami, the issue of CPR training of nannies and caretakers created a new CPR program that is funded through donations. Miami Children’s Hospital was asked to write the curriculum that will target Miami-Dade county nannies and caregivers who may not speak English. Once established, the children’s hospital would like to see this initiative become a statewide program with the goal of having every nanny or caregiver become CPR certified.

**Michele King** – The Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida Child Advocacy Program in Lee County. This year emphasis was placed on drowning prevention education including participation in many community events. The children’s hospital currently has two full time, bilingual Child Passenger Safety Technicians (CPST) working at the hospital. Daily, the CPSTs conduct fittings and provide CPS education to new parents whose babies were delivered at the hospital. The staff work closely with Jane Parker and the Florida Special Needs Occupant Protection Program and they are the regional special needs fitting station. For gun safety education, the hospital staff adopted the ASK Program, which encourages parents to ask if there is a gun in the home where their children are invited to play.



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**Dr. Karen Liller** – Working with the SMART (Sports Medicine and Athletic Related Trauma) Institute at the University of South Florida in the development of an injury tracking and surveillance tool for high school athletes. Data are being collected by certified athletic trainers (ATCs) in 10 high schools with plans to expand the data collection greatly in the future. Plans on underway to publish data findings and hopefully do a cost-effective analysis on having ATCs in the high schools and potentially exploring the use of the registry in middle schools. The software utilized was developed by the company Simtrak and Dr. Liller incorporated over 1000 injury-related variables. Dr. Liller’s book “Injury Prevention for Children and Adolescents: Research, Practice, and Advocacy” was published in 2006 and is available through the American Public Health Association. Dr. Liller’s online injury course, Prevention and Control of Unintentional Injuries, offered through the University of South Florida College of Public Health, will be available again Spring 2008. State of Florida workers can use tuition waivers to take this course. Goal Team #7 that is chaired by Drs. Liller and Dodd, is reviewing next steps for the evaluation questions added to the injury prevention survey and will work to put evaluation recommendations on the Office of Injury Prevention website.

**Sue Littnan** – Sue is a child passenger safety instructor at the Citrus County Health Department. Over 800 people attended car seat safety classes in 2007, and 361+ car seats were distributed through a grant from the Florida Department of Transportation. The investigators for child protective services are now working for the local Sheriffs office. Sue is providing car seat safety instruction for all of them since they transport children on a regular basis. Seniors in TOPS clubs, as well as in assisted living facilities, attended presentations for falls prevention. Sue is currently working with the school board to prevent concussions in high school and middle school sports. Clipboards describing the signs and symptoms of concussions were ordered free of charge from the CDC for all coaches, along with a DVD presentation on concussions.

**Anthoni Llau** – Miami-Dade County Health Department and Florida International University completed a series of focus groups for the Drowning Prevention Pilot Projects. Anthoni is working with Steve Dearwater to create fact sheets and GIS maps to see trends relating to injury prevention in Miami-Dade county.

**Michael Lo** – The Office of Trauma is updating the Trauma Center standards to reflect the revised 2006 American College of Surgeons (ACS) trauma care standards. One of the new ACS standards is “All level one trauma centers should provide interventions for [problem drinkers].” Governor Crist requested a grand jury to look at the growing problem of gang violence in the state.

**Wendy Loomas** – Pinellas County Health Department. The Drowning Prevention Campaign printed brochures and they will be sent out in utility bills in February. The staff is trying to link fall prevention education with flu season initiative, as there are many seniors coming in for flu shots. Also they are working on linking safety education with some physical activity activities.

**Steve McCloskey** – Goal Team #2 is creating an Excel spreadsheet with funding sources to make a dynamic list for stakeholders. Two pilot projects are being created to find sustainability for funding. There is an update on Motorcycle Specialty Tags in the packet.



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**Susan McDevitt** – The Office of Trauma’s Annual Report was sent to the Governors’ office as well as to the House and Senate. There are additional copies available for FIPAC and Goal Team members, please email Susan at [Susan\\_McDevitt@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Susan_McDevitt@doh.state.fl.us) to request a copy. The State Plan Implementation Committee focused on the need for evaluation of hand surgery as a Level 1 Trauma Center mandate. The Office of Trauma is currently working with the Agency for Healthcare Administration to develop a framework for centers of excellence for four major areas in hand surgery. There was a 15-25% increase in gang violence in Florida, especially in the West Palm, Orange County, Bradenton and Jacksonville areas. The Office of Trauma is monitoring trends regarding gang violence and working with HHS on what types of trauma injuries they are seeing. \$7.5 million dollars was returned to Trauma centers via the Red Light Running Bill.

**Bonnie McDougle** – There are two new poisoning prevention brochures as well as a new handout. Poison Prevention Week will be March 17-21, 2008. Anyone who would like information for a community program can contact Bonnie. The Florida Poison Information Network will begin a series of Poison Prevention and Education Distance Learning broadcasts, the first one being Tuesday, January 29, 2008 from 1-3 pm.

**Dr. Deborah Mulligan** – As reported by Nancy Humbert. Dr. Mulligan is currently working with the Department of Health on a suicide prevention grant and Nova Southeastern University is also working on a suicide prevention grant focused on college aged kids.

**Jane Parker** – There is a new vacancy in the Office of Injury Prevention as Ralph Salvias has accepted a position with the Florida Department of Transportation.

**Karen Pelham** – Department of Elder Affairs. There is a new vacancy in Karen’s office. Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan will be notified when it is advertised and will send out the information to the FIPAC stakeholders.

**Marisa Rappa** – St. Joseph’s Children’s Hospital. Safe Kids Tampa is working on bike and pedestrian safety, and teen driving safety. They received a grant from Federal Emergency Management Agency to expand the emergency room staff to include a child advocacy individual to teach parents while they are waiting on a physician. With the new grant, they will be able to expand the advocate’s hours. They are also currently working to train more child passenger safety technicians in their area.

**Cory Richter** – Chairman of the EMS PIER committee. A CD for EMS agencies is in development with different injury prevention programs based on Florida’s top five injuries. The CD will contain short five-minute presentations on various injury prevention issues. Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) will assist in sending out the CD in the spring. PIER can help stakeholders get in contact with their local EMS providers. The Pediatric Symposium (EMLRC) will be held Nov. 27-28 in Orlando at the Rosen Center.



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**Pam Santucci** – The Broward CHD Drowning Prevention Pilot Project is in its second phase of development. A quantitative study conducted by Nova Southeastern University in two selected Broward County zip code areas with households having pools was completed in June 2007. The study looked at knowledge, attitudes, beliefs and behaviors regarding drowning and drowning prevention among young children. The second phase of the study will consist of conducting focus groups among families with young children in the designated zip code areas. Additional phases of the project will include the design, production, and dissemination of a revised/refined campaign as part of a community public outreach plan in the two selected zip code area. A market research study to assess impact of the campaign is planned. Pam worked with Channing Bete Company on the development of a brochure on drowning prevention and water safety. The brochure discusses the three key components for preventing drowning among children under age five and may be customized for a reasonable cost. Individuals interested in purchasing the publication should contact Channing Bete.

**Kyla Shelton** – Looks forward to getting to know FIPAC stakeholders on a face-to-face basis. She is currently working on the data for annual report.

**Olumide Sobowale** – One of the reasons that hospitals don't want to submit information to registry is when alcohol has been involved in an accident, many insurance companies won't pay for trauma care of patients when alcohol is involved. Hospitals would lose money as they would not be reimbursed.

**Mimi Sutherland** – GATE program for young weapon offenders. The court ordered program is in its ninth year. There are now implemented focus groups with the offenders and their parents. There was a change in the demographic as there are less gang-related incidences as the gangs are moving from Miami-Dade County.

**Yukata Takari** – Representing Dr. Linda Crider. Department of Transportation/Safe Routes to school. There will be major transitions as the Safe Routes Program is switching colleges and Dr. Crider is soon retiring.

**Mark Tesoro** – Currently focusing on child passenger safety and drowning prevention programs. He is searching for a grant for falls prevention. Safe Kids Lee is focusing on Stranger Danger, handgun violence, and ATV crashes. Mark is working with Walk Safe and Safe Kids' Walk this Way program, in conjunction with numerous agencies who encouraged increased participation and media coverage.

**Marianne Trussell** – Department of Transportation. There is continued focus on teen drivers and distraction issues, non-motorcycle helmet use and men not using seat-belts. They are currently working on grass-roots interventions. The agency is aware there is a need for more interventions for the Spanish community and more family oriented messages. They are working closely with the EMS section of the Department of Health on funding issues to increase and improve crash data.