



May 2, 2011

Press Release

Program Section Manager Joyce Lamar with the Children's Services Administration within the Wayne County Department of Human Services was the recipient of the "Power of One: Child Death Review Field Award 2011" at the annual Child Death Review (CDR) Team Member Training at Crystal Mountain in Thompsonville, Michigan on May 2, 2011. The award was announced in front of over one hundred attendees from around the state, representing law enforcement, public health, social services, the courts, medical fields, mental health and others.

This was an award given to three local CDR team members this year. All three are outstanding individuals who have proven themselves to be truly committed to issues affecting children's health, safety and protection, and have supported the CDR process in their communities.

As a member Ms. Lamar brings policy and practice knowledge to the table as one of the representatives of the multi-disciplinary Wayne County Child Death Review Team. She has used this process to help identify how and why children are dying in Wayne County, to address issues surrounding investigation and service delivery, and to identify where improvements might be made to reduce other such deaths in the future.

Investigating child protection cases involving child death is a complex and difficult task, requiring a wide array of skill and intuition. The investigation of children's deaths is an even more demanding and delicate undertaking. After attending monthly CDR meetings Ms. Lamar is able to quickly translate the information learned to actual child death investigations and how it relates to policy and procedural practice within the Child Protection System in Michigan.

We are grateful to have the support and efforts of committed individuals like Ms. Lamar partnering with us as we work toward providing healthier, safer communities for our children. For his dedication in going the extra mile, Wayne County is lucky to have her!