



April 27, 2010

Press Release

Midland County Medical Examiner Dr Dennis Wagner was the recipient of the “Power of One: Child Death Review Field Award 2010” at the annual Child Death Review (CDR) Team Member Training at Crystal Mountain in Thompsonville, Michigan on April 27th, 2010 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 a new 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.

For over 10 years, Dr Wagner has gone above and beyond the requirements of his paid position by passionately and tirelessly coordinating the multi-disciplinary Midland County CDR Team. He has used this process to help identify how and why children are dying in Midland 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.

Dr Wagner took over the coordination of the Midland County CDR team after two previous attempts at team coordination had failed due to trust and turf issues. Through his ability to steadily provide leadership by example, over the years he has molded the team into the cohesive, active group it is today. In addition, his tireless commitment to children in the community is demonstrated each time he responds personally to the scenes of children who have died. In one instance, Dr Wagner even showed up to the regularly scheduled CDR meeting directly from the scene of an incident in which he risked his own health and safety in an attempt to save the lives of two children.

We are grateful to have the support and efforts of committed individuals like Dr Wagner partnering with us as we work toward providing healthier, safer communities for our children. Because of his willingness to go the extra mile, Midland County is lucky to have him!