ASHE COUNTY Community Child Protection Team (CCPT) ANNUAL REPORT For 2017 and 2018

Community Child Protection Teams (CCPT) are a group of community representative that review active child abuse, neglect and dependency cases and fatalities as provided by statute. The team determines whether there are system problems involved and if so, what resources are needed to resolve the gap or deficiency.

Meetings are held bimonthly on the second Thursday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in the Health Department conference room. The meetings are held together with the Child Fatality Prevention Team. Two meetings were cancelled in 2018: March 2018 due to snow and September 2018 due to Hurricane Florence.

In 2018 six cases were reviewed. Three fatalities and three cases were active child welfare cases.

All three child welfare cases dealt with allegations of neglect. Of the three cases, the situation that most often was the cause of children being unsafe was due to lack of intellectual developmental disability (IDD) services, mental health services and lack of an alternative school setting. There was an increase in children born with addictions in Ashe County.

The child protection needs identified for Ashe County were:

- the need for more workers to provide IDD services within the High Country;
- the need for additional slots for an Innovation waiver; and
- the need for a local alternative school setting.

The Ashe County CCPT would like the state to provide additional funding provided for IDD services for children.

https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/nc-innovations-waiver-services https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/nc-innovations-waiver In 2017 the CCPT and CFPT reviewed five fatalities and two active child welfare cases. The cases dealt with allegations of neglect due to mental health needs and substance abuse addiction of a mother and her teenage son and an autistic child with developmentally delayed parents.

The child protection needs identified for Ashe County was the need for:

- consistent mental health/substance abuse counseling;
- lack of a B3 service worker;
- the waiting time for an Innovations Medicaid waiver; and
- services to assist parents with intellectual disabilities access and understand services that are available.

The Ashe County CCPT did not have an area to request the state provide additional funding.