

- Established by federal statute in the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) re-authorization (1996) as a requirement for state grants, to examine the extent to which states are discharging their child protection obligations
- Responsible for reviewing compliance of state and local CPS agencies with respect to the state CAPTA plan and any other criteria the panel(s) considers important
- Required to prepare an annual summary report of activities and recommendations
- Composed of volunteer members that broadly represent the community in which they are operating and include individuals with expertise in the prevention and treatment of child abuse
- Re-authorization (2010) expanded requirements and includes:
 - Evaluation of CPS practices as well as policy and procedures
 - Developing a means for public comment
 - Requiring the state's child welfare agency to respond to annual report

Citizen Review Panels in Kansas

There are three designated panels in Kansas: 1) Intake to Petition/Children's Justice Act Panel; 2) Custody to Transition Panel; and 3) Child Death Review Board. While reviewing the child welfare process from intake to petition, custody to transition, and review of child fatalities, each panel sets priorities and creates activities that reflect their unique perspective of the child welfare system. Working together, they ensure the consumer voice is represented in ensuring the safety, permanency and well-being of all Kansas Children.

Citizen review panels are a group of volunteers charged with reviewing the state child protective service system and making recommendations for improvement. To learn more about the CAPTA legislation and Citizen Review Panels, visit the national Citizen Review Panel Virtual Community at www.uky.edu/socialwork/crp

Intake to Petition & Children's Justice Act Panel

Focus: To look at policies, procedures and practices of the state CPS system from **intake to petition** and to provide feedback on prevention and treatment strategies; to provide oversight and guidance on activities related to the administrative and judicial handling of cases; to ensure the consumer voice is included in assessing system effectiveness and identifying areas for improvement.

Current Priorities and Activities

- Recommendations on CJA funding
- Disposition of youths leaving protective custody
- Monitoring the front-end redesign of the CPS system

Custody to Transition Panel

Focus: To review policies, procedures and practice of the state child protective service system from **custody to transition**; to assist the state in determining if they have met their child protection responsibilities as well as areas for improvement; to ensure the consumer voice is included in assessing system effectiveness and identifying areas for improvement.

Current Priorities and Activities

- Placement stability
- Health care and family involvement
- Permanent connections
- System strengths and trends

Kansas Child Death Review Board

Focus: Established by Kansas Statute in 1992, examines trends and patterns that identify risk factors in the deaths of children, from birth through 17 years of age.

Goals include to improve interagency communication so recommendations are made regarding recording of actual cause of death, investigation of suspicious deaths and system responses to deaths; to develop prevention strategies including community education and mobilization, professional training, and changes in legislation, public policy and/or agency practices. For annual reports visit:

<http://www.childdeathreview.org/spotlightKS.htm>