Overview of FIMR Program

• What is FIMR?
  “A community commitment to improved pregnancy outcomes”
  • Focuses on systems of care and identifying gaps in care resulting in action
  • Aims to improve pregnancy outcomes- enhances existing perinatal care system’s goals
  • Community-based
  • Adds family voice
Overview of MD FIMR Program

• Goal: Improved health and well-being of families in Maryland.

• Every death is a tragedy for the individual, family and community.

• Public Health Approach:
  • Surveillance—Monitor sentinel events to identify systems failures.
  • Quality Assurance—Investigate events to develop strategies for prevention.
Core Public Health Functions

• Assessment: collection and analysis of data related to the health of the community.

• Policy development: through appropriate use of assessment data.

• Assurance: access to services, programs, and policies to sustain health.
What FIMR Is...What FIMR Is Not

- Is focused on systems issues rather than seeking redress.
- Is not peer review or medical case review.
- Is used to understand the how and why of poor outcomes.
- Is not for assigning blame to either patients or providers.
Review of FIMR Process

• Tracking
  • Identify sentinel events.

• Review
  • Collect information from various sources.
  • Review selected cases with multi-disciplinary team.
  • Develop recommendations.

• Action
  • Develop plan for community action.
  • Mobilize community for action.
Tracking Cases

- To document number of deaths or cases received.
- To identify key trends or issues of interest.
- To determine priorities for case review.
Case Tracking Steps

• Process
  • Notification of sentinel event.
  • Log in case and assign case number in spreadsheet or table.
  • Enter key characteristics.
  • Establish timeline for reviewing cases entered to date to identify any key trends or issues of concern.
  • Share with CRT/other key personnel to determine priorities for case review.
Case Review Process

- Gather information
- Tell the story
- Analyze the interaction between systems of care
- Identify possible needs or problems
- Synthesize all case findings
- Recommend policy or system changes
Key Guidelines for Case Review

• All case material is de-identified.
• All material is held in confidence.
• Make every effort to understand mother’s perspective of events.
• Understand circumstances of individual case to develop recommendations to improve systems of care for everyone.
Planning for Action

• Essential to achieving systems change.
• Ensures that scarce resources are focused for the most effective results.
• Documentation of efforts and accomplishments validates the investment in activities.