

# Dane County Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) Process

FIMR work is done on a quarterly schedule and is coordinated by Public Health Madison & Dane County.



## Case Abstraction

We gather data and information from fetal (after 20 weeks gestation) and infant (under 1 year of age) deaths from medical records, vital records, and occasionally from birth parent interviews.

We synthesize information into a report that includes a timeline and summary of the pregnant person's:

- health
- medical care they received during pregnancy
- other services they received
- labor and delivery
- postpartum care
- lab tests
- cause of fetal or infant death



## Pre-FIMR

- A small group of people meet to review case abstractions from the last quarter. We select four cases to review at the Quarterly Case Review meeting. Cases should have potential areas of impact at the systems-level. We review cases two weeks before full Case Review Team meetings.
- This is an interdisciplinary team of 8-10 people. The team typically includes Public Health staff, medical providers, educators, Medicaid representatives, and others.



## Quarterly Case Review Team (CRT) Meeting

By reviewing the cases selected by pre-FIMR, the CRT:

- Helps maintain a **sense of urgency** around fetal and infant death in Dane County.
- Helps keep stakeholders engaged about the issue.
- Brings **representatives from many sectors together** around a shared priority. People make connections and form partnerships through the Case Review Team.

Creates a **foundation for action**. We use themes and recommendations from the pre-FIMR group to support and drive action to reduce fetal and infant mortality.



## FIMR Action Networks (FANs)

At the end of each CRT meeting, we choose a theme or idea for action as the target for a FIMR Action Network (FAN). Anyone from the CRT with experience or interest in addressing the topic can participate in the FAN. These small, short-term, systems-level actions are designed to build upon one another to improve the outcomes for fetal and infant health. Actions resulting from FAN work are reported back at the following CRT meeting.