



**CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH**

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Governor

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**Adam M. Meier**  
Secretary

**Jeffrey D. Howard, Jr., MD**  
Commissioner

Date: September 20, 2018

Re: Invitation to participate on the Maternal Mortality Review Committee

Maternal mortality is a growing concern nationally and in Kentucky. For the past forty years, two giants in the field of obstetrics, Drs. John Greene and Stanley Gall, contributed to reducing maternal mortality by chairing the Kentucky Maternal Mortality Review Committee during the Kentucky Medical Association annual meeting. In April 2018, however, an amendment to KRS 211.680 required the creation of a Maternal Mortality Review Committee (MMRC); a new paradigm for evaluation of maternal mortality to include not only medical conditions but also social, psychosocial and economic contributions to these deaths. The MMRC's purpose is to reduce maternal fatalities through comprehensive, multidisciplinary reviews of maternal deaths, identify factors associated with those deaths and make recommendations for system changes to improve health care services for women in Kentucky.

The Kentucky Department for Public Health is inviting you to participate on this MMRC. The first meeting will be **October 30, 2018 from 1:00 – 4:00 pm** in the Press Room at the Kentucky State Lab, 100 Sower Blvd., Frankfort, KY 40601.

The MMRC will review cases of women who died within a year of pregnancy or childbirth. For each case, the committee will examine a variety of records, including information about hospitalizations, vital statistics, medical records and autopsy reports. The MMRC will be a multidisciplinary team of clinical experts in the field such as obstetrics and women's health, obstetric nursing, neonatology, psychiatry/psychology, cardiology, anesthesiology, pathology, social work and law enforcement.

We value the knowledge you have in your specific field that can assist us in identifying risk factors and developing recommendations to reduce maternal mortality in Kentucky. To accept this invitation for membership, or if you have questions, please contact the DPH Perinatal Nurse Consultant, Trina Miller RN, at [TrinaM.Miller@ky.gov](mailto:TrinaM.Miller@ky.gov) or (502) 564-2154.

Thank you for your assistance and your consideration in joining our team for this important health measure,

Connie Gayle White, MD, MS, FACOG, Senior Deputy Commissioner  
John R. Barton, MD, MS, Chair of Maternal and Mortality Review Committee  
Henrietta Bada, MD, MPH, Director of Division of Maternal and Child Health

