

MINNESOTA CITIZEN REVIEW PANELS

“The safety and well-being of all children will never be achieved without everyday citizens integrating themselves into the loop of community service and protection.”

Jennifer Fitchett, M.S.W.

Citizen Review Panel:

The Citizen Review Panel provides opportunities for members of the community to play an integral role in ensuring that Child Protection Service Systems are protecting children from abuse and neglect and are meeting the permanency needs of children.

Objectives:

- To assist the child protection service agency to evaluate the extent to which the agency is fulfilling its child protection responsibilities in accordance with the state Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) plan.
- In consultation with the child protection service agency review other criteria considered important to ensure the protection of children.
- To prepare and make available to the public an annual report containing a summary of the activities of the panel.
- To review the consistency of practice and compliance with stated policies.
- To analyze trends, provide valuable insights that those working within the system may miss and provide feedback on what is or isn't working.
- To make recommendations for policy changes.
- To provide outside validation of the successes of the system and the efforts of the staff.
- To increase community understanding, ownership and investment in child protection.
- To promote cooperation among community resources and child protection services.
- To advocate for needed resources to achieve the protection of children from abuse and neglect and ensure permanent homes for children in a timely manner.