



Want to gain knowledge, skills, and practice about integrating strategic storytelling into your community's fatality review practices?

Here is how to apply.

The National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention is excited by the potential of having you and your colleagues learn in the 4th cohort of a national action learning collaborative. As part of an ongoing initiative aimed at harnessing the power of storytelling to inform and influence policy and program decisions that impact maternal, infant, and child health, this project explores how adding first person stories of lived experiences related to fetal, infant, and child loss - with care, intention, and protections- can augment the impact of existing Fatality Review programs. Strategic storytelling can help FIMR and CDR sites change local narratives about why babies and children are dying and what else is needed for greater prevention and equity.

We're glad you are considering applying for this newest opportunity. Tailor a response that is best for your site's community and colleagues, knowing what you are able to give and need to get back at this time. This learning collaborative will be virtual. Your site can partner with other CDR and FIMR sites to form a joint action learning team. We will invite up to four (4) to six (6) teams into the 2024 cohort from those who apply, selecting those who are most ready, willing, and able to participate.

Please respond to the applications questions with brevity and clarity. We also encourage that as you develop your site's response to this opportunity, every individual who is slated to be part of your team's learning has the opportunity both to contribute and affirm that they are ready and willing to participate in the program from approximately March 28, 2024 to June 30, 2024. Your responses will be held in fullest confidence by a small selection committee.

Completed requests to participate are to be submitted via email to Gretchen Martin (gmartin@mphi.org) by **COB Monday, March 18, 2024.**

Applicant email address: _____

1. Why does your Fatality Review program want to participate in the 2024 Storytelling Learning Collaborative at this time?

What does your site most want to get out of this upcoming opportunity?

How do you hope it will help you have greater impact in your FIMR work for prevention and equity?

What needs to happen by the end of the learning collaborative for you to know it was worth your time and effort?

2. Tell us about your Fatality Review Program(s) proposed Action Learning Team.

a. Please give the names, position, contact information (including preferred e-mail) for each proposed participant on your learning team. For each, please describe their role(s) in Fatality Review. Indicate with a double asterisk (**) who would be the primary point person(s) for your team's communications and coordination.

b. Indicate which of these individuals will be on the **CORE Learning Team**. Ideal Core Team members are those who have hands on knowledge and understanding of family stories and who provide direct connections with families who have experienced a loss. CORE team members have a higher-level time commitment, estimated 12 – 15 hours over four months.

c. Indicate which of the team members will be on the **Extended Learning Team**. These may include review team members who will help integrate stories with other Fatality Review data, make recommendations for action to prevent deaths and promote racial and health equity, or external storytelling partners. They should be champions and resources, fostering alignment. Community storytellers, griots, and organizers may also be strategic external team partners. Extended Team Members have a lower time commitment to the project, estimated 6 – 8 hours over four months.

3. Tell us about where, and for whom, you hope to make a greater difference through strategic storytelling.

Consider the population/ families/ neighborhoods your fatality review team primarily serves. How are stories and storytelling being used within your process and/or related case review initiatives, or elsewhere in your community, to impact health and equity? Who are the local griots and other storytelling treasures you could tap, to strengthen and augment what you learn and hope to do?

4. Please reflect and respond: How ready, willing, and able are you and your team to engage in learning for action in the months ahead?

Shared success in being part of an Action Learning Collaborative relies on the active participation of all of its members, both within and across teams. As described in the invitation materials, an array of learning activities (virtually, via Zoom) is proposed for this four-month cohort. Included are up front prep work, all-team and core-team extended zoom sessions; tailored coaching, and technical assistance for each team; individual and team-based story work and story circles, a final showcase for story- swapping and lessons learned; and feedback for evaluation. Optional additional learning opportunities will be offered. Anticipated individual time commitments, for core and extended team members, also are given in the pilot description. Knowing how challenging times continue for so many in the field, please tell us about your team's ability to make a commitment to, and your honest concerns about, participating in the Action Learning Collaborative between March 2024 and June 2024, if your team is invited.

5. WHAT ELSE? Is there anything else we should know about your Fatality Review site(s) or proposed team, or what you hope to make happen, as we select participating sites?

Thank you for applying to participate in Cohort 4 of the Strategic Storytelling Project and thank you for all that you and your colleagues are doing to prevent fetal, infant, and child mortality.