



This graphic illustrates the layers of oversight/review (aka, checks and balances) provided to a single Act 78 case. We have a lot of data about individual cases and there are many avenues for intervention/change to be made at the local level, which can have a small but meaningful impact.

There currently is not a mechanism for evaluating how Wisconsin is fairing as a whole with regard to critical incidents attributed to child abuse or neglect. Review/reporting of aggregate data and trends in Wisconsin would benefit system improvement.

As noted in “Within Our Reach, A National Strategy to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities”, states taking the time to “identify family and systemic circumstances that led to child maltreatment deaths...[enables them to] use this information to identify children at highest risk now, and...develop a fatality prevention plan to prevent similar deaths both now and in the future.”