

Report from IACC Subcommittee on Safety

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Safety Subcommittee

- Safety Subcommittee commissioned at October 22 IACC meeting after presentation on autism-related wandering by National Autism Association
- Focus on issues related to safety of individuals with ASD, (including wandering, restraint, seclusion, etc.
- First task: draft letter to Secretary regarding autism-related wandering

Draft Letter to HHS Secretary

- Includes tragic story of the wandering death of Mason Medlam, as shared by Sheila Medlam at October IACC meeting
- Includes names of other children who died as a result of autism-related wandering
- Discusses overall wandering issues
- Calls for 3 action items

Draft Letter to HHS Secretary

- Collect data on ASD-related wandering
- Develop and test programs to prevent wandering incidents (parent training, individual training, first responder training)
- Coordinate with the Department of Justice to expand AMBER alerts to include children with autism who have wandered

Draft Letter to HHS Secretary

- Develop medical subclassification coding or general medical coding for ASD wandering and similar neurological disorders
- Work with Department of Education to develop guidelines regarding parental notification of wandering or fleeing incidents in schools

Actions Taken

- Safety Subcommittee met November 29
- Safety Subcommittee submitted suggested 4 new objectives to the Planning Subcommittee. These were considered at the Dec. 3 meeting of the Planning Subcommittee.

Action Items

- Review and finalize letter to HHS secretary
- Discuss/approve meetings with DOJ and ED by Safety Subcommittee co-chairs
- Discuss other tasks for Safety Subcommittee (RFI, Seclusion/Restraint, etc.)