

6-Month Final Summary Report for Child Death, Serious Injury or Egregious Incident

Reports submitted to the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) that do not include all of the required information will be returned to the agency for proper completion. Do not identify individuals by name when completing this report. Individuals may be referenced by relationship or position; e.g., mother, father, child, sibling, physician, detective, etc.

Case Tracking Number: 120217DSP-Milw-184 **Agency:** Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 2 months Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: African American

Special Needs: None known

Date of Incident: 2/17/12

Description of the incident, including the suspected cause of death, injury or egregious abuse or neglect:

On February 17th, the agency received a report regarding a deceased infant. The mother described that she, the father, the 2-year-old and the infant were all sleeping in the same bed. She reported that the 2-year-old had initially been sleeping in his own bed, but came into his parents' bed during the night because he couldn't sleep. She also stated that the infant had been in his pack and play, but became fussy so she brought him into the bed, as well. The mother stated that she fell asleep and later woke to find the 2-year-old sleeping on top of the infant. She called 911 and began CPR on the infant. The paramedics continued to administer CPR to the infant upon their arrival, but were unable to revive him, and the infant was pronounced dead in the home at approximately 7am.

Findings by agency, including maltreatment determination and material circumstances leading to incident:

The 2/17/12 referral alleging neglect to the infant by the father was screened in and assessed. The referral was unsubstantiated as the medical examiner ruled the death accidental. The family is receiving support from extended family members and is also utilizing grief counseling through community resources. There are no additional services needed at this time.

- Yes No Criminal investigation pending or completed?
 Yes No Criminal charges filed? If yes, against whom?

Child's residence at the time of incident: In-home Out-of-home care placement

Complete the appropriate following section (A. or B. based on the child's residence at the time of the incident).

A. Children residing at home at the time of the incident:

Description of the child's family (includes household members, noncustodial parent and other children that have visitation with the child and / or in the child's family home):

Prior to the incident, the infant lived with his mother, father, 5-year-old sister, 2-year-old brother, and paternal grandparents.

Yes **No** **Statement of Services:** Were services under ch. 48 or ch. 938 being provided to the child, any member of the child's family or alleged maltreater at the time of the incident, including any referrals received by the agency or reports being investigated at time of incident?

If "Yes", briefly describe the type of services, date(s) of last contact between agency and recipient(s) of those services, and the person(s) receiving those services:

An 11/15/11 referral alleging neglect by the mother to her 5-year-old daughter and 2-year-old son was screened in. The allegation was assessed and unsubstantiated. The case, however, remained open at the time of the incident as the family's previous pediatrician would no longer service them due to missed appointments; therefore, a new pediatrician was being sought. The agency's last contact with the family occurred on 2/27/12.

Summary of all involvement in services as adults under ch. 48 or ch. 938 by child's parents or alleged maltreater in the previous five years: (Does not include the current incident.)

An 11/15/11 referral alleging neglect by the mother to her 5-year-old daughter and 2-year-old son was screened in. The allegation was assessed and unsubstantiated. The case, however, remained open at the time of the incident as the family's previous pediatrician would no longer service them due to missed appointments; therefore a new pediatrician was being sought.

A 2/23/11 referral alleging neglect by the mother to the 1-year-old (now 2-year-old) was screened in, assessed and unsubstantiated. Due to concerns about the mother's ability to consistently meet her son's special medical needs, the family agreed to work with Safety Services to enhance the mother's parenting skills as well as assist her in identifying appropriate community resources to safely care for her children and provide for their basic needs. The family worked with Safety Services from May of 2011 through September of 2011, at which time the mother had successfully met her goals and the case was closed.

A 7/7/10 referral alleging neglect by the mother to the 3-year-old (now 5-year-old) and 1-year-old (now 2-year-old) was screened in, assessed, and unsubstantiated as there were no safety concerns identified and the mother was appropriately utilizing community resources.

Referrals alleging medical neglect by the mother to the 6-month-old (now 2-year-old) were screened in on 12/26/09 and 12/17/09, due to concerns regarding the mother's ability to adequately meet her son's special needs. The referrals were assessed together and unsubstantiated, as there was no evidence to support that the mother was not capable of appropriately caring for her child.

An 8/1/08 referral alleging neglect to the 2-year-old (now 5-year-old) by an unknown maltreater was screened in, assessed and unsubstantiated as no present or impending safety threats were identified.

Summary of actions taken by the agency under ch. 48, including any investigation of a report or referrals to services involving the child, any member of the child's family living in this household and the child's parents and alleged maltreater. (Does not include the current incident.)

(Note: Screened out reports listed in this section may include only the date of the report, screening decision, and if a referral to services occurred at Access. Reports that do not constitute a reasonable suspicion of maltreatment or a reason to believe that the child is threatened with harm are not required to be screened in for an initial assessment, and no further action is required by the agency.)

See previous section

Summary of any investigation involving the child, any member of the child's family and alleged maltreater conducted under ch. 48 or ch. 938 and any services provided to the child and child's family since the date of the incident:

The agency screened in and assessed the allegation of neglect to this infant by the father. The agency unsubstantiated the allegation as the medical examiner ruled the infant's death accidental. The family is utilizing community supports for grief counseling to deal with their loss and is continuing to access community supports to assist them in meeting their other child's medical needs. No additional services are needed at this time.

B. Children residing in out-of-home (OHC) placement at time of incident:

Description of the OHC placement and basis for decision to place child there:

N/A.

Description of all other persons residing in the OHC placement home:

N/A.

Licensing history: Including type of license, duration of license, summary of any violations by licensee or an employee of licensee that constitutes a substantial failure to protect and promote the welfare of the child.

N/A.

Summary of any actions taken by agency in response to the incident: (Check all that apply.)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Screening of Access report | <input type="checkbox"/> Attempted or successful reunification |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Protective plan implemented | <input type="checkbox"/> Referral to services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial assessment conducted | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation assistance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Safety plan implemented | <input type="checkbox"/> Collaboration with law enforcement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary physical custody of child | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collaboration with medical professionals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Petitioned for court order / CHIPS (child in need of protection or services) | <input type="checkbox"/> Supervised visitation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Placement into foster home | <input type="checkbox"/> Case remains open for services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Placement with relatives | <input type="checkbox"/> Case closed by agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing Services case management | <input type="checkbox"/> Initiated efforts to address or enhance community collaboration on CA/N cases |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe): |

FOR DSP COMPLETION ONLY:

Summary of policy or practice changes to address issues identified during the review of the incident:

Under the Child Welfare Disclosure Act (Section 48.981(7)(cr), Stats.), DSP completes a 90-day review of the agency's practice in each case reported under the Act. In accordance with the DCF memo Series 2010-13, dated

December 7, 2010 pertaining to the Child Welfare Case Review Protocol, the Bureau of Performance Management (BPM) completed a record review in case # 120217DSP-Milw-184. The review found: both BMCW Initial Assessments under review were thorough, resulting in appropriate substantiation decisions and safety analysis and planning. While the Initial Assessment of 11/15/11 was not completed within standard time frames, the case was kept open in order to verify that necessary medical care providers were in place. One of the Initial Assessments did not include collateral contact per standards. The Safety Services episode reflected practice within safety intervention standards and guidelines, with exceptions related to lack of collateral contact with the primary care physician and lack of intervention in the area of potential mental health and cognitive functioning concerns for the mother.

BMCW updated its Quality Assurance plan to ensure that collateral contacts meet information gathering standards. The Safety Services agency developed a pre-case closure review process to include its Assessment Clinicians and reviewed case closure policy with all staff to ensure that potential mental health service needs are addressed and to verify service provider status at the time of case closure.

Recommendations for further changes in policies, practices, rules or statutes needed to address identified issues:

None

Yes No Not Applicable This 6-month summary report completes the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) review of this case.

If the case review was not completed within 90 days, the DSP will complete and submit the final summary report within 6 months.

The agency must submit an electronic copy of the completed 90-Day Summary Report to: RobertB.Williams@wisconsin.gov