

## 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:** 120623DSP-Milw-215      **Agency:** Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare

**Child Information** (at time of incident)

Age: 3 months      Gender:  Female  Male

Race or Ethnicity: African American

Special Needs: None

**Date of Incident:** 6/23/12

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

On 6/25/12, the agency received a report regarding a 3-month-old child who had been admitted to the hospital with suspicious injuries. The child was recently placed in out-of-home care with five siblings by the agency. The child and his siblings had a supervised visit with the parents on 6/23/12. During the visit, the mother noticed the child had a bump on his head. The foster mother was made aware of the injury and stated she did not know how he received the bump. The foster parent took the child to his primary doctor on 6/25/12 and the doctor transferred the child to the hospital for x-rays. Further examination showed the child had a leg fracture, a skull fracture on the right side of his head, and a second skull fracture to the left side of his head. Medical professionals were unable to determine exactly when the injuries were inflicted. The child and his siblings were removed from the foster home once the injuries were discovered on 6/25/12. Law enforcement was contacted to investigate the cause of the child's injuries. Criminal charges have not been filed in this case.

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

Due to unknown nature of the injuries to the child, two separate assessments were completed on this case. The agency screened in and assessed the biological parents' home regarding the allegations of physical abuse to the child. The agency substantiated physical abuse to the child by an unknown maltreater. An Independent Investigation was also conducted on the foster home as provided under s. 48.981, which states an independent agency shall conduct an investigation that may involve abuse or neglect in a foster home. The independent agency also substantiated physical abuse to the child by an unknown maltreater. The child presented with three separate fractures which medical professionals determined were from three separate incidents. Medical professionals could not determine exactly when the injuries occurred; however, they could tell based on the rate of healing the injuries varied from within a few days to greater than 10 days old. The child had contact with multiple individuals during the time in which the injuries may have occurred; therefore, the agency was unable to identify the individual responsible. All six children were removed from the foster home and placed in other foster home placements. The family continues to receive ongoing case management services from the agency.

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):

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:**

**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.)

**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.)

**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:**

**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:**

At the time of the incident, the child resided in a general foster home with his foster mother, 11-year-old brother, 8-year-old brother, 6-year-old sister, 4-year-old brother and 3-year-old brother. The children were placed in out-of-home due to substantiated allegations of neglect by the mother and father to all of the children. Four of the child's siblings were placed in this foster home at the time of their removal from their parents' home in March 2012. The child was born on 3/13/12 and was taken into temporary physical custody on 3/14/12 due to concerns about the mother's ability to appropriately meet his basic needs. The child and his 6-year-old sister were placed in the foster home with their other siblings on 5/17/12. The child has no special needs and a general foster home was deemed appropriate for placement.

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

The household consisted of the foster mother and this sibling group.

**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.

The foster parent has been licensed as a general foster home since February 2012. She was initially licensed for placement of four children; however, an exception was granted allowing two additional children so that all the children could be placed together. The foster parent's license is currently on hold as a result of this incident. There were no noted concerns prior to this incident.

**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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Placement into foster home  | <input checked="" 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 an on-site review in case # 120623DSP-Milw-215. The review found the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare (BMCW) in compliance with CPS Access and Initial Assessment Standards for the Access report under review. BMCW practice in Initial Assessment was not compliant with standards in the area of information

gathering related to assessment of safety in out of home care and information gathering related to interview contacts. Practice of the On-going Services agency was not compliant with On-going Child Protective Services Standards in the area of monitoring the out of home safety plan and timeliness of permanency planning.

Both the BMCW and the On-going Services agency modified components of their Quality Assurance Plans to ensure effective monitoring of the process of confirming safety in out-of-home care placements (Confirming Safe Environments), and the On-going Services agency adopted the tracking of permanency planning in their Quality Assurance Plan in an effort to ensure compliance with standards relative to permanency planning. Both BMCW and the On-going Services Agency are in the process of ensuring that all staff receives updated safety training as well as completing training requirements for the Confirming Safe Environments process for children placed in out-of-home care.

**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](mailto:RobertB.Williams@wisconsin.gov)