

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: 120707DSP-Fond-216 **Agency:** Fond du Lac County Department of Social Services

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 4 months Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian

Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: 7/7/12

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

On 7/9/12, the agency received a report regarding the death of a 4-month-old child two days prior. On the day of the child's death, the father found the child non-responsive in his Pack N Play at approximately 12:15 pm. The parents reported they had been sleeping in an adjacent room to the child. An ambulance was called to the home and the child was transported to a local hospital, where he was pronounced dead. Law enforcement was contacted to investigate the child's death. The cause of death was determined to be suffocation. The Pack N Play where the child was placed to sleep contained several items including blankets and adult size pillows. Criminal charges for obstruction have been referred to the District Attorney's Office for both parents.

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

The agency screened in and assessed allegations of neglect to the child, as well as allegations of neglect to the child's 2-year-old half-brother. At the time the agency received the report regarding the child's death, a report was also received regarding the 2-year-old being found wandering outside by police at approximately 1:30 AM. The agency substantiated neglect to the child. The agency determined that the parents continuously put the child to sleep with blankets and pillows and would prop the child's bottle for feeding. Law enforcement determined that on the day of the child's death, there was an approximate nine hour timeframe where no one checked on the child. The parents also admitted to using marijuana during this timeframe. The agency referred the case to juvenile court requesting a Child in Need of Protection or Services petition be filed on behalf of the 2-year-old; however, the mother moved to another county and the District Attorney's Office did not file the petition. A referral was sent to the county where the mother currently resides with the 2-year-old.

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):

The child was living with his mother, father, and 2-year-old half-brother. The family was living in the home of the maternal grandmother, along with the mother's 27-year-old sister, 11-year-old half-brother, and 6-year-old half-sister.

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:

N/A

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.)

None

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.)

On 5/31/12, a report was received regarding the 2-year-old found outside unsupervised. The report was referred to another county where the mother was residing at the time. The county screened out the report.

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 collaborated with law enforcement to complete the assessment. The agency substantiated neglect to both the child and his 2-year-old half-brother. The 2-year-old was determined unsafe and an in-home safety plan was developed. The agency also referred the case to the District Attorney's Office requesting a Child in Need of Protection or Services petition be filed in juvenile court. The mother moved to another county with the 2-year-old; therefore, the District Attorney's Office did not file the petition. A referral was made to the neighboring county to offer services to the family.

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:

NA

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

NA

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.

NA

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referral to services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial assessment conducted | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation assistance |
| <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case closed by agency |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ongoing Services case management | <input type="checkbox"/> Initiated efforts to address or enhance community collaboration on CA/N cases |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (describe): Referral to the neighboring county where the mother is now residing. |

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.), the 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 DSP completed a full records and on-site review in case #120707DSP-Fond-216. The review determined: Fond du Lac County Department of Social Services Access and Initial Assessment practice was in accordance with standards, Chapter 48 requirements, and Fond du Lac Department of Social Services internal policies and procedures.

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.

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