

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: 120903DSP-Milw-242 Agency: Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 10 months Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: African American

Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: 9/3/12

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

On 9/3/12, the agency received a report regarding a 10-month-old child who had been brought to the emergency room and admitted to the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. The parents brought the child to the emergency room because they believed the child was suffering from heat rash. The parents reported treating the child with home remedies over the course of a week, but the child was not showing improvement. Medical professionals diagnosed the child's condition as severe failure to thrive and severe protein deficiency. Medical professionals stated the child's condition was evidence of long standing severe nutritional and medical neglect and that the severity of his malnutrition would have been the result of at least two months of undernourishment. Law enforcement was contacted to investigate the circumstances of the child's condition. The mother reported that the child was suffering from constipation and the parents believed he was lactose intolerant, so they stopped providing the child formula in June 2012. The mother stated that they made this decision without consulting with a physician. The mother was criminally charged with two counts each of Neglecting a Child (Consequence is Great Bodily Harm) and found guilty.

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

The agency screened in and assessed the allegation of neglect to the 10-month-old child by his parents. Neglect was substantiated for both parents. The child presented with life threatening malnutrition which was caused by the parents' failure to provide their child with sufficient food or medical care, despite having the means to do so. During the course of the assessment, the agency learned about allegations of physical abuse to the mother's 3-year-old son and the parents' 23-month-old daughter. The allegations of physical abuse were ultimately unsubstantiated as there were no observed injuries and no additional information found during the assessment process to support that the children had been physically abused. The children were determined to be unsafe in the home. The two older children were taken into temporary physical custody on 9/5/12 and placed in out-of-home care. The 10-month-old child remained in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit until 10/12/12. He was then taken into temporary physical custody and placed in out-of-home care as well.

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

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 lived with his mother, father, 23-month-old sister and 3-year-old half-brother.

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 2/14/11, the agency screened in a report alleging neglect by the parents to the 1-year-old (now 3-year-old) and physical abuse by the parents to the 4-month-old (now 23-month-old). The agency attempted to assess the allegations; however, the referral was closed as the agency was unable to locate the family.

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 completed the assessment and substantiated neglect to the child by both parents. Allegations of physical abuse to the two other children were unsubstantiated. All three children were determined to be unsafe in the home. They were taken into custody and placed in out-of-home. A Child in Need of Protection or Services petition was filed in Children's Court and the family is receiving ongoing case management services by the agency.

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:

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

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.

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

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| <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation assistance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Safety plan implemented | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collaboration with law enforcement |
| <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supervised visitation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Placement into foster home | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case remains open for services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Placement with relatives | <input 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 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 # 120903DSP-Milw-242. The review found the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare was in compliance with CPS Access and Initial Assessment Standards for the Access Report and Initial Assessment under review.

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