

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: 140305DSP-Fond-427 **Agency:** Fond Du Lac County Social Services Department

Child Information (at time of incident)

15 (F), 13 (F), 12 (M),
Age: & 11 (M) Years Gender: Female Male
Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian, Black/African American
Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: March 5, 2014

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

On March 5, 2014, the agency received a report alleging physical abuse to four children, ages 11 through 15 years, by their mother. Law enforcement was called to investigate the allegations concerning alleged physical abuse to the children by the mother.

It was reported that the physical abuse and neglect occurred over several years, mainly to the 11-year-old male child by the mother. Reportedly he was made to stand in a corner for long periods, locked in a bathroom and bedroom for extended periods and allowed one meal a day. The mother reportedly hit the 11-year-old male child and 12-year-old male child with potentially dangerous objects. In addition, the report disclosed prior incidents of physical abuse and neglect by the mother to the other children in the home. It was reported that the 15-year-old female was physically disciplined, but not with objects. It was reported that at times the mother withheld food from all of the minor children in the home. A relative described many years of physical abuse and witnessed the discipline used by the mother. The latest incident of abuse occurred on March 1, 2014.

The mother was interviewed and admitted to physically disciplining her children. The mother stated she disciplines the 11-year-old male child because he lies, steals, and hoards food. The mother denied the severity of the physical abuse that was reported. The father was interviewed and stated he witnessed the physical discipline used by the mother.

As a result of law enforcement's investigation, the mother was arrested, criminally charged, and convicted of two counts of Child Abuse-Intentionally Cause Harm. The father was criminally arrested, charged, and convicted of three counts of Neglecting a Child (Consequence is Bodily Harm).

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

The agency collaborated with law enforcement and medical personnel to complete the assessment. The Initial Assessment completed by the agency found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse to the 11-year-old male child and the 12-year-old male child by the mother. In addition, the agency substantiated maltreatment of neglect by the mother and father to the 11-year-old male child, 12-year-old male child, and 15-year-old female child. The agency found insufficient evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse to the 13-year-old female child and 15-year-old female child by the mother. The four children were deemed unsafe, taken into Temporary Physical Custody, and placed in out-of-home care. The agency filed a Child in Need of Protection or Services petitions on all four children in juvenile court. The case remains open to provide ongoing case management services to the family.

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

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):

At the time of the incident, the 11-year old male child, the 12-year-old male child, 13-year-old female child, and the 15-

year-old female child resided with the mother, the father, and their 18-year-old 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.)

N/A

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 October 25, 2007, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging physical abuse to the 11-year-old male child (then four-years-old) and 12-year-old male child (then five-years-old) by the mother. An assessment was completed, which determined the children safe, and the allegation of physical abuse was unsubstantiated. The family was referred to community resources and the agency closed the case.

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 and medical personnel to complete the assessment. The Initial Assessment completed by the agency found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse to the 11-year-old male child and the 12-year-old male child by the mother. In addition, the agency substantiated maltreatment of neglect by the mother and father to the 11-year-old male child, 12-year-old male child, and 15-year-old female child. The agency found insufficient evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse to the 13-year-old female child and 15-year-old female child by the mother. The four children were deemed unsafe, taken into Temporary Physical Custody, and placed in out-of-home care. The agency filed a Child in Need of Protection or Services petitions on all four children in juvenile court. The case remains open to provide ongoing case management services to the family.

B. Children residing in out-of-home care (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.)

- Screening of Access report
- Protective plan implemented
- Initial assessment conducted
- Safety plan implemented
- Temporary physical custody of child
- Petitioned for court order / CHIPS (child in need of protection or services)
- Placement into foster home
- Placement with relatives
- Ongoing Services case management

- Attempted or successful reunification
- Referral to services
- Transportation assistance
- Collaboration with law enforcement
- Collaboration with medical professionals
- Supervised visitation
- Case remains open for services
- Case closed by agency
- Initiated efforts to address or enhance community collaboration on CA/N cases
- Other (describe):

FOR DSP COMPLETION ONLY:

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

Under 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. As part of the 90-Day Summary, an internal review did not identify indicators of the child welfare agency response that require further review. This report completes the DSP actions related to this incident.

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

None

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