

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: 140621DSP-Milw-450 Agency: Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 3 Years Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: African American

Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: 6/21/14

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

On 6/21/14 the agency received a report regarding a 3 year-old child brought to the hospital with suspicious injuries indicative of child abuse including a subdural hematoma, burns, and bruising. The girlfriend of the alleged father was arrested and was subsequently charged with seven counts of felony child abuse, one count of felony child neglect, one count of felony causing mental harm to a child, and four felony counts of conspiracy to intimidate a victim. A criminal charge is merely an allegation and a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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 evidence to substantiate maltreatment of neglect to the 3 year-old child and his 2 year-old sibling by the mother. The agency also found a preponderance of evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse to the 3 year-old by the girlfriend of the child's alleged father who was the primary caretaker for the child at the time of the injuries. The 3 year-old and 2 year-old and their 3 year-old and 2 year-old half siblings were found to be unsafe, and all four children were taken into protective custody and placed in out-of-home care. Child in Need of Protection or Services petitions was filed and the cases remained open to provide ongoing case management services.

Yes No Criminal investigation pending or completed?

Yes No Criminal charges filed? If yes, against whom? The child's alleged father's girlfriend.

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 injuries to the 3 year-old, the 2 year-old was living in the home of his alleged father, the alleged father's girlfriend, and his 2 and 3 year-old half siblings and their mother.

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:

On February 3, 2014, a referral alleging neglect to the 2 year-old sister of the 3 year-old was screened in for initial assessment. Despite making numerous attempts, the agency was unable to locate the mother and the case was open at the time of the injury to the 3 year-old. Subsequent to the injury, the allegation was not substantiated with a finding of 'not able to locate source' and the case was closed.

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.)

On January 20, 2009, the agency received and screened in a referral alleging neglect and physical abuse to a baby (now 5

year old) by his mother. The assessment completed by the agency found insufficient evidence to substantiate the allegations of neglect and abuse by the mother. The baby (now 5 year-old) and his 4 year-old (now 10 year-old) brother were determined to be unsafe, placed in out-of-home care, served under a Child in Need of Protection and Services petition. The parents' rights were terminated and the children were adopted and are not involved in this June 21 incident. (Note: the baby and 4 year-old are biological half-siblings of the 3 year-old child who is the subject of this summary)

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 September 12, 2008, the agency screened in a Services Report regarding a baby (now 5 year old) and 4 year-old (now 10 year old) of the mother. The reporter requested a home study of the grandparent's home. The home study was completed and the case was closed.

On January 20, 2009, the agency received and screened in a referral alleging neglect and physical abuse to a baby (now 5 year old) by the mother. The assessment completed by the agency found insufficient evidence to substantiate the allegations of neglect and abuse by the mother. The baby (now 5 year-old) and his 4 year-old (now 10 year-old) brother were determined to be unsafe, placed in out of home care, served under a Child in Need of Protection and Services petition. The parents' rights were terminated and the children were adopted

On January 23, 2009, the agency screened out a CPS report.

On November 12, 2010, the agency screened out a CPS report.

On February 3, 2014, a referral alleging neglect to the 2 year-old sister of the 3 year-old was screened in for initial assessment. Despite making numerous attempts, the agency was unable to locate the mother and the case was open at the time of the injury to the 3 year-old. Subsequent to the injury, the allegation was not substantiated with a finding of 'not able to locate source' and the case was closed.

Summary of any investigation involving the child, any member of the child's family and alleged maltreater conducted under ch. 48 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 evidence to substantiate maltreatment of neglect to the 3 year-old child and his 2 year-old sibling by the mother. The agency also found a preponderance of evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse to the 3 year-old by the girlfriend of the child's alleged father who was the primary caretaker for the child at the time of the injuries. The 3 year-old and 2 year-old and their 3 year-old and 2 year-old half siblings were found to be unsafe, and all 4 children were taken into protective custody and placed in out-of-home care. Child in Need of Protection or Services petitions was filed and the cases remained open to provide ongoing case management services.

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 or other actions that constitute 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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" 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 IF RECORD OR ON-SITE REVIEW WAS UNDERTAKEN:

Summary of policy or practice changes to address issues identified based on the record or on-site 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. 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 of case 140621DSP-Milw-450. BMCW practice in Access for the two Access Reports reviewed was conducted in accordance with CPS Access Standards. While BMCW practice in Initial Assessment was in not compliance with CPS Initial Assessment Standards requiring an Initial Assessment be completed within 60 days of receipt of a report, the decision to keep the case open in excess of 60 days was appropriate given the case history and circumstances of the referral of February 13, 2014.

Recommendations for further changes in policies, practices, rules or statutes needed to address identified issues based on the record or on-site review:

None.

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

This 6 month final summary report was previously delayed. DSP did determine that releasing the summary report would jeopardize an ongoing criminal investigation, and delayed posting as provided under Wis. Stat. § 48.981(7)(cr)7.