

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: 170313DSP-MILW-695

Agency: Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 3 months Gender: ☐ Female ☒ Male

Race or Ethnicity: Black/African American

Special Needs: none

Date of Incident: 03/13/2017

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

On March 13th 2017, the agency received a report regarding a 3-month-old infant brought to the hospital. The infant had multiple injuries in various stages of healing. Medical professionals determined the infant sustained multiple injuries that were indicative of child abuse. Law enforcement was contacted and initiated a criminal investigation regarding the infant's suspicious injuries. As a result of law enforcement's investigation, the infant's foster mother was arrested and criminally charged with Physical Abuse of a Child and Repeated Acts Causing Great Bodily Harm. A criminal charge is merely an allegation and a defendant is presumed innocent until 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 the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse to the infant by his foster mother. Medical professionals determined the infant sustained multiple injuries that were indicative of child abuse. The infant and the infant's 2-year-old sister were deemed unsafe in the foster home and placed in a different foster home. The foster mother was criminally charged and ordered to have no contact with the infant and the infant's 2-year-old sister. The case remained open for ongoing case management services.

☒ Yes ☐ No Criminal investigation pending or completed?

☒ Yes ☐ No Criminal charges filed? If yes, against whom? The infant's foster 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):

N/A

☒ 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.)

N/A

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:

N/A

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:

At the time of the incident, the 3-month-old infant was residing in a Level 2 licensed foster home. The infant was originally placed in out-of-home care in December 2016, after he was taken into Temporary Physical Custody due to neglect by his mother. This was determined to be an appropriate placement as the infant's 2-year-old sister was currently residing in this foster home.

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

At the time of the incident, the infant resided with his foster mother and his 2-year-old sister.

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.

The foster mother has been licensed as a level 2 foster home since 2013. Her license was renewed in 2015 and was subsequently revoked on 3/21/17. The provider had not had any prior licensing violations constituting 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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| ☒ Screening of Access report | ☐ Attempted or successful reunification |
| ☐ Protective plan implemented | ☐ Referral to services |
| ☒ Initial assessment conducted | ☐ Transportation assistance |
| ☐ Safety plan implemented | ☒ Collaboration with law enforcement |
| ☒ Temporary physical custody of child | ☒ Collaboration with medical professionals |
| ☒ Petitioned for court order / CHIPS (child in need of protection or services) | ☐ Supervised visitation |
| ☒ Placement into foster home | ☒ Case remains open for services |
| ☐ Placement with relatives | ☐ Case closed by agency |
| ☒ Ongoing Services case management | ☐ Initiated efforts to address or enhance community collaboration on CA/N cases |
| | ☐ 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 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. A further practice review has been completed for case # 170313DSP-MILW-695. As a result of this review process, the DSP determined the agency implemented changes to provide additional clarification regarding unborn child abuse, increased training concerning drug-affected infants, and enhanced collaboration with partner agencies.

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

Based on the agency's effort and response to this incident and DSP review, no further policy, practice, or statutory changes are recommended.

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