

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: 190221DSP-LaCr-903 **Agency:** La Crosse County Human Services Department

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 3 months Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: White/Caucasian

Special Needs: _____

Age: 3 months Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: White/Caucasian

Special Needs: _____

Date of Incident: 2/21/2019

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

On February 21, 2019, the agency received a report regarding two infants brought to the hospital with multiple injuries. Medical personnel determined the injuries were non-accidental in nature. Law enforcement was contacted and initiated a criminal investigation. As a result of law enforcement's investigation, the mother was arrested and criminally charged with two counts of Child Abuse – Recklessly Cause Great Harm and two counts of Neglecting a Child (Consequence is Great Bodily Harm). 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 the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse and neglect to both infants by the mother. Medical personnel determined the infants sustained injuries consistent with non-accidental trauma. At the time of the incident, the infants and their half-sibling were receiving services from the agency under an Order for Protection or Services. The infants were residing in their home and the infants' half-sibling was residing in a foster home. The infants were deemed unsafe, taken into Temporary Physical Custody and placed in the foster home with their half-sibling. The case 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 infants' 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):

At the time of the incident, the infants resided with their mother, father, and three non-related adult males. The infants' half-sibling was residing in a foster home.

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:

At the time of the incident, the two children were under an in-home Order for Protection or Services. The last contact by the agency was a home visit with the infants and their mother on February 19, 2019.

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 December 7, 2018 the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging physical abuse to the female infant by the mother. Both infants and their now 3-year-old half-sibling were deemed unsafe and taken into Temporary Physical Custody. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of physical abuse was unsubstantiated. The infants returned

home, while the half-sibling remained in foster care. A Petition for Protection or Services was filed on December 11, 2018 and the case remained open to provide ongoing case management services.

On October 2, 2018, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging physical abuse to the infants' now 3-year-old half-sibling by the mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of physical abuse was unsubstantiated. The case remained opened on an informal basis to provide monitoring for service and support needs.

On June, 19, 2017, another agency screened-in a Services Report. The family was referred to community support services.

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.)

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On September 12, 2018, the agency screened-out a CPS Report.

On February 16, 2017, the agency screened-out a CPS Report.

On January 21, 2017, the agency screened-out a CPS Report.

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 the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse and neglect to both infants by the mother. Medical personnel determined the infants sustained injuries consistent with non-accidental trauma. At the time of the incident, the infants and their half-sibling were receiving services from the agency under an Order for Protection or Services. The infants were residing in their home and the infants' half-sibling was residing in a foster home. The infants were deemed unsafe, taken into Temporary Physical Custody and placed in the foster home with their half-sibling. The case 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 type="checkbox"/> Referral to services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial assessment conducted | <input 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 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supervised visitation |

- protection or services)
- Placement into foster home
- Placement with relatives
- Ongoing Services case management

- 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 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 Department of Children and Families' (DCF) Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) completes an initial review of the agency's practice for each case reported under the Act. A further practice review has been completed for case 190221DSP-LaCr-903. As a result of this review process, the DSP determined the agency had implemented efforts to improve the consistency and quality of safety practices, including training of CPS staff by a local pediatrician regarding sentinel injuries.

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.