

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: 210214DSP-Dunn-1049 **Agency:** Dunn County Department of Human Services

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 16 years Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: White

Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: 2/14/2021

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

On February 14, 2021, the agency received a report that a 16-year-old child who was in out-of-home care had engaged in self-harming behavior. The child was pronounced dead on the same day. Law enforcement was contacted and initiated a criminal investigation. The Medical Examiner’s Office ruled the death a suicide. No criminal charges were filed, and the case was closed.

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

The agency collaborated with law enforcement and medical professionals. The agency screened-out the CPS Report and did not complete an Initial Assessment for this case. Therefore, no substantiation decision or safety determination findings were made by the agency.

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

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):

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:

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.)

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.)

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:

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 16-year-old child was residing in an unlicensed non-relative home. The child was placed in the home on December 18, 2020, due to concerns regarding her mental health and complex needs.

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

At the time of the incident, the child resided with her non-relative caregiver and no other children were placed in the home.

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 a child.

The non-relative caregiver was previously licensed as a child-specific treatment foster care provider for this child. Her license was not continued when the child was moved to a different placement for a period of time. At the time of the incident, the non-relative caregiver was in process of becoming licensed. There is no history of licensing violations by this caregiver constituting a substantial failure to protect and promote the welfare of a child.

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 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 type="checkbox"/> Temporary physical custody of child | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collaboration with medical professionals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Petitioned for court order / CHIPS (child in need of protection or services) | <input type="checkbox"/> Supervised visitation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Placement into foster home | <input type="checkbox"/> Case remains open for services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Placement with relatives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case closed by agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing Services case management | <input type="checkbox"/> Initiated efforts to address or enhance community collaboration on CA/N cases |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (describe): Hired an agency to complete a debriefing for staff |

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 #210214DSP-Dunn-1049. As a result of this review process, the DSP did not determine policy or practice changes were needed.

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.