

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: 230211DSP-LaCr-1208 **Agency:** La Crosse County Human Services Department

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 6 years Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: White

Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: 2/11/2023

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

On February 11, 2023, the agency received a report regarding a 6-year-old child pronounced deceased in his home. Law enforcement was contacted and initiated a criminal investigation. The Medical Examiner's Office has not determined the child's cause of death; the autopsy report is pending. No criminal charges have been filed in this case, and the investigation remains open.

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

The agency collaborated with law enforcement and medical professionals 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 child by the father's significant other. The agency also found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of neglect to the child by the father. The Medical Examiner's Office has not determined the child's cause of death; the autopsy report is pending. The agency deemed the child's siblings unsafe and initiated a Protective Plan. Subsequently, the Protective Plan was terminated, and the child's siblings remained in the care of relatives. Petitions for Protection or Services were filed, and 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?

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 child resided with his father, his father's significant other, his 5-year-old half-sibling, his 4-year-old half-sibling, and the father's significant other's 13-year-old, 10-year-old, and 8-year-old children. The child's mother did not have contact with the child.

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 agency was assessing the January 16, 2023 CPS report. The last contact by the agency was with the father's significant other on February 9, 2023.

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 16, 2023, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging physical abuse to the child by the father's significant other. The child died during the assessment period, and an additional report was made to the agency regarding the child's death on February 11, 2023. An assessment of the allegation was completed by the agency, and the initial allegation of physical abuse was unsubstantiated.

On October 30, 2019, the agency screened-in a Services Report. The family was referred to community 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.)

On January 16, 2023, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging physical abuse to the child by the father's significant other. The child died during the assessment period, and an additional report was made to the agency regarding the child's death on February 11, 2023. An assessment of the allegation was completed by the agency, and the initial allegation of physical abuse was unsubstantiated.

On November 29, 2022, the agency screened-out a Services Report.

On November 28, 2022, the agency screened-out a Services Report.

On November 14, 2022, the agency screened-out a Services Report.

On October 28, 2022, the agency screened-out a Services Report.

On November 12, 2021, the agency screened-out a Services Report.

On November 4, 2019, the agency screened-out a CPS Report.

On October 30, 2019, agency screened-in a Services Report. The family was referred to community services.

On September 6, 2019, the agency screened-out a Services Report.

On January 14, 2019, the agency screened-out a CPS Report.

On July 26, 2018, the agency screened-out a Services 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 professionals 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 child by the father's significant other. The agency also found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of neglect to the child by the father. The Medical Examiner's Office has not determined the child's cause of death; the autopsy report is pending. The agency deemed the child's siblings unsafe and initiated a Protective Plan. Subsequently, the Protective Plan was terminated, and the child's siblings remained in the care of relatives. Petitions for Protection or Services were filed, and 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 a 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 checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Supervised visitation |
| <input 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 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 230211DSP-LaCr-1208. 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:

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 summary report completes the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) action on this case.