

## 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:** 231129DSP-Rock-1279 **Agency:** Rock County Human Services Department

**Child Information** (at time of incident)

Age: 6 years Gender: ☒ Female ☐ Male

Race or Ethnicity: White; Caucasian

Special Needs: The child had complex physical care needs.

**Date of Incident:** 11/29/23

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

On November 29, 2023, the agency received a report regarding a 6-year-old child who was pronounced deceased. Law enforcement was contacted and initiated a criminal investigation. The Medical Examiner's Office noted no signs of trauma to the child; the autopsy report is pending. 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 to complete the assessment. The Medical Examiner's Office noted no signs of trauma to the child; the autopsy report is pending. The Initial Assessment completed by the agency found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of neglect of the child by the mother. The child's siblings were deemed unsafe, and the agency initiated a Protective Plan. Subsequently, the child's siblings were taken into Temporary Physical Custody and placed with a relative. 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 her mother, her mother's significant other, her 5-year-old sibling, and her 3-year-old sibling.

☒ 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 child was receiving voluntary services as the result of the June 5, 2023 CPS Report. The last contact by the agency was with the child and the mother on November 7, 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 June 5, 2023, another agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect of the child by the mother. An assessment was completed by the agency, and the allegation of neglect was substantiated. At the conclusion of the assessment, the family agreed to voluntary services, and the case remained open to provide those services. The child died during the period of time when the family was receiving voluntary services.

On June 30, 2022, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect of the child by the mother and the mother's significant other. An assessment was completed by the agency, and the allegations of neglect were unsubstantiated. The case was closed upon completion of the Initial Assessment.

On February 7, 2022, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect of the child and the child's siblings by the mother and the mother's significant other. An assessment was completed by the agency, and the allegations of neglect were unsubstantiated. The case was closed upon completion of the Initial Assessment.

**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 November 24, 2023, the agency screened-out a CPS Report.

On June 30, 2022, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect of the child by the mother and the mother's significant other. An assessment was completed by the agency, and the allegations of neglect were unsubstantiated. The case was closed upon completion of the Initial Assessment.

On February 7, 2022, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect of the child and the child's siblings by the mother and the mother's significant other. An assessment was completed by the agency, and the allegations of neglect were unsubstantiated. The case was closed upon completion of the Initial Assessment.

On November 1, 2020, the agency screened-out a CPS Report.

On June 13, 2019, the agency screened-out a CPS Report.

On March 21, 2019, 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 professionals to complete the assessment. The Medical Examiner's Office noted no signs of trauma to the child; the autopsy report is pending. The Initial Assessment completed by the agency found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of neglect of the child by the mother. The child's siblings were deemed unsafe, and the agency initiated a Protective Plan. Subsequently, the child's siblings were taken into Temporary Physical Custody and placed with a relative. 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 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 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Case closed by agency                               |

- ☒ Placement with relatives  
☒ Ongoing Services case management

- ☐ Initiated efforts to address or enhance community collaboration on CA/N cases  
☐ Other (describe):

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**FOR DSP COMPLETION IF FURTHER REVIEW WAS UNDERTAKEN:**

**Summary of policy or practice changes to address issues identified based on the 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 incident #231129DSP-Rock-1279. As a result of this review process, the DSP learned the agency implemented efforts to improve the consistency and quality of safety practices.

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

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

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