

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: 240323DSP-EauCl-1308 **Agency:** Eau Claire County Department of Human Services

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 9 years Gender: ☒ Female ☐ Male

Race or Ethnicity: White

Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: 3/23/2024

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

On March 23, 2024, the agency received a report regarding a 9-year-old child brought to the hospital with multiple injuries. Law enforcement was contacted and initiated a criminal investigation. Medical professionals determined the injuries were non-accidental in nature. As a result of law enforcement's investigation, the father was criminally charged with Child Neglect. 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 professionals to complete the assessment. Medical professionals determined the injuries were non-accidental in nature. 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. The agency determined the child and the child's siblings unsafe and initiated a Protective Plan which subsequently transitioned to an in-home safety plan with the mother. An Informal Dispositional Agreement was filed, and the case remained opened for ongoing case management services.

☒ Yes ☐ No Criminal investigation pending or completed?

☒ Yes ☐ No Criminal charges filed? If yes, against whom? The child's father

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 father, her 14-year-old half-sibling, her 11-year-old half sibling, her 6-year-old sibling, her 8-year-old sibling, and her 16-year-old relative.

☒ 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 March 6, 2024 CPS Report. The last contact by the agency was a face-to-face meeting with the mother on March 18, 2024.

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 March 6, 2024, the agency screened-in a CPS Report for Alternative Response alleging physical abuse to the child, her now 16-year-old relative, now 14-year-old and 11-year-old half siblings, and now 6-year-old and 8-year-old siblings. During this assessment period, the agency received an additional report regarding the child's injury on March 23, 2024. The assessment of the initial allegations was completed by the agency with the determination of services not needed.

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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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. Medical professionals determined the injuries were non-accidental in nature. 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. The agency determined the child and the child's siblings unsafe and initiated a Protective Plan which subsequently transitioned to an in-home safety plan with the mother. An Informal Dispositional Agreement was filed, and the case remained opened for 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case remains open for services |
| <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (describe): Informal Dispositional Agreement |

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 case #240323DSP-EauCl-1308. 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 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.