90-Day Summary Report for Child Death, Serious Injury or Egregious Incident

Case Tracking Number:  100226DSP-PN-4

Child Information:  Age:  3 months; 3 yrs & 4 yrs  Gender:  □ Female  ☑ Male
Race:  Caucasian
Special needs:  None

Description of the child’s family:
At the time of this incident, all of the children, the infant and his two siblings, were residing with their mother and her female friend in their home. Neither the father of the infant nor the father of the two siblings were living in the residence.

Child’s Residence:  ☑ In-home  □ Out-of-home care placement

Date of Incident:  2/26/10

Description of the incident, including the suspected cause of death, injury or egregious abuse or neglect:
On February 26, 2010, the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare (BMCW) was notified of the death of a mother and two of her three children. The fire department responded to a home fire and inside the home found the mother and two of her children, ages three and four-years-old, deceased. The infant was later found unharmed that same afternoon on the steps of a local church.

Shortly after the infant was located, the mother's roommate was found murdered. Both of these women had an intimate relationship with the infant's father. The roommate, along with two male accomplices, allegedly attempted to rob the mother and then murdered her and two of the children. It is believed that the three suspects started the fire to cover the murders and then took the infant with them. The roommate's accomplices then allegedly murdered her. The two male suspects have been arrested and are being held in custody.

Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:
Please see the preceding section for details about the material circumstances. The roommate that was found deceased was identified as the suspected maltreater by the agency and in the homicide reports, but obviously she could not be interviewed. Physical abuse to the older children was substantiated with an unknown maltreater. Neglect to the infant was substantiated with an unknown maltreater. The surviving infant was found to be unsafe and placed into foster care.

Additional information for children in home:

☐ Yes  ☑ No  Statement of Services:  Were services under ch. 48 or ch. 938 being provided to the child, 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:
N/A

Summary of all involvement in services under ch. 48 or ch. 938 by child’s parents or alleged maltreater in the previous five years:
The children's mother and the father of the two older children received initial assessment services in 2006.

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 or alleged maltreater:
In 2009 the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare (BMCW) attempted to investigate an allegation of neglect to the two older children. The allegations were unsubstantiated when, after multiple attempts, the agency was unable to establish contact with the family. In 2006 a referral alleging physical abuse to the oldest child was investigated and unsubstantiated. In 2000 a referral alleging abuse to a non-related child by the father of the two deceased children was investigated and unsubstantiated. These cases were closed and the families received no further services. The father of the older children received Kinship Care services as a youth during the period 2001-2004.

Summary of any investigation conducted under ch. 48 or ch. 938 and any services provided to the family since the date of the incident:
Physical abuse to the deceased older siblings was substantiated. Neglect to the infant was substantiated. The infant has been placed into a foster home at an undisclosed location and is receiving ongoing case management services from the BMCW. His father is unable to assume care for the child at this time. No other investigations have occurred since this incident.

Additional information for children in out-of-home (OHC) placement at time of incident:

Description of the OHC placement and basis for decision to place child there:

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

Licensing history: Including type of license, duration of license, summary of any violations by licensee or an employee of licensee that constitutes a substantial failure to protect and promote the welfare of the child.

* Summary of actions taken by agency in response to the incident:
The BMCW immediately responded to this report in collaboration with law enforcement. The agency determined the surviving infant to be a child in need of protection and services (CHIPS) and obtained a court order. The child has received medical services and will continue to receive needed services while living in foster care.

*Summary of policy or practice changes to address identified issues:
None

*Recommendations for further changes in policies, practices, rules or statutes needed to address identified issues:
The initial assessment in the case record has conflicting information about the investigation and case conclusions. The BMCW identified this issue and is correcting the case record.

Statement of Completion:
☒ Yes ☐ No This 90-day summary report completes the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) review of this case.

* If a full report including agency actions, changes in policies or practices and recommendations for further changes was not completed within 90 days, the DSP will complete and submit the final summary report within 6 months.