

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

Case Tracking Number: 100311DSP-PN-10 Agency: Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare

Child Information: Age: 16 years Gender: Female Male
Race: Latino
Special needs: Special education student

Description of the child's family:

The youth is one of several children whose mother is divorced. The teenager's father is unknown.

Child's Residence: In-home Out-of-home care placement

Date of Incident: 3/11/10

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

On March 11, 2010, the BMCW received an allegation of sexual abuse to a teenager by the treatment foster father. The youth sent a text message to his mother informing her that his treatment foster home father has been sexually abusing him. When the youth disclosed the alleged abuse to his mother, he was receiving respite care services and was not in the home of the alleged maltreater.

Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency substantiated sexual abuse to the youth by his foster parent during placement. The child provided detailed, believable information about the abuse, including dates and locations. The alleged maltreater declined to be interviewed during the agency's assessment of the incident. The former foster parent has been criminally charged with two counts of Sexual Assault of a Child by a Foster Parent or a Treatment Foster Parent, 948.085(1) and two counts of Child Enticement - Sexual Contact, 948.07(1).

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:

Summary of all involvement in services under ch. 48 or ch. 938 by child's parents or alleged maltreater in the previous five years:

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:

Summary of any investigation conducted under ch. 48 or ch. 938 and any services provided to the family since the date of the 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:

The youth has been in out-of-home care since February 2007 when it was determined that his mother was unable to ensure the safety of the other children if he remained at home. This was determined to be an appropriate placement because of the provider's years of experience as a treatment foster home, the youth's specialized needs and successful preplacement visits. The provider was licensed for approximately three years as a general foster home and eight years as a treatment foster home. The youth's Wraparound team agreed on placement with this foster parent based on provider longevity, the skills he

developed through specialized treatment foster home training, along with the practical skills developed over time as a treatment foster home parent. The Wraparound team knew this foster parent to be a reliable and active provider who worked well within the team process. He had an extensive history of providing community opportunities, such as renting/going to the movies, dinner, etc to youth in his care. The provider demonstrated motivation to obtain needed services (e.g., counseling) for the children in his care. Prior to the placement, the youth had preplacement visits consisting of an entire day followed by another visit that included an overnight weekend.

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

At the time of the incident, no other children resided in the treatment foster home. The treatment foster father is the only parental figure in the 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.

The treatment foster father was licensed as a general foster home from April 1999 through January 2002 and has been continually licensed as a treatment foster home since February 2002. The provider was licensed by Children's Service Society of Wisconsin. During the course of licensure this provider had no identified prior violations that constituted a substantial failure to protect and promote the welfare of a child.

During the period 1999-2004, several reports of alleged maltreatment by this foster parent or by children in his care were screened in, investigated and unsubstantiated. Available case information indicates in 1999 there were two reports of maltreatment (physical abuse and neglect) by this foster parent to the children in his care; both reports were unsubstantiated and the children were assessed to be safe. In 2000 another assessment determined that the children were safe. In 2001 and 2002, four reports were screened in and investigated. The record does not contain the maltreatment determinations for the 2000-2002 reports, but the children were assessed to be safe in the care of the foster parent. In 2003, an allegation of physical abuse by the foster parent was assessed and unsubstantiated. In 2004, an allegation of sexual contact between children in the foster home was substantiated.

There were no other reports of alleged maltreatment until the reported incident of sexual abuse by the foster parent on March 11, 2010. The treatment foster care license was revoked on May 11, 2010.

*** Summary of actions taken by agency in response to the incident:**

The teenager disclosed the abuse while in respite care and was removed from this foster home. He was subsequently placed into a group home where he remains. The child received a medical examination where no medical concerns were noted. The BMCW Regional Office conducted an internal review of this case, and the DCF Office of Performance and Quality Assurance also reviewed the case.

***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:**

None

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.