

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

Case Tracking Number: 101206DSP-PN-67 Agency: Winnebago County Department of Human Services

Child Information: Age: 18 months Gender: Female Male
Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian
Special needs: none

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

Date of Incident: 12/06/2010

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

The mother took the child to his pediatrician on the morning of December 6, 2010 after finding the child lethargic, crying, and "not himself." The pediatrician found that the child had bruises in various stages of healing on his neck and ear. The child was admitted to the hospital, where an x-ray revealed a complex skull fracture with several cracks radiating from the point of impact, as well as subdural hemorrhaging. Non-accidental injury was suspected, as doctors felt the force necessary to cause the skull fracture was more than typically sustained during an accidental fall and the child's bruising suggested multiple impacts over several planes of the body. Neither of the child's parents offered any viable explanation for his injuries at the time of his hospitalization. The mother later reported that the child was crying and fighting because he did not want to go to bed and she "tossed" him into the side of his crib.

Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency substantiated physical abuse to the child by the mother. The mother reported she was attempting to put the child to bed and he was crying and fighting her because he did not want to go to bed. The mother admitted to "tossing" the child into the side of his crib, which was pushed against a wall. The mother reported that the child hit his head on the side of the crib against the wall. The child cried and stood up and the mother directed the child back down, during which time the child's head hit the corner of the crib. The mother put the child to bed and checked on him an hour later, at which time he was "fine." The child slept through the night and the mother took the child to his pediatrician the next morning as described above. The agency learned that the child's daycare had records indicating the child came to daycare on multiple occasions with bruises, including a black eye. These injuries were not reported to the agency.

The mother has been charged with 2nd Degree Reckless Injury, a Class F felony, and Child Abuse - Recklessly Causing Harm, a Class I felony.

Additional information for children in home:

Description of the child's family:

The child resided with his mother at the time of the incident. The child had regular visitation with his father, who resides in the same town as the mother and child.

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 as adults under ch. 48 or ch. 938 by child's parents or alleged maltreater in the previous five years:

None

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 at the age of 18 years or older:

None

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

The agency screened in and investigated the report of suspected physical abuse. Physical abuse to the child by the mother was substantiated. The child was determined to be unsafe in the care of his mother and was taken into protective custody. Upon release from the hospital, the child was placed with his father. The mother's contact with the child is supervised. A petition was filed with the court alleging the child is in need of protection or services. The agency is providing ongoing services to the family. The mother has also been referred to community services.

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:

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 that constitutes a substantial failure to protect and promote the welfare of the child.

n/a

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

The agency screened in and investigated the report of suspected physical abuse. Physical abuse to the child by the mother was substantiated and the child was determined to be unsafe in the care of his mother. The agency took the child into protective custody and placed him with his father. The mother's visits with the child are supervised. The agency is providing ongoing services to the family and the mother has also been referred to community services.

***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.