

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

Case Tracking Number: 101214DSP-PN-68 Agency: Walworth County Dept. of Health and Human Services

Child Information: Age: 2 months (2 children) Gender: Female Male
Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian
Special needs: None

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

Date of Incident: 12/14/10

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

The babies were being examined at their Well Baby check where bruises and injuries were observed. The children were taken to Children Hospital in Milwaukee for evaluation. One child sustained the following injuries: subconjunctival hemorrhage to the right eye, lesion to the lower lip, a cut to the right index finger, linear bruises to the right distal forearm, and bruises to the neck, left cheek, right hand and left buttock. There were some abrasions to her fingers, left hand and bottom of the right foot. There also was redness over the left ear. The child had several fractures, including a fracture to the left distal femur, left proximal tibia and right proximal tibia, which may represent a bucket-handle fracture, and a healing clavicle fracture. According to the doctor, these injuries were most likely caused by pulling and twisting of the extremity.

The second child sustained the following injuries: a lesion to the lower bottom lip and left thumb, bruises on the right forearm, right shin, linear bruises to the left forearm, and a single bruise to the lower abdomen. She also had a fracture of the left distal femur and a possible fracture distal left radius.

The children's father accepted responsibility for the babies' injuries, explaining that he was overwhelmed and inexperienced at caring for children. Their mother believes that he never intended to hurt the babies. He was arrested and criminally charged with two counts of Child Abuse - Reckless Causation of Great Bodily Harm.

Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency substantiated physical abuse to the two children by their father. The children were determined unsafe and removed from their parents' care. The infants sustained their injuries in the care of their father, who described different ways that he handled the children, e.g., grabbing one arm to flip the baby over, rough usage of the suction bulb, etc.

Additional information for children in home:

Description of the child's family:

The babies were living with their parents in a relative's home at the time of the reported incident.

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:

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Division of Safety and Permanence

Physical abuse to the children by their father was substantiated. The children were determined unsafe and removed from their parents care. The babies were initially placed into foster care and later moved to the home of a relative. The mother's visits with the children are supervised. The family is receiving Ongoing Services from the agency.

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:**

Physical abuse to the children by their father was substantiated. The children were determined unsafe and removed from their parents care. The babies were initially placed into foster care and later moved to the home of a relative. The mother's visits with the children are supervised. The agency assessed the family and identified and offered needed services for the children and the parents. The case is open for Ongoing Services. Other relatives and caregivers are also receiving services from the agency.

***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.