

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

Case Tracking Number: 110216DSP-LaCr-83 Agency: LaCrosse County Dept. of Human Services

Child Information: Age: 3 months Gender: Female Male
Race or Ethnicity: _____
Special needs: _____

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

Date of Incident: 2/16/11

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

The mother took the child to the local medical clinic after the day care provider reported that she was fussy and not eating. Upon examination, the child was found to have 13 bone fractures and bruising on her face, pelvis and middle of back. The fractures were determined to be non-accidental injuries over 7-10 days old. Initially, the father explained that the previous day he had dropped the child in the bathtub when he became dizzy while bathing her. Later he admitted to "snapping" when he became frustrated with the baby. He described several occasions where he used "way too much force" while caring for the child. For example, he grabbed her around the chest and squeezed hard, heard a popping noise, and the baby cried out in pain. On another occasion he took the child's legs and made her kick her own face with enough force to cause a bruise. The child's father has been charged with 3 counts of Child Abuse - Intentional Causion of Great Bodily Harm and 2 counts of Child Abuse - High Probablility of Great Bodily Harm.

Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency substantiated physical abuse to the baby by her father. The baby and her older sibling were determined unsafe in their father's care. The father provided most of the care for the child until he admitted to his wife, the baby's mother, that he had snapped on one occasion. The mother then arranged full-time day care for the child. The father reported dropping the baby in the bathtub on February 15, and the following day the mother sought medical care when the day care provider reported the child was fussy and not eating.

Additional information for children in home:

Description of the child's family:

The child resided with her mother, father and half-sibling at the time of the 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:

The agency substantiated physical abuse to the baby by her father and found the injured child and her sibling unsafe in their father's care. The agency learned that in 2008-09 in Minnesota the father had to be pulled off the older child by law enforcement at the family's home. He was convicted of Battery to a Child. Following the current incident, the father was not allowed to have any contact with the children. The agency contracted with a provider to ensure follow-through on the

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safety plan. Both parents have been referred to services. The case is open with the agency for Ongoing Services case management.

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 agency screened in, investigated and substantiated physical abuse to the child by her father. The family was assessed, and the children were determined unsafe in their father's care. The agency implemented a protective plan, immediately restricting the father's contact with the children. A safety plan remains in place with the same requirement of no contact with the children. The family continues to receive Ongoing 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.