

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

Case Tracking Number: 110319DSP-LaCr-88 Agency: La Crosse County Human Services Dept.

Child Information: Age: 3 months Gender:  Female  Male  
Race or Ethnicity: African American and Caucasian  
Special needs: None

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

Date of Incident: 3/19/11

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

The child was taken to the emergency room by her parents with concerns about a lump on her rib cage. The medical examination found six rib fractures on her left side. Most of the fractures were likely 4 weeks old, and one of the fractures was approximately 1-2 weeks old. Medical professionals determined that two traumatic events took place to cause these fractures. The fractures are considered nonaccidental trauma caused by squeezing or squeezing and shaking of the infant. The father was the primary caregiver for the child; however, he would consistently leave the baby with individuals with criminal or child protective services history. The mother expressed concern that the father inflicted the injuries. No criminal charges have been filed in connection with the child's injuries.

### Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency substantiated neglect to the child by her mother and father and physical abuse by her father. The child and her sibling were determined unsafe in their parents' care. The couple has a history of domestic disputes for which the father was on probation at the time of the incident. In 2009, the father was convicted of two charges of violence towards the mother. A no-contact order was in place 2009-2010 until it was modified at the parents' request to allow contact between the parents in public places; however, the couple violated the no-contact order. In 2009, the mother sent an older child to stay with relatives when she believed the child's father was hurting her. The injured infant was primarily cared for by her father following her birth in 2011, and neither parent demonstrated that they were able or willing to protect her.

### Additional information for children in home:

#### Description of the child's family:

Although the mother and father have separate households, it is suspected that the father resided with the baby and mother most of the time. In 2009, the mother sent their older sibling to reside primarily with relatives when she became concerned about the child's safety with the father. A half-sibling by this father resides with the child's biological mother at another home and has little contact with this family.

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:

See following section.

#### 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:

In 2009, the agency screened in and investigated an allegation of physical abuse to the older sibling in this household. The allegation was unsubstantiated, and the child was determined safe in the mother's care. The father was charged and convicted of violence towards the mother at this time. The mother was referred to services, and the case was closed following the initial assessment.

In 2005, the agency screened in and investigated an allegation of neglect to the father's child in a different family. Neglect by both parents was unsubstantiated, and the child was determined safe in the parents' care. The case was closed.

**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 by the father and neglect to the child by her parents. Both children of this couple were determined unsafe in their parents' care. The children were removed from their parents and placed with relatives. Initially, neither parent was allowed contact with the children. This plan was later modified to supervised visits between the parents and children. The mother now resides with her children in the relatives' home, but all of her contact with them is supervised. The parents have been referred to services. The family continues to receive Ongoing Services case management 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:**

The agency screened in and investigated the report of injuries to the infant, collaborating with medical professionals during the assessment. Physical abuse by the father and neglect by the parents were substantiated. A protective plan was implemented, and no contact between the parents and children was allowed during the assessment. The children were determined unsafe and removed from their parents' care. Subsequently, a safety plan was implemented allowing supervised visits between the parents and children. The children were placed with relatives, and the parents' visits with the children are supervised. The agency collaborated with another county regarding placement of the children with relatives who reside in that county. The parents have been referred to services, and their progress is monitored. The family receives 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.