

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

Case Tracking Number: 110420DSP-Rock-100 Agency: Rock County Human Services Department

Child Information: Age: 1 year old Gender: Female Male
Race or Ethnicity: African American
Special needs: None

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

Date of Incident: April 20, 2011

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

The child sustained a severe head injury after reportedly falling down a flight of stairs while in an infant walker. The child's mother reported that she was cooking dinner and believed he could not get to the stairs in the walker. The mother immediately contacted 911. The child was transported to the hospital by ambulance and later med-flighted to another hospital due to the seriousness of his injury. The child was found to have a parietal subdural hematoma and bruising to his forehead. Medical professionals and law enforcement believed the mother's account of the child's injury was plausible.

Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The allegation of neglect was found to be unsubstantiated, as the child's injury was deemed accidental by the agency, law enforcement, and medical personnel. The mother explained that she put the child in his infant walker so she could cook dinner and felt he would be safe. The mother was in the kitchen area with the child, while the child's sibling was playing in another room. The mother felt that the child would be safe in the walker because a wheel was missing from the walker limiting mobility, the child was on carpeting, and there was little room to maneuver to the staircase because of a table nearby. The mother turned her back to the child while cooking and when she turned, saw the child near the stairs. Before she could reach the child, he fell down the stairs while still in the walker. The mother immediately contacted 911. The mother's explanation was deemed consistent with the child's injuries by the agency, police, and medical personnel. The child and his sibling were determined to be safe in the care of their mother.

Additional information for children in home:

Description of the child's family:

The child and his sibling reside with their mother. The parents are divorced and the father is in the military. He has frequent contact with the children and mother.

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:

None

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. The allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated and the children were determined to be safe in the care of the mother. The family declined an offer to refer for supportive services in the community.

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 the report and conducted an investigation, including interviews with family members and collateral sources of information and a visit to the family's home. The allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated, as the child's injuries were determined to be the result of an accident. The children were assessed to be safe in the care of the mother. The agency worker discussed community resources with the mother; however, she did not feel a need for referrals for services. The agency closed the family's case with no further action.

***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.