

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

Case Tracking Number: 110604DSP-Outag-114 Agency: Outagamie County Dept. of Health and Human Services

Child Information: Age: 5 months Gender: Female Male
Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian
Special needs: None

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

Date of Incident: 6/4/11

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

The child was taken to the hospital by his mother when she suspected he was in pain due to swelling in his right leg. The medical examination found that the child had a broken femur, injury to the pelvis, healing rib fractures, a healed fracture of the right forearm, and bruises on his back. The child had been in the care of several adults in his family's home, and initially, none of them could explain the child's injuries. A relative living in the home later confessed that he stomped on the baby while he was on the ground, picked him up from his crib by yanking his arm, and squeezed him while carrying him. The relative has been criminally charged with Child Abuse - Intentional Caustion of Great Bodily Harm.

Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency substantiated physical abuse to the child by the relative. The child and his siblings were determined safe in their parents' care. A few days earlier, the parents and relative noticed bruises on the baby's back but did not know the cause or seek medical care. The child's injured leg prompted his mother to seek medical treatment on June 4, 2011 by taking him to the local hospital emergency room. During interviews with law enforcement and agency workers, some of the adults speculated that the child's injuries occurred when he rolled off of a bed on two separate occasions or when his leg was caught in his crib, but these were not plausible explanations for the injuries. The relative often provided child care for the injured child and his siblings while their parents worked. The relative was known to have anger management issues, and witnesses observed him violently harming his dog, but the parents reported having no concerns about the relative's care of their children prior to this incident.

Additional information for children in home:

Description of the child's family:

The child lives with his two siblings and parents. A half-sibling has visits with the family in their home. At the time of the incident, a relative lived in the home and his girlfriend often stayed there.

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:

In 2005, the agency screened in a report alleging maltreatment to the injured child's half-sibling. The allegations were unsubstantiated, and the child was determined safe. The family was referred to community services, and 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:

Physical abuse to the child by his relative was substantiated, and the child was determined safe in his parents' care. The

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children were placed with relatives during the initial assessment and returned to their parents after the relative confessed to the child's injuries. The family is receiving 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 child. The agency implemented a protective plan, taking all of the children into temporary physical custody and placing them with relatives during the initial assessment. The two siblings received medical evaluations due to the seriousness of their sibling's injuries. Agency workers collaborated with law enforcement during the assessment. The children were reunified with their parents when the relative was identified as the maltreater. Services were provided to the family and their relatives during the assessment. The children was referred to services, and 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.