

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

Case Tracking Number: 110818DSP-StCr-138 Agency: St. Croix County Dept. of Health & Human Services

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

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

Date of Incident: 8/18/11

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

The child died after being struck and run over by a vehicle driven by a friend of the family. The child and his siblings were in the care of an older sibling, who took them with him to a friend's home. The children were told to stay by a vehicle on the driveway while another vehicle was being moved. The child moved into the path of the moving vehicle and was run over. The child's death was an accident, and no criminal charges were filed.

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

The agency substantiated neglect to all of the younger children by their mother. A safety plan was implemented, and the children were determined safe with their mother at the end of the initial assessment. The family's case was already open with the agency at the time of the incident. Concerns had been reported to the agency that the children were not being properly supervised. The mother was allowing the oldest sibling to care for the children in her absence, and the agency had concerns about the youth's caregiving ability. The mother was instructed not to allow this youth to supervise the children. On the day of the accident, the children were in the care of the youth while the mother was working.

### Additional information for children in home:

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

The child lived with his mother, sibling and two half-siblings. The father of the deceased child and one sibling had occasional contact with his children prior to the incident. The child also has three other half-siblings that live in another county.

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:

The agency was conducting an initial assessment at the time of the incident. The last contact between the mother and agency occurred on 8/9/11.

#### 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:

The agency screened in a CPS Report on 8/1/11 alleging neglect of the children. The assessment was underway when the child died on 8/18/11.

On 11/12/10, two CPS Reports were screened in. Maltreatment was unsubstantiated, and the children were determined safe. A Consent Decree was in place Feb-August 2011, and the family received Ongoing Services case management from the agency.

On 9/24/09 a CPS Report was screened in. The allegation of physical abuse was unsubstantiated, and the children were determined safe. No services were provided to the family.

On 3/5/09 a CPS Report was screened in. Physical abuse was unsubstantiated, and the children were determined safe. The agency referred the family to resources, but they did not follow through.

In Sept. & Oct. 2007, two reports were screened in for services for the oldest child. The agency was already working with the family.

On 7/25/07, a CPS Report was screened in. Neglect and sexual abuse were unsubstantiated, and the children were

determined safe. The case was opened for voluntary services.

In 2007, the three half-siblings by the child's father were residing in foster care in another county after being removed from their biological mother's care. The family received Ongoing Services case management.

**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:**

On 9/1/06, a CPS Report was screened in. Neglect was unsubstantiated, and the case was opened for voluntary services.

On 6/16/06, a CPS Report was screened in. Neglect and sexual abuse were unsubstantiated.

On 8/4/05, a CPS Report was screened in. Neglect was unsubstantiated.

On 4/6/05, a Services Report was screened in for the older child. The family participated in services 2005-2006.

On 12/17/03 & 11/21/03, two CPS Reports were screened in. Alleged physical abuse was unsubstantiated in each case.

On 6/10/03, a CPS Report was screened in. Neglect was unsubstantiated.

**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 neglect to the three younger children by their mother. The mother had been advised by the agency not to allow supervision of the younger children by their older sibling, which she ignored. On the date of the child's death, the agency took temporary physical custody of the younger siblings, placing them with relatives and requiring supervision of the children at all times, including time spent with their mother. The order was later changed to allow the children to return home with their mother with continued supervision of the children by the relatives. The agency contracted with a local service provider to provide safety services involving unannounced home visits in the evening and weekend hours to ensure the children were being properly supervised in compliance with the safety plan. The family was referred to community services. The case remains 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 and investigated the CPS Report on the child's death, substantiating neglect to all of the younger children by their mother. The agency took temporary physical custody of the children. A protective plan was implemented on the day of the child's death, placing the children with relatives and requiring continual supervision of the children by the relatives. The children were returned to their mother's care with a safety plan that required continued supervision of the family. A Consent Decree was agreed upon, ordering specific conditions for supervision and services for the family. The agency collaborated with law enforcement during the investigation. The case remains open for Ongoing Services.

**\*Summary of policy or practice changes to address identified issues:**

The agency initiated an internal review of prior case practice and identified one issue involving a protective plan earlier in August. The agency implemented staff training to review the CPS Access & Initial Assessment Standards.

The DSP finds that the initial assessment is not in full compliance with the CPS Access & Initial Assessment Standards. The DSP is working with the agency on the identified issue.

**\*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.

**DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

Division of Safety and Permanence

\* 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.