

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

Case Tracking Number: 110819DSP-Brown-142 Agency: Brown County Human Services Dept.

Child Information: Age: 1 year Gender: Female Male
Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian Hispanic
Special needs: None

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

Date of Incident: 8/19/11

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

The child was taken to the hospital where she was found to have a skull fracture, retinal hemorrhaging, fractured rib and bruising all over her body. On 8/22/11 she was pronounced brain dead and taken off of life support. The cause of death was believed to be nonaccidental, caused from several blows to the child's head. The mother's boyfriend admitted that he had shaken the child. He has been convicted of two counts of Child Abuse-Intentionally Cause Harm.

Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency substantiated physical abuse to the child by the mother's boyfriend and neglect to the child by her mother. The couple has no other children. During the criminal investigation, the couple left the state. The information in the assessment was mainly provided through police reports. According to the reports, the mother left the home for approximately 20 minutes the morning of 8/19 and left the child in the care of her boyfriend and a relative of the boyfriend. Several people who know the family reported witnessing the boyfriend physically abuse the child on occasion, but the mother denied knowing this. In regards to the boyfriend admitting he shook the child, the mother stated he was trying to revive her before taking her to the hospital. Previously, the boyfriend had been criminally charged for child abuse involving another child, which the mother indicated she did not know.

Additional information for children in home:

Description of the child's family:

The child lived with her mother, the mother's boyfriend, another couple and their child. The couple and their child are not related to the deceased child or her parents.

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:

In 2009, a report alleging physical abuse of two children by this alleged maltreater was screened out as a CPS Report on a non-caregiver, and criminal charges were filed at the time. The agency gathered this information from the police reports. No services were provided by the agency.

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 two separate reports on this incident and conducted two separate initial assessments on the two couples living together in this household. Physical abuse to the deceased child by the boyfriend and neglect by the mother were substantiated. This couple has no other children. During the assessment, the couple moved out of state prior to the

boyfriend's arrest. The boyfriend was arrested in the other state. The child's mother continued to deny that her boyfriend injured her child. The case was closed following the initial assessment.

The agency unsubstantiated physical abuse and threatened abuse/neglect to the other child residing in the household. This child was determined safe in the care of his parents. Upon receiving the report of injuries to the child, the agency implemented a protective plan, requiring that the parents' interaction with their child was supervised. The parents agreed to this plan. The child was medically examined and found to have no injuries. The couple was not present in the home when the child received the fatal blows, and they were ruled out as suspects by law enforcement. The child was returned to the care of his parents. The agency assisted the couple with services, and the case was closed following the assessment.

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, conducting two initial assessments. Physical abuse and neglect to the deceased child were substantiated. A protective plan was implemented for the surviving child, and visits between the child and his parents were supervised. Maltreatment to the surviving child was unsubstantiated, and the child was assessed to be safe with his parents. The agency collaborated with law enforcement and medical professionals during the assessment. The family living in the deceased child's household were referred to services. Both cases were closed following the assessments.

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

The agency did not submit the required information on the incident and its practice to the DSP. 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.

* 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.