

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

Case Tracking Number: 110926DSP-Milw-153 Agency: Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare

Scope of DSP Review: No Review. The information contained in this report was provided by the agency.
 90-Day Review

Child Information: Age: 2 years Gender: Female Male
Race or Ethnicity: African American
Special needs: None

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

Date of Incident: 9/26/11

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

On September 26, the agency received a report regarding a two-year-old female who had suspicious injuries. The toddler had a splint on her right arm, finger-tip shaped bruises on her left arm, shoulder and face, and lesions inside her mouth. The mother referred to the bruises as a "rash" and stated she thought the mouth lesions were due to an allergic reaction to shrimp. She reported that the toddler had received the injury to her arm on 9/17/11 when the toddler's 5-year-old uncle stepped on her. The mother reported that the toddler initially appeared fine after the incident, however, the mother later noticed bruising and swelling of the arm. Further medical examination of the child revealed a healing left hand fracture, three left rib fractures, and a broken right humeral. The mouth lesions were found to be consistent with either a chemical or thermal burn and the toddler also presented with severely neglected, rotting teeth. The mother was unable to provide reasonable explanations for the severe injuries the toddler had sustained. Medical professionals determined that the nature of the toddler's injuries were diagnostic of physical abuse.

Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The 9/26/11 referral alleging physical abuse to the toddler was screened in and assessed. The mother was unable to provide reasonable explanations for the toddler's multiple injuries, which medical professionals stated were diagnostic of physical abuse. It was determined the toddler received the injuries within 0-14 days of the referral, during which time she was unsupervised with multiple caregivers. The allegation was substantiated for physical abuse to the toddler by an unknown maltreater.

Additional information for children in home:

Description of the child's family:

Prior to the incident, the toddler resided with her mother, her mother's girlfriend, the girlfriend's mother and the girlfriend's brother. The toddler's adjudicated father was incarcerated at the time of the incident.

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:

The mother and adjudicated father participated in the Safety Services program from 10/26/09 – 1/26/10, at which time the case was closed as there were no safety concerns.

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:

A 12/27/10 referral alleging sexual abuse to the toddler by an unknown maltreater was screened in, assessed and unsubstantiated.

An 11/02/09 referral alleging neglect to the infant (now two-year-old) by the mother was screened out as No Threat or Harm of Maltreatment.

A 10/20/09 referral alleging physical abuse by the mother to the infant (now two-year old) was screened in. The allegation was assessed and substantiated for physical abuse to the infant by the father. The family was referred to the safety services program, which they worked with from 10/26/09 – 1/26/10, at which time the case was closed as the child was determined to be safe.

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 assessed the allegations of physical abuse to this toddler. The toddler presented with multiple injuries which were determined to be highly indicative of physical abuse. The mother was unable to provide reasonable explanations for the injuries and the toddler was unsupervised with multiple caregivers during the time her injuries were inflicted. The allegation is substantiated as physical abuse to the toddler by an unknown maltreater.

The toddler was taken into protective custody on 9/26/11 and determined to be in need of protection and services at the detention hearing on 9/28/11. The toddler was placed in out-of-home care and the family is receiving ongoing case management services.

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 conducted an assessment and substantiated physical abuse to the toddler by an unknown maltreater. The toddler was taken into protective custody on 9/26/11; a Temporary Physical Custody hearing took place on 9/28/11 and the toddler was determined to be need of protection and services. The toddler was placed in out-of-home care and the family continues to receive ongoing case management services.

Summary of policy or practice changes to address issues identified in the review of the incident:

N/A. No DSP review

Recommendations for further changes in policies, practices, rules or statutes needed to address identified issues:

N/A. No DSP review

*This 90-day summary report completes the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) review of this case.

Yes No Not Applicable

* If this case is undergoing a review that was not completed within 90 days, the DSP will complete and submit the final summary report within 6 months.