



201 East Washington Avenue, Room E200  
P.O. Box 8916  
Madison, WI 53708-8916  
Telephone: 608-266-8787  
Fax: 608-266-5547

Governor Scott Walker  
Secretary Eloise Anderson

Division of Safety and Permanence

---

January 29, 2016

Jeffrey Renk  
Senate Chief Clerk  
State Capitol, B20 SE  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707

Patrick E. Fuller  
Assembly Chief Clerk  
Risser Justice Center  
17 West Main St, Suite 401  
P.O. Box 8952  
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Chief Clerk Renk and Chief Clerk Fuller:

In compliance with 2009 Wisconsin Act 78, the Child Welfare Public Disclosure Act, please accept the Department of Children and Families' 2015 fourth quarter report on alleged sexual abuse of children residing in out-of-home care. The attached data addresses reports of alleged sexual abuse for the period October 1 and December 31, 2015, and fulfills the Department of Children and Families' reporting requirements under Section 48.981 (9)(b), Wis. Stats. The following is a summary of the findings in the attached report:

*Number of Reported Incidents: 62 Incidents*

Wisconsin child protective services agencies screened in and investigated 62 reported incidents of suspected sexual abuse to 52 children residing in out-of-home care.

*Dates of the Incidents:*

The 62 reported incidents are estimated to have occurred between January 2010 and December 2015. Because children disclose abuse in different stages, it is common for children to report incidents months or even years after the incident occurred. Furthermore, in cases of alleged abuse involving non-verbal children, dates of alleged maltreatment are often difficult or impossible to determine.

*Maltreatment Determinations: 62 Incidents*

For reported incidents, maltreatment determinations were made for 32 (51.6 %) of the reported incidents; 30 (48.4%) maltreatment determinations are pending because the investigations are not complete. Of the 32 reported incidents where the maltreatment determination was made, 29 (90.6%) were unsubstantiated (i.e., sexual abuse likely did not occur), and 3 (9.4%) received a substantiation determination signifying a preponderance of evidence that the child victims were sexually abused while placed in out-of-home care.

Senate Chief Clerk Jeffery Renk  
Assembly Chief Clerk Patrick Fuller  
January 29, 2016  
Page 2

*Nature of Maltreater Relationship:*

Regarding the 3 substantiated incidents, the relationship of the maltreater to the child in 2 cases was an "other temporary caregiver." In the remaining case, the relationship of the maltreater to the child was another child in the foster home.

*Types of Placement:*

Of the 3 incidents of substantiated sexual abuse to children in out of home care, 1 occurred while one child was placed in a non-relative treatment foster home, and two occurred while the children were placed in non-relative foster homes.

*Location of Substantiated Incidents:*

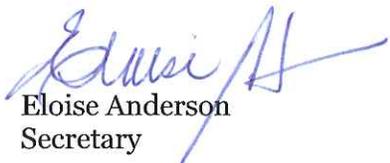
The 3 substantiated incidents of sexual abuse to children residing in out-of-home care occurred in Dane, Manitowoc and Racine Counties.

*Ages or Age Group of Children:*

Alleged sexual abuse was reported and investigated for children ages 0 to 17 years of age. Incidents of sexual abuse were substantiated for 3 children who were 3, 13 and 17 years old at the time of the incidents.

In closing, thank you for the opportunity to provide the attached information, in compliance with the statute. Feel free to contact the Department with questions or clarification requests.

Sincerely,



Eloise Anderson  
Secretary

cc: Governor Scott Walker