



201 East Washington Avenue, Room G200
P.O. Box 8916
Madison, WI 53708-8916
Telephone: 608-422-7000
Fax: 608-422-7161

Governor Tony Evers
Secretary Emilie Amundson

Secretary's Office

February 1, 2019

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

Patrick Fuller
Assembly Chief Clerk
Risser Justice Center
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Mr. Renk and Mr. Fuller:

In compliance with the 2009 Wisconsin Act 78, the Child Welfare Public Disclosure Act, please accept the attached summary reports and one notice of delay prepared by the Department of Children and Families on February 1, 2019.

In accordance with Wisconsin Statutes section 48.981(7) (cr) 3.b., the Department is required to "transmit to...the appropriate standing committees of the legislature under s 13.172(3)" summary reports prepared by the Department concerning incidents of death or serious injury to a child that results from suspected abuse or neglect or incidents of egregious abuse or neglect of a child. The summary reports are also made available to the public on the Department's public website.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Danielle Melfi".

Danielle Melfi
Assistant Secretary

cc: Governor Tony Evers

Attachments

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

Reports submitted to the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) that do not include all of the required information will be returned to the agency for proper completion. Do not identify individuals by name when completing this report. Individuals may be referenced by relationship or position; e.g., mother, father, child, sibling, physician, detective, etc.

Case Tracking Number: 181015DSP-VERN-872 **Agency:** Vernon County Department of Human Services

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 13 Years Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: Black/African American

Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: 10/15/2018

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

On October 15, 2018, the agency received a report regarding a 13-year-old child with multiple injuries. Medical personnel determined the injuries were non-accidental in nature. Law enforcement was contacted and initiated a criminal investigation. As a result of law enforcement's investigation, the child's mother was arrested and criminally charged with Physical Abuse of a Child, Repeated Acts Causing Bodily Harm. A criminal charge is merely an allegation and a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

Findings by agency, including maltreatment determination and material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency collaborated with law enforcement and medical personnel to complete the assessment. The Initial Assessment completed by the agency found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse, neglect and emotional damage to the 13-year-old child and neglect and emotional damage to her 16-year-old brother by their mother. The Initial Assessment also found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of neglect to the 13-year-old child and her 16-year-old brother by their father. Medical professionals determined the injuries to the child were non-accidental in nature. The child and her 16-year-old brother were deemed unsafe, taken into Temporary Physical Custody, and placed with relatives. Children in Need of Protection or Services Petitions were filed and the case remained open to provide ongoing case management services.

Yes No Criminal investigation pending or completed?

Yes No Criminal charges filed? If yes, against whom? Child's adoptive mother

Child's residence at the time of incident: In-home Out-of-home care placement

Complete the appropriate following section (A. or B. based on the child's residence at the time of the incident).

A. Children residing at home at the time of the incident:

Description of the child's family (includes household members, noncustodial parent and other children that have visitation with the child and / or in the child's family home):

At the time of the incident, the child resided with her mother, father, and 16-year-old brother.

Yes No **Statement of Services:** Were services under ch. 48 or ch. 938 being provided to the child, any member of the child's 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: (Does not include the current incident.)

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. (Does not include the current incident.)

(Note: Screened out reports listed in this section may include only the date of the report, screening decision, and if a referral to services occurred at Access. Reports that do not constitute a reasonable suspicion of maltreatment or a reason to believe that the child is threatened with harm are not required to be screened in for an Initial Assessment, and no further action is required by the agency.)

On February 8, 2017, the agency screened-out a CPS Report.

On June 14, 2007, the agency screened-out a CPS Report.

Summary of any investigation involving the child, any member of the child's family and alleged maltreater conducted under ch. 48 and any services provided to the child and child's family since the date of the incident:

The agency collaborated with law enforcement and medical personnel to complete the assessment. The Initial Assessment completed by the agency found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse, neglect and emotional damage to the 13-year-old child and neglect and emotional damage to her 16-year-old brother by their mother. The Initial Assessment also found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of neglect to the 13-year-old child and her 16-year-old brother by their father. Medical professionals determined the injuries to the child were non-accidental in nature. The child and her 16-year-old brother were deemed unsafe, taken into Temporary Physical Custody, and placed with relatives. Child in Need of Protection or Services Petitions were filed and the case remained open to provide ongoing case management services.

B. Children residing in out-of-home care (OHC) placement at time of incident:

Description of the OHC placement and basis for decision to place child there:

N/A

Description of all other persons residing in the OHC placement home:

N/A

Licensing history: Including type of license, duration of license, summary of any violations by licensee or an employee of licensee or other actions that constitute a substantial failure to protect and promote the welfare of the child.

N/A

Summary of any actions taken by agency in response to the incident: (Check all that apply.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Screening of Access report | <input type="checkbox"/> Attempted or successful reunification |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Protective plan implemented | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referral to services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial assessment conducted | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation assistance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Safety plan implemented | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collaboration with law enforcement |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Temporary physical custody of child | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collaboration with medical professionals |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Petitioned for court order / CHIPS (child in need of protection or services) | <input type="checkbox"/> Supervised visitation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Placement into foster home | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case remains open for services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Placement with relatives | <input type="checkbox"/> Case closed by agency |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ongoing Services case management | <input type="checkbox"/> Initiated efforts to address or enhance community collaboration on CA/N cases |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe): |

FOR DSP COMPLETION IF RECORD OR ON-SITE REVIEW WAS UNDERTAKEN:

Summary of policy or practice changes to address issues identified based on the record or on-site review of the incident:

N/A

Recommendations for further changes in policies, practices, rules or statutes needed to address identified issues based on the record or on-site review:

N/A

Yes No Not Applicable This 90-day summary report completes the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) action on this case.

If the case review was not completed within 90 days, the DSP will complete and submit the final summary report within 6 months.

NOTICE OF DELAYED POSTING

90-Day Summary Report for Child Death, Serious Injury or Egregious Incident Case #181030DSP-Chipp-876

The Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, as required by 2009 Wisconsin Act 78 (Section 49.981(7)(cr), Stats.), makes available to the public, a 90-day summary report for cases involving child death, serious injury, and egregious incidents involving abuse or neglect. Under these statutory provisions, the posting of information which potentially interferes with or jeopardizes the integrity of an investigation or trial is exempt from the public disclosure requirement.

The Department has determined that releasing the summary report would jeopardize an ongoing criminal proceeding, and is delaying posting as provided under Wis. Stat. § 49.981(7)(cr)7. The Department will release the 90-day summary once the investigation and/or trial has been concluded.

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

Reports submitted to the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) that do not include all of the required information will be returned to the agency for proper completion. Do not identify individuals by name when completing this report. Individuals may be referenced by relationship or position; e.g., mother, father, child, sibling, physician, detective, etc.

Case Tracking Number: 181105 DSP-MILW-877 **Agency:** Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 3 months Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: Black/African American

Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: 11/05/2018

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

On November 5, 2018, the agency received a report regarding a 3-month-old infant who was brought to the hospital unresponsive. On November 8, 2018, the infant was pronounced deceased at the hospital. The Medical Examiner's Office determined the death to be due to natural causes. No criminal charges were filed and the case was closed.

Findings by agency, including maltreatment determination and material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency collaborated with law enforcement and medical personnel to complete the assessment. The Initial Assessment completed by the agency found insufficient evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse to the infant by an unknown maltreater. The Medical Examiner's Office determined the death to be due to natural causes. The agency initially determined the infant's 1-year-old sibling and 7-year-old cousin to be unsafe and implemented a Protective Plan where the children temporarily resided with a relative. On November 8, 2018, the infant's sibling and cousin were deemed safe in the care of the infant's mother, the Protective Plan was terminated and the children returned to their home. The agency continued to offer the family services under the May 23, 2018, Child in Need of Protection or Services Dispositional Order for the infant's 10-year-old cousin, of whom the infant's mother has guardianship.

Yes No Criminal investigation pending or completed?
 Yes No Criminal charges filed? If yes, against whom?

Child's residence at the time of incident: In-home Out-of-home care placement

Complete the appropriate following section (A. or B. based on the child's residence at the time of the incident).

A. Children residing at home at the time of the incident:

Description of the child's family (includes household members, noncustodial parent and other children that have visitation with the child and / or in the child's family home):

At the time of the incident, the infant resided with her mother, 1-year-old brother, and 7-year-old cousin. The infant's 10-year-old cousin, who the infant's mother had guardianship of, resided out of the home under a May 23, 2018, Child in Need of Protection or Services Dispositional Order.

Yes **No** **Statement of Services:** Were services under ch. 48 or ch. 938 being provided to the child, any member of the child's 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:

At the time of the incident, the family was receiving services under the May 23, 2018, Child in Need of Protection or Services Dispositional Order. The last contact by the agency to the mother was a telephone call on September 26, 2018.

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: (Does not include the current incident.)

On May 21, 2018, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the infant's now 10-year-old cousin by the infant's mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated. A Child in Need of Protection or Services Petition was filed on May 23, 2018, and the case remained open to provide ongoing case management services.

On March 15, 2017, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging physical abuse to the infant's now 10-year-old cousin by

the infant's mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of physical abuse was unsubstantiated. The case was closed upon completion of the Initial Assessment.

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. (Does not include the current incident.)

(Note: Screened out reports listed in this section may include only the date of the report, screening decision, and if a referral to services occurred at Access. Reports that do not constitute a reasonable suspicion of maltreatment or a reason to believe that the child is threatened with harm are not required to be screened in for an Initial Assessment, and no further action is required by the agency.)

On November 5, 2018, the agency screened-out a CPS Report.

On May 21, 2018, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the infant's now 10-year-old cousin by the infant's mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated. A Child in Need of Protection or Services Petition was filed on May 23, 2018, and the case remained open to provide ongoing case management services.

On March 16, 2017, the agency screened-out a CPS Report.

On March 15, 2017, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging physical abuse to the infant's now 10-year-old cousin by the infant's mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of physical abuse was unsubstantiated. The case was closed upon completion of the Initial Assessment.

Summary of any investigation involving the child, any member of the child's family and alleged maltreater conducted under ch. 48 and any services provided to the child and child's family since the date of the incident:

The agency collaborated with law enforcement and medical personnel to complete the assessment. The Initial Assessment completed by the agency found insufficient evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse to the infant by an unknown maltreater. The Medical Examiner's Office determined the death to be due to natural causes. The agency initially determined the infant's 1-year-old sibling and 7-year-old cousin to be unsafe and implemented a Protective Plan where the children temporarily resided with a relative. On November 8, 2018, the infant's sibling and cousin were deemed safe in the care of the infant's mother, the Protective Plan was terminated and the children returned to their home. The agency continued to offer the family services under the May 23, 2018, Child in Need of Protection or Services Dispositional Order for the infant's 10-year-old cousin, of whom the infant's mother has guardianship.

B. Children residing in out-of-home care (OHC) placement at time of incident:

Description of the OHC placement and basis for decision to place child there:

N/A

Description of all other persons residing in the OHC placement home:

N/A

Licensing history: Including type of license, duration of license, summary of any violations by licensee or an employee of licensee or other actions that constitute a substantial failure to protect and promote the welfare of the child.

N/A

Summary of any actions taken by agency in response to the incident: (Check all that apply.)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Screening of Access report | <input type="checkbox"/> Attempted or successful reunification |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protective plan implemented | <input type="checkbox"/> Referral to services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial assessment conducted | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation assistance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Safety plan implemented | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collaboration with law enforcement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary physical custody of child | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collaboration with medical professionals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Petitioned for court order / CHIPS (child in need of protection or services) | <input type="checkbox"/> Supervised visitation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Placement into foster home | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case remains open for services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Placement with relatives | <input type="checkbox"/> Case closed by agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing Services case management | <input type="checkbox"/> Initiated efforts to address or enhance community collaboration on CA/N cases |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe): |

FOR DSP COMPLETION IF RECORD OR ON-SITE REVIEW WAS UNDERTAKEN:

Summary of policy or practice changes to address issues identified based on the record or on-site review of the incident:

Under the Child Welfare Disclosure Act (Section 48.981 (7)(cr), Stats.), the DSP completes a 90-Day review of the agency's practice in each case reported under the act. The DSP will conduct a further review in this case.

Recommendations for further changes in policies, practices, rules or statutes needed to address identified issues based on the record or on-site review:

None at this time.

Yes No Not Applicable This 90-day summary report completes the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) action on this case.

If the case review was not completed within 90 days, the DSP will complete and submit the final summary report within 6 months.