

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

Case Tracking Number: 110820DSP-Dane-140 Agency: Dane County Dept. of Human Services

Child Information: Age: 9 months Gender: Female Male
Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian
Special needs: None

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

Date of Incident: 8/20/11

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

The father was taking a nap with the infant and a sibling when he awoke to find her blue with foam around her mouth. He attempted CPR and called 911. The child was taken to the hospital, but did not survive. Reportedly, the father had propped the baby up with a bottle before they went to sleep. He also reported that family members, including the baby, had colds over the previous few weeks. The cause of death was attributed to cold/illness related or accidental asphyxiation. There were no concerns of abuse or neglect. No criminal charges were filed in connection with the baby's death.

Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency unsubstantiated maltreatment to the baby and the baby's half-siblings who had occasional visits with these parents. The half-siblings were determined safe. The baby was born methadone dependent, but according to the pediatrician, the child was fine, appropriately healthy and growing. The parents and baby were temporarily staying with relatives, and one sibling of the baby was having a visit with his father in the relatives' home. The father, baby and sibling laid down together to take a nap. When they awoke, the baby was not breathing.

Additional information for children in home:

Description of the child's family:

The baby lived with her pregnant mother and father, who were homeless at the time of her death and staying temporarily with relatives. The parents each have another child, and the other biological parents (i.e., not the infant's parents) have primary placement of those children. The half-siblings had occasional visits with their parents and the infant.

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:

On 12/19/10 the agency screened in and investigated a CPS Report when the baby was born methadone dependent. The agency connected the mother to services and assured the child received medical care. Neglect was unsubstantiated, and the baby was determined safe. The mother refused further services, and the agency closed the case.

On 7/20/10 the agency screened in and investigated a CPS Report alleging neglect of an older half-sibling. Neglect was unsubstantiated, and the child was determined safe in his father's care. The case was closed.

On 6/4/10 the agency screened in and investigated a CPS Report alleging Unborn Child Abuse. The agency assured that the mother received medical care and treatment. The mother refused further services, and the case was closed.

On 3/5/10, the agency screened in and investigated a CPS Report alleging neglect. The allegation was unsubstantiated and the child was determined safe. The mother refused services, and the case was closed.

On 2/12/09, the agency screened in and investigated a report of neglect. Earlier in January 2009, a report was screened in for child welfare services and was added to the 2/12/09 initial assessment. Neglect was unsubstantiated, and the baby was determined safe. The mother participated in voluntary services with 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 unsubstantiated neglect to the infant and determined the half-siblings safe. There were no other children living with the couple, as the half-siblings were in the primary custody of their other biological parents. The couple refused services from the agency, and the case was closed. On 10/3/11, the agency investigated a report of Unborn Child Abuse. The agency was unable to locate the mother and unsubstantiated the allegation. On 12/8/11 and 12/19/11 the agency received and screened in two CPS Reports about the newborn baby. The initial assessment is pending.

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 the infant's death. Maltreatment was unsubstantiated, and the half-siblings were determined safe. The parents refused to participate in voluntary services, and the agency closed the case.

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

The agency reviewed the case internally to ensure that diligent efforts were made to locate and engage these parents. The agency continues to work with initial assessment workers to ensure that assessments are comprehensive.

***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.