



REPORT ON THE NEAR FATALITY OF:

[REDACTED]

Date of Birth: 3/31/2015
Date of Incident: 5/3/2105
Date of Report to ChildLine: 5/3/2015
CWIS Referral ID: [REDACTED]

FAMILY NOT KNOWN TO COUNTY CHILDREN AND YOUTH AGENCY AT TIME OF INCIDENT OR WITHIN THE PRECEDING 16 MONTHS:

Delaware County Children & Youth Services

REPORT FINALIZED ON:
11/10/15

Unredacted reports are confidential under the provisions of the Child Protective Services Law and cannot be released to the public.
(23 Pa. C.S. Section 6340)

Unauthorized release is prohibited under penalty of law.
(23 Pa. C.S. Section 6349 (b))

Reason for Review:

Pursuant to the Child Protective Services Law, the Department, through OCYF, must conduct a review and provide a written report of all cases of suspected child abuse that result in a fatality or near fatality. This written report must be completed as soon as possible but no later than six months after the date the report was registered with ChildLine for investigation.

The Child Protective Services Law also requires that county children and youth agencies convene a review when a report of child abuse involving a fatality or near fatality is substantiated or when a status determination has not been made regarding the report within 30 days of the report to ChildLine.

Delaware County Children & Youth Services did not convene a review team in accordance with the Child Protective Services Law related to this report because the report was determined to be unfounded 30 days after the referral.

Family Constellation:

<u>First and Last Name:</u>	<u>Relationship:</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
[REDACTED]	Victim Child	3/31/2015
[REDACTED]	Mother	[REDACTED] 1987
[REDACTED]	Father	[REDACTED] 1990
[REDACTED]	Paternal Grandmother	[REDACTED] 1957
[REDACTED]	Paternal Grandfather	[REDACTED] 1957

Summary of OCYF Child (Near) Fatality Review Activities:

The Southeast Regional Office of Children, Youth and Families obtained and reviewed all case record information from Delaware County Children & Youth Services pertaining to the family of [REDACTED]. Follow up interviews were conducted with [REDACTED], Intake Manager at Delaware County Children & Youth Services. There was no Act 33 meeting because the allegation was determined to be unfounded within 30 days of the incident.

Children and Youth Involvement prior to Incident: The family of [REDACTED] had no children and youth involvement prior to the incident.

Circumstances of Child (Near) Fatality and Related Case Activity:

On May 3, 2015, Delaware County Children & Youth Services received notification [REDACTED] that a victim child named [REDACTED], was taken to Crozer Hospital by his parents who reported the child fell from a bed. Mother reported that around 9:30-10:00am she was laying in her bed with the child on her chest. Mother reported that she was awake and propped up on a pillow and the child was lying on her left side which the child favors. Mother reported that the child made a sudden jerking movement with his head which caused the child to fall off the bed onto the carpeted floor. Mother reported she picked up the child who instantly began to cry, and the father entered the room immediately. The father reported the child stopped crying after a couple of minutes. The parents live with the maternal

grandparents however only the parents were home at the time of the incident. Mother reported she and the father took the child to Crozer Hospital and the paternal grandmother met them there.

Dr. [REDACTED] of Crozer Hospital stated the child had [REDACTED] that she felt was consistent with the report provided by the parents. Dr. [REDACTED] stated that she felt the incident should not be labeled a near fatality however the [REDACTED] team at Crozer felt the injury was suspicious, mainly because it was [REDACTED] and secondly because the parents were not very descriptive about how the child fell. The child was sent to A.I. Dupont Hospital for Children for examination by Dr. [REDACTED]. Dr. [REDACTED] felt that the injury was accidental and completely consistent with a fall from a bed to a carpeted floor as reported by both parents. Dr. [REDACTED] stated that it is "absolutely" possible that a 5 week old infant can jerk causing their body to follow the movement, which in this case, caused the child to fall onto the floor. Dr. [REDACTED] further explained that the injury can take anywhere from 1 to 8 months to completely heal however no treatment during that time is necessary. It was recommended that the child have a follow up appointment [REDACTED] in 2 weeks. After the child's examination at Dupont, Dr. [REDACTED] stated she feels the physicians at Dupont are correct that the child's injury is consistent with the parent's explanation.

The county caseworker visited the home and found it to be appropriate. The child is both parents' only child. No other children live in the home. The case worker reported the bed from which the child fell is of average height and observed that the carpet was thicker than an average carpet.

The county completed criminal dockets on the entire household and found that the mother had a theft charge from Philadelphia in 2012 for which she completed ARD. Mother admitted to the caseworker that she had a past addiction to "pills" but was able to provide a specific sober date from 2008. Mother did not present as under the influence at all. Mother took an unannounced drug swab on 5/5/15 and tested negative for all substances. Father [REDACTED] and is home for the next 6 weeks.

The incident was considered accidental. The case was closed as unfounded on 6/1/15.

Summary of County Strengths, Deficiencies and Recommendations for Change as Identified by the County's Child (Near) Fatality Report:

- Strengths in compliance with statutes, regulations and services to children and families;
A written report was not required in this case however the county noted they were in compliance by submitting an unfounded determination within 30 days.
- Deficiencies in compliance with statutes, regulations and services to children and families;
None identified.

- Recommendations for changes at the state and local levels on reducing the likelihood of future child fatalities and near fatalities directly related to abuse;
None identified.
- Recommendations for changes at the state and local levels on monitoring and inspection of county agencies; and
None identified.
- Recommendations for changes at the state and local levels on collaboration of community agencies and service providers to prevent child abuse.
None identified.

Department Review of County Internal Report:

The county was not required to complete a report because the report was determined to be unfounded within 30 days.

Department of Human Services Findings:

- County Strengths:
The county ensured successful practice at intake by providing case management and [REDACTED] services to the family. The county provided the Department's requested information timely.
- County Weaknesses:
None identified.
- Statutory and Regulatory Areas of Non-Compliance by the County Agency:
None identified.

Department of Human Services Recommendations:

The Department has no recommendations.