



REPORT ON THE NEAR FATALITY OF:

[REDACTED]

Date of Birth: 07/17/2014
Date of Incident: 07/04/2015
Date of Report to ChildLine: 07/04/2015
CWIS Referral ID: [REDACTED]

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

York County Office of Children, Youth and Families

REPORT FINALIZED ON:
12/08/2015

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.

York County has convened a review team in accordance with the Child Protective Services Law related to this report. The county review team was convened on 07/24/2015.

Family Constellation:

<u>First and Last Name:</u>	<u>Relationship:</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
[REDACTED]	Victim Child	07/17/2014
[REDACTED]	Sibling	[REDACTED] 2009
[REDACTED]	Mother	[REDACTED] 1992
* [REDACTED]	Father	[REDACTED] 1986
* [REDACTED]	Maternal Grandmother	[REDACTED] 1974
* [REDACTED]	Maternal Aunt	[REDACTED] 1997

The father and mother do not live together, but co-parent the children. [REDACTED] lived with the family until the date of the incident.

* Denotes an individual that is not a household member or did not live in the home at the time of the incident, but is relevant to the report.

Summary of OCYF Child Near Fatality Review Activities:

The Central Region Office of Children, Youth and Families (CROCYF) obtained and reviewed all current records pertaining to the [REDACTED] family. There were no past records involving this family. On 10/16/2015, regional staff reviewed the Act 33 Review Team Report, agency records and the victim child’s medical records from Pinnacle Health System. This information was obtained from the Continuous Quality Improvement Specialist II at York County Office of Children, Youth and Families (YCOCYF). On 10/20/2015, regional staff reviewed information from the assigned Intake worker from Dauphin County Social Services for Children and Youth (DCSSCY) regarding that agency’s contact with the family on 07/06/2015.

On 10/20/2015, regional staff spoke with the victim child's mother who related that the victim child was doing well. He has not had a recurrence of unresponsiveness and has been seen by his family doctor within the past month. The mother was not told of any problems with his health. The mother related she does not know what caused the unresponsiveness. [REDACTED] No other services are being provided to the family.

On 10/30/2015, regional staff spoke with Officer [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] Police Department ([REDACTED] PD) who related that no charges will be brought in this case.

An Act 33 Internal Fatality Review Team meeting was held on 07/24/2015 at York Hospital. In attendance were representatives from YCOCYF, a Program Representative from CROCYP, [REDACTED] of WellSpan York Hospital and representatives from the York County District Attorney's Office. The Review Team made no recommendations regarding the report.

Children and Youth Involvement prior to Incident:

YCOCYF had no previous history with the family.

DCSSCY had no previous history with the victim child or his sibling. The agency had been involved with the mother and her family when she was a child from 1991-2012. The mother has three other siblings who had been placed prior to her birth.

[REDACTED]
General Protective Services referrals were received on 12/20/2002, 09/13/2006, 11/19/2010, 01/25/2011, and 01/20/2012, all of which had to do with supervision and physical care of the children. These referrals were completed at the Intake level.

Circumstances of Child Near Fatality and Related Case Activity:

YCOCYF received a referral on 07/04/2015 at 9:53 PM regarding the victim child. The child, his mother, sibling and maternal grandmother were at the [REDACTED] Hotel in [REDACTED], PA in order to utilize the swimming pool. During that time, the maternal grandmother took the child back to the hotel room, as he was tired. After some time, the maternal grandmother returned with the child and indicated that he was lethargic, could not sit up, and was sleepy. The mother was concerned about the child, and took him to Pinnacle Health Harrisburg Hospital.

Medical personnel indicated that upon arrival, the child was unresponsive and there were concerns that he had ingested something toxic. Hospital staff stated that the victim child was in serious medical condition, but was expected to survive. The mother was asked about what occurred to cause his condition. She was unclear and evasive with her response. After staff pressed the mother further, she revealed to staff that the maternal grandmother was recently released from jail and had a history of drug abuse. It was alleged that the maternal grandmother was using

synthetic marijuana in order to avoid usage of crack cocaine and that she kept it in a locked container. There was a concern that the child had possibly ingested the maternal grandmother's synthetic marijuana.

YCOCYF attempted to conduct an in person interview with the maternal grandmother, but she did not respond to an appointment letter sent on 08/20/2015. A phone interview was held on 08/27/2015. At that time, the maternal grandmother claimed that she was never alone with the child. She further stated that there were other individuals at the hotel that day, including friends of the parents. Allegedly, there were friends of the father and mother at the hotel, and the maternal grandmother reported that these individuals were under the influence. The child's mother stated that she was not under the influence, but she did not remember who was at the hotel or how she got home that day.

On 07/4/2015, the referral was first sent to Cumberland County Children and Youth Services and then resent to YCOCYF. On 08/28/2015, YCOCYF determined the status of the report as 'pending criminal investigation.' The [REDACTED] PD had an ongoing investigation regarding this incident but on 10/29/2015, determined that no charges will be brought in the case as no clear criminal perpetrator can be identified. YCOCYF unfounded the report on 12/02/2015.

A review of the child's medical records noted that the mother reported the child's aunt said she saw a roach with synthetic marijuana on the bed in the motel room and that the maternal grandmother uses synthetic marijuana.

Laboratory results showed that no synthetic marijuana or illicit drugs, and no unlisted medications were detected which includes marijuana metabolites.

[REDACTED] No other agencies or services are involved with the family.

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; The county agency's investigation complied with regulations and required response times.
- Deficiencies in compliance with statutes, regulations and services to children and families; The county agency's report did not reference any specific identified deficiencies.
- Recommendations for changes at the state and local levels on reducing the likelihood of future child fatalities and near fatalities directly related to abuse; The county agency's report did not reference any specific changes at the local level.

- Recommendations for changes at the state and local levels on monitoring and inspection of county agencies: The county agency's report did not reference any specific changes at local or the state level.
- Recommendations for changes at the state and local levels on collaboration of community agencies and service providers to prevent child abuse. The county agency's report did not reference any specific changes at the local or state level.

Department Review of County Internal Report:

The county's Internal Review Team met on 07/24/2015. The county's Internal Review Report was completed on 09/02/2015. CROCYF staff received the County's Internal Report on 10/16/2015. There were no issues or concerns regarding the content of the report.

Department of Human Services Findings:

- County Strengths: There is a positive working relationship between YCOCYF and the Fairview Township Police Department as well as with DCSSCY.
- County Weaknesses: None identified.
- Statutory and Regulatory Areas of Non-Compliance: No areas of regulatory non-compliance were identified.

Department of Human Services Recommendations:

There are no recommendations at this time.