



## **REPORT ON THE FATALITY OF:**

**Cadence Leskinen**

**Date of Birth: 03/16/2016**

**Date of Death: 04/05/16**

**Date of Report to Child Line: 04/05/2016**

**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 Children & Youth Services

**REPORT FINALIZED ON:**

09/30/2016

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 04/26/2016.

**Family Constellation:**

<u>First and Last Name:</u>	<u>Relationship:</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
Cadence Leskinen	Victim Child	03/16/2016
[REDACTED]	Mother	[REDACTED] 1992
[REDACTED]	Father	[REDACTED] 1988
[REDACTED]	Paternal Aunt	[REDACTED] 1986
[REDACTED]	Sibling	[REDACTED] 2013

**Summary of OCYF Child Fatality Review Activities:**

The Central Region Office of Children, Youth and Families obtained and reviewed all current case records pertaining to the [REDACTED] family. Follow up interviews were conducted with the Caseworker, and the Supervisor on 04/26/2016. The OCYF Regional Office also participated in the County Internal Fatality Review Team meeting on 04/26/2016.

**Children and Youth Involvement prior to Incident:**

The family was not known to York County Children & Youth Services prior to the incident on 04/05/2016.

**Circumstances of Child Fatality and Related Case Activity:**

[REDACTED], the victim child was given a bath by the mother around 8:00 pm on the night of 04/04/2016. The mother then put the child in her bassinet. The child woke up and would not take her bottle and was fussy. The child had labored breathing. Mother called the pediatrician and the paternal aunt began CPR on the child. The child was breathing very slowly. 911 was called and the child was transported to the Harrisburg Hospital. The hospital ceased

resuscitation efforts at 12:30 am on 04/05/2016. The child had some signs of trauma in the anal and vaginal area and may have been sexually abused. [REDACTED] Police Department is currently investigating the [REDACTED] death of Cadence Leskinen. Currently there are no known perpetrators at this time.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] The sibling of the deceased child was removed from the home and placed with her maternal grandmother.

On 08/25/2016 Detective [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] Police Department received preliminary information from the Coroner's office. He indicated there is no basis for any abuse findings. No criminal charges will be filed. The case with the [REDACTED] Police Department will be closed once the written autopsy report is received. The Detective believes the [REDACTED] did not recognize the child's diaper rash due to her inexperience.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] The maternal grandmother will help with the transition home. Parents will continue to work with [REDACTED] on a voluntary basis – mostly to address [REDACTED].

At the time of this report, the outcome of the investigation by the county is [REDACTED] because the official coroner's report has not been received. Currently there are no known perpetrators at this time and no interviews were conducted.

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

**Strengths in compliance with statutes, regulations and services to children and families:**

- A referral to [REDACTED] for the sibling.
- [REDACTED] for the parents.
- The hospital addressed internal quality improvement processes to look at their practice. This included education and awareness training for hospital staff.

**Deficiencies in compliance with statutes, regulations and services to children and families:**

- None

**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 Team facilitated discussion about the importance of increasing participation from police departments in the Act 33 process. The Agency added an additional step to the check list to make sure that the police officers or detectives are involved in the scheduling process.

Recommendations for changes at the state and local levels on monitoring and inspection of county agencies:

- None

Recommendations for changes at the state and local levels on collaboration of community agencies and service providers to prevent child abuse:

- The team reviewed overall state and county systemic barriers regarding the length of time to obtain results of the autopsy.
- While the team recognized the need for benchmarks for the Act 33 meeting, there were concerns about the time frame of thirty days. Thirty days seems like there is not enough time to gather information, especially given the time frames for obtaining the results of the autopsy.

**Department Review of County Internal Report:**

Central Region received the York County Internal Fatality Review Team report on 07/25/2016. Verbal feedback was provided to the County on 07/25/2016. The Department concurs with the county report's findings and recommendations.

**Department of Human Services Findings:**

County Strengths:

- York County Children, Youth and Family Services conducted a timely investigation in conjunction with the law enforcement officials.

County Weaknesses:

- None Noted

Statutory and Regulatory Areas of Non-Compliance by the County Agency:

- None Noted

**Department of Human Services Recommendations:**

None at this time.