



REPORT ON THE NEAR FATALITY OF:

[REDACTED]

Date of Birth: 02/01/2016
Date of Incident: 05/08/2017
Date of Report to Child Line: 05/09/2017
CWIS Referral ID: [REDACTED]

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

Berks County Children & Youth Services

REPORT FINALIZED ON:
11/06/2017

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.

Berks County Children and Youth Services convened a review team in accordance with the Child Protective Services Law related to this report.

Family Constellation:

<u>First and Last Name:</u>	<u>Relationship:</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
[REDACTED]	Victim Child	02/01/2016
[REDACTED]	Mother	[REDACTED] 1988
[REDACTED]	Father	[REDACTED] 1984
[REDACTED]	Full Sibling	[REDACTED] 2012
[REDACTED]	Full Sibling	[REDACTED] 2012

Summary of OCYF Child (Near) Fatality Review Activities:

The Southeast Regional Office of Children, Youth and Families (SERO) obtained and reviewed all current investigation notes and gathered pertinent information from the Berks County Review team as discussed on 06/06/2017.

Children and Youth Involvement prior to Incident:

No prior involvement with Berks County Children Youth Agency.

Circumstances of Child Fatality and Related Case Activity:

The family became known to Berks County Children and Youth on 05/09/2017 when the 15 month old victim child was brought to The Hershey Medical Center [REDACTED] on 05/08/2017 due to a near drowning incident. It was reported that the victim child was found unresponsive in a pond face down at the back of the family home the evening of 05/08/2017. The parents called 911 and CPR was administered at the pond location. The victim child was transported via ambulance to St. Joseph’s Hospital and subsequently flown to Hershey Medical Center and admitted [REDACTED]

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

- None noted

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 noted

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

- None noted

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

Department Review of County Internal Report:

The department reviewed the report upon receipt; the report was received timely. The Act 33 Review team convened on 06/06/2017.

Department of Human Services Findings:

County Strengths:

- The county was very responsive in addressing the concerns noted in the report and collaborated well with key players, to include law enforcement, parents, and medical community. A safety plan was immediately put in place and follow-up to ensure compliance.

County Weaknesses:

- None noted

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

- None noted

Department of Human Services Recommendations:

Greater education through Public Service Announcements (PSA) to educate parents and increase awareness of child safety in rural areas where homes are situated near open bodies of water.