

Fatalities

Franklin County

1. A two year old male child died on May 5, 2013 as a result of drowning. Franklin County Children & Youth Services substantiated the report in June 2013, naming the maternal grandmother as the perpetrator for lack of supervision. At the time of incident, the family lived in the maternal grandmother's home and the maternal grandmother was babysitting the children while the mother was working. The mother left for work around 7:30 am. At approximately 8:00 am, the maternal uncle checked on the child and told the maternal grandmother that the child was still asleep. The maternal grandmother stayed in her bedroom until 10:00 am at which time she got up and found the door to the home slightly cracked. The grandmother thought that the mother had not shut the door tightly when she left for work, so she shut the door. At approximately 11:45 am, the maternal grandmother asked the child's sibling's father, who was visiting the home, to look for the child. He was unable to find the child inside the house, so he proceeded to look outside. The father of the sibling found the child unresponsive in the pool, removed the child from the water, and performed CPR until paramedics arrived. The paramedics were unable to revive the child. The autopsy report determined that the child was in the pool for over 2 hours. The mother was not involved in the incident and will be ensuring the safety of the 7 year old sister. The maternal grandmother will not be unsupervised with the surviving child. The child's biological father was incarcerated in the Franklin County Jail at the time of incident for an unrelated matter and was not considered a resource for the child. No criminal charges were filed regarding this incident. Franklin County Children & Youth Services was involved with the family in May 2012 due to allegations of sexual abuse of the sister by a relative. That case was substantiated and closed in June 2012 with no further services being provided.

Huntingdon County

2. A two year old male child died on March 23, 2013 from a gunshot wound. Huntingdon County Children & Youth Services substantiated the report in May 2013, naming the father as the perpetrator. On the date of the child's death, the mother brought the child to the paternal grandparents' home for a supervised visit with the father. When the mother entered the home, the father hit her in the back of the head and then grabbed the child. The father put a gun to the child's neck and shot the child. The mother grabbed the child from the father and laid him on the ground. The father then shot mother in the knees. The paternal grandmother then came out and yelled at the father to stop. The father shot at the paternal grandmother and missed. The father grabbed the child's body and put him in the back of his car. The mother ran around the

car and tried to get the child's body out of the car at which time the father shot the mother in the face. The mother was able to retrieve the child's body, which she brought into the paternal grandparents' home. At this time, the mother realized that the child was dead. The mother stated that she was not aware that she had been shot at this point and was covering the child with her own body and did not want to let him go. The father fled in his vehicle and was later found dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. There were no other children in the home. The family was not known to Huntingdon County Children and Youth Services before this incident; however, the mother received services from Huntingdon County Domestic Violence when she initially separated from the father in 2011. The family was involved with Raystown Developmental Services for court-ordered visitation from January to July of 2011. The father had a history of mental health problems and inpatient hospitalizations.

Indiana County

3. A ten month old male child, died on May 19, 2013 due to injuries sustained from physical abuse. Indiana County Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in May 2013 and named the stepfather as the perpetrator. On the evening of May 17, 2013, the victim child was left at home with his stepfather and maternal grandmother while his mother was taken to the hospital to give birth. The mother called the maternal grandmother to come over and stay with the child while she went into labor, as the stepfather was not allowed to be alone with the child per a safety plan. The safety plan was in place due to a recent incident in which the child fell from a dresser and broke his femur while in the stepfather's care. Due to the broken femur, the child was in a half body cast. Later in the evening on the date of incident, the stepfather was woken up in the middle of the night by the child's fussing. The stepfather brought the child into his room, where he was sleeping with his own six-year old son. The stepfather stated the victim child continued fussing, so the stepfather put his hand over the child's mouth and nose, causing him to suffocate. The stepfather says that when the victim child lost consciousness, the stepfather performed CPR while the maternal grandmother called 911. The child was resuscitated, but eventually died at the hospital. There were three other children in the household. The six-year old stepbrother was placed in the custody of his biological mother in Colorado. The two half-brothers are still in their biological mother's care. One of the half brothers is the perpetrator's son and he is allowed supervised visits with his father in prison. The family was known to Indiana County Children and Youth Services. In 2007, the mother lost custody of two of her children due to her drug use. Both the mother and stepfather received methadone treatment. In 2011, the biological mother was able to regain custody of the two children and the case was closed. The incident which led to the broken femur was still under investigation

when the child died. The stepfather has been charged with homicide, aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of a child, and recklessly endangering the welfare of a child. He is currently incarcerated and his trial is scheduled for February 24, 2014.

Philadelphia County

4. A two month old male child died on April 10, 2013 as a result of blunt force trauma sustained during physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services substantiated the case in May 2013, naming the father as the perpetrator. The child was brought to the Emergency Room in cardiac arrest on April 9, 2013, but died the following day. The child had clavicle and rib fractures of varying ages, as well as internal injuries and bleeding. The father said that he pounded on the child's chest while performing CPR and suggested this may be how the child's ribs were broken. The admitting physician described the child's injuries as typical of what is seen when a patient is ejected from a vehicle during a car accident, not something caused by administration of CPR. The father then admitted to police that he caused the child's injuries. The child has four siblings. Three of these siblings have been removed from the parents' care and placed in the custody of the maternal grandmother, due to two charges of Abuse of a Child against the mother in New Jersey. The fourth sibling is an infant, who was born in New Jersey a few months before this incident. Details regarding the involvement by New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services surrounding this incident remain unavailable.

This family has a history with Philadelphia Department of Human Services and the New Jersey Department of Child Protection and Permanency (at the time, the agency was referred to as the New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services). In February 2007, Philadelphia Department of Human Services received a general protective services referral regarding possible neglect of the sister's medical issues. The referral was accepted and the family received Family Preservation Services until July 2007. Then in July 2008, another referral was received regarding the sister's medical condition and treatment. SCOH (Services to Children in their Own Homes) services were provided from July 2008 until February 2009.

The family moved to New Jersey sometime after February 2009 and the family had a lengthy involvement with NJ Department of Child Protection and Permanency as follows. The mother was arrested for child abuse in New Jersey in 2010. Details regarding this arrest continue to be unavailable. The maternal grandmother obtained custody of the children and agreed that the mother would only have supervised contact with the children and that the mother would not reside in the same home. New Jersey registered the court order with Pennsylvania, as required by the Uniform Child-Custody

Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act. On Jan. 20, 2012, the mother was sentenced to four years of probation for both counts of abusing a child. In January 2013, there was another referral to the NJ Department of Child Protection and Permanency, after the mother tested positive for marijuana and amphetamines during her pregnancy. The infant was born with Neo Abstinence Syndrome (NAS), and was prescribed Phenobarbital. No services were planned for the family, as the mother was receiving substance abuse treatment. A supplemental report received on Jan. 9, 2013 alleged that infant's drug screen was positive for amphetamines and marijuana. The infant was discharged from the hospital to his parents on March 26, 2013. In April 2013, another referral was made to NJ Department of Child Protection and Permanency when the parents failed to keep the infant's follow-up appointments after discharge from the hospital. The reporting source indicated that the medication prescribed for the child needed to be monitored by blood work and evaluation by his primary physician. This report was still pending when the fatality report was received in Pennsylvania. The father was charged with murder and is currently incarcerated.

5. A one year old male child died on June 11, 2013 as a result of multiple trauma sustained during a fall from a fifth story window. Philadelphia Department of Human Services substantiated the case in July 2013, naming the mother as the perpetrator for lack of supervision. At the time of incident, the mother was cleaning in another room. The mother informed the police that the child and his 3-year old sister were playing in a bedroom near an open window without a screen. The screen was removed by a maintenance worker, although it is not clear when the screen was removed. There was a chest of drawers next to the window and the drawers were opened, allowing the child to climb up to the window. After the child climbed up on the dresser and fell, the sibling went to her mother and told her what happened. The child died of cardiac arrest following an intracranial injury caused upon impact. The mother was the primary caretaker for the children at the time of incident. A safety assessment was conducted and the child's sibling was placed with her father and paternal grandmother. The sibling's father filed a petition for custody of the child's sibling. The mother refused to be interviewed at the advice of her lawyer. The mother's whereabouts are unknown at the time of this writing. The family became known to Philadelphia Department of Human Services in February 2012 when a general protective services referral was received regarding a lack of supervision. The report alleged that both children were found alone in the apartment building basement by a neighbor. When the mother came to the basement after the children were found, she stated that she did not know that the children had left the apartment. The report was unsubstantiated and the case was closed in March 2012.

6. A five month old female child died on June 24, 2013 due to injuries sustained during an incident of physical abuse on June 21, 2013. The Philadelphia Department of Human Services substantiated the report in July 2013, naming the father as the perpetrator. On June 21, 2013, the father found the child unresponsive in her crib. The maternal grandfather performed CPR on the child and the father called 911. When the child arrived at the hospital, she was in cardiac arrest and was not breathing. The child had bruising on multiple areas of the body, bite marks, a skull fracture, intracranial bleeding, bilateral retinal detachment, rib fractures, and a severe diaper rash. The father accompanied the child to the hospital and was unable to explain the child's injuries. The father did not appear appropriately concerned for the child's well-being at the hospital. The mother was at work at the time of incident and met the child and father at the hospital. The father was not living in the home at the time of incident, but was there for several days to take care of the child while the mother was at work, because the child's usual babysitter was unavailable. A six year old cousin of the child was in the home at the time of incident and reported that he saw the father shaking and biting the child. The child was declared brain dead. The child was removed from life support and pronounced deceased on June 24, 2013. The Medical Examiner's Office ruled the child's death as a homicide. The father is being charged with aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of children, and simple assault. He is currently incarcerated. There are no services being provided as the child was the only minor in the immediate family. The family was not known to Philadelphia Department of Human Services prior to this incident.

Near Fatalities

Blair County

1 & 2. A three year old male child and his one year old sister nearly died on June 20, 2013, due to poisoning as a result of a lack of supervision. Blair County Children and Youth Services substantiated reports on both children in Aug. 2013, naming the mother, the mother's paramour, and two adult household members as perpetrators for lack of supervision. The two victim children were sharing one bedroom, while the mother and her infant slept in a different bedroom. The mother slept until sometime after noon. While the mother was sleeping, the children woke up and found several psychiatric medications in a baby-wipe container in their bedroom and ingested the medications. Allegedly, the owner of the home babysits a child who is prescribed the medications, and the homeowner was keeping them stored in the container. Sometime after noon on the date of incident, the mother found both children unresponsive on the floor,

surrounded by pills and empty prescription bottles. The mother did not seek immediate medical treatment due to fear of Children and Youth Services becoming involved; instead, the mother bathed the children in an attempt to get them to wake up. At approximately 4:20 pm, the mother put the children in the car and started driving to the hospital. The mother contacted Poison Control while driving and was instructed to pull over and call 911. An ambulance then transported the children to the hospital. The children were examined and then life-flighted to another hospital. The father was ruled out as a resource due to chronic homelessness, immaturity, and anger management concerns. No kinship resources could be identified. The parents initially agreed to sign a voluntary placement agreement; however, the father later rescinded his agreement. The father wanted to take both children from the hospital against medical advice. The hospital police intervened and Blair County Children and Youth Services obtained emergency custody of both children through the Blair County Court. The three-year old male child was discharged from the hospital on June 22, 2013 and was placed with foster parents. The two-year old sister was discharged on June 24, 2013 and is now in the same foster home as her brother. The sister's condition was more severe when the children were admitted; however, she was seen for a follow-up appointment two weeks after discharge and does not need additional medical care at this time. Neither of the children has any lasting medical conditions or impairments due to this incident. There is a male half-sibling who is now residing with his biological father, and all contact with the mother will be supervised by the biological father. There are no criminal charges pending at this time.

Blair County Children and Youth Services was first made aware of this family in the summer of 2010 due to general protective service concerns, including domestic violence, mother's alcohol use, inappropriate environmental conditions in the home, and possible medical neglect of the male child. The family was opened for services until 2011, when they moved to California. The family returned to the area in June 2012, and another general protective services referral was received the same month which alleged unstable living conditions, inappropriate discipline, and suspected neglect. Blair County Children and Youth Services helped the mother file for benefits in Pennsylvania, including food stamps, cash assistance, and housing. The case was closed in early July 2012. Blair County Children and Youth services received a fifth general protective services referral in Nov. 2012 concerning the mother's paramour being violent towards her and rough with the children. This report was screened out on Nov. 14, 2012 because the mother and children left the mother's paramour and moved in with the maternal grandmother. A sixth referral was made in Dec. 2012, when mother tested positive for marijuana at the birth of her youngest child and then left the hospital with the baby before meeting with social services. Blair County Children and Youth Services

arranged for the mother and infant to receive home nursing care, as well as Headstart for the oldest male child. The mother did not identify any other needs, and the referral was closed at the end of Jan. 2013. A seventh general protective service referral was received at the end of Feb. 2013, alleging that the mother and her paramour neglect the children. This report was unsubstantiated and closed on March 15, 2013, after it was verified that the home was appropriate. An eighth general protective services referral was received in March 2013 for neglect. The report alleged that the three-year old male child choked on a penny and that the mother and her paramour did not intervene because they were locked in their bedroom. The report also alleged that the mother and her paramour yell at the children and use inappropriate discipline. The mother and her paramour denied all allegations and there were no physical findings. Blair County Children and Youth Services referred the mother and her paramour to parenting education and counseling, and the case was closed in April 2013.

Delaware County

3. A two year old male child nearly died on May 26, 2013 due to injuries received from physical abuse. Delaware County Children and Youth Services substantiated the case in May 2013 and named the child's legal guardians as perpetrators (the male legal guardian is named as a perpetrator by commission, the female legal guardian as a perpetrator by omission). The child had been living with the legal guardians since April 2013 when his mother dropped the child off at their home. The mother told them she needed them to watch the child for a couple of days as she did not have housing, money, or food. The child's father is incarcerated in a state prison and is not a resource for the child. The mother never came back to check on the child and subsequently the legal guardians were awarded partial custody of the child on May 24. The child was brought to the hospital emergency room unresponsive by both legal guardians on the evening of the incident. The victim child was immediately intubated and physicians noted small circular bruises all over his body. Exams revealed that the child had a lacerated liver, bowel edema, and scattered perfusion of the kidneys (suggestive of shock). The hospital physician stated the child was in critical condition and the incident was labeled as a near fatality. The legal guardians, who are married, were interviewed at the hospital. The wife stated that when she left the home, everything was fine. The husband was the only caregiver for the child prior to his hospitalization. The husband stated he checked on the child around 9:30 pm and found him limp and barely responsive. He stated the victim child was at a block party earlier in the day and must have injured himself while playing on a moon bounce. Adults who attended the party were questioned and they all stated that nothing happened at the party and that the child was fine when he left. Physicians at the hospital stated that the distribution of

bruises over the child's chest, abdomen, and left thigh is highly suggestive of blunt force trauma. The male guardian was substantiated as the perpetrator by commission based on the medical evidence and Delaware County Children and Youth Services investigation. The child was discharged from the hospital into foster care on June 11, 2013. The child was placed into the care of his paternal great aunt and uncle. The judge also put a no contact order in place between the child and his legal guardians. While the mother cooperated with developing a family service plan with the agency, she is not currently involved with the child and her whereabouts are unknown. The male legal guardian was arrested and charged with aggravated assault, simple assault, recklessly endangering another person, and endangering the welfare of a child. He was able to post bail. He has waived his preliminary hearing and is waiting for his trial to begin in Feb. 2014.

McKean County

4. An 11 year old female child nearly died on April 1, 2013 due to a head injury. McKean County Children and Youth Services substantiated the case in May 2013. The mother's paramour is named the perpetrator by commission and the mother as a perpetrator by omission for failing to protect the child. The child was unresponsive upon arrival to the hospital. She had a subdural hematoma, as well as multiple bruises on her back. The child's mother initially stated that child was running through the home with her sister and she fell and struck her head on a metal pipe. The hospital felt that the mother's report was inconsistent with the child's injuries and stated that the child's injuries were not self-induced and it was suspected that the injuries were the result of non-accidental trauma. The mother's paramour subsequently admitted that he assaulted the child. The mother's paramour is presently in the McKean County jail. Both the victim child and younger sibling reside with the father and paternal aunt in Lancaster County. There are no other children in the care of the mother or her paramour. Lancaster County Children and Youth completed a safety assessment of the father's home and found no concerns. The McKean County dependency petition was dismissed by the court. Approximately two weeks prior to the near fatality, the family was referred to McKean County Children and Youth Services because the victim child sustained a black eye. The allegations were that the child was injured during a fall. The incident was called into ChildLine and then given to McKean County Children and Youth Services as a General Protective Services (GPS) report. McKean County Children and Youth Services was unable to substantiate the report. At the time of the near fatality report, McKean County had not made a decision about whether to open the case for services based on the GPS report.

Montgomery County

5. A nine month old female child nearly died on May 29, 2013 due to burns. The case was investigated by Montgomery County Children and Youth Services and substantiated in July 2013 with the mother as the perpetrator for physical abuse. The mother took the child to the hospital and admitted to hospital staff that she wanted the child to stop crying, so she immersed the child's head in hot water. The child had first and second degree burns on five percent of her body, including her face, chest, upper back, and shoulders. The mother stated that she was aware that putting the child's head in very hot water would hurt the child and that she did this to make the child stop crying. Montgomery County Children and Youth Services developed a safety plan that the mother was not to have any contact with the child. The child was discharged from the hospital on May 30, 2013 into the care of the maternal grandmother. The mother was hospitalized for psychiatric concerns for one week following this incident. The mother has had two supervised visits with the child, but her visitations have been suspended at this time, pending the results of her most recent psychiatric evaluation. There are pending criminal charges against the mother for Simple Assault, Aggravated Assault, Endangering Welfare of Children, and Recklessly Endangering Another Person, with a court hearing scheduled for April 2014. There were no other children in the home. The family was not known to Montgomery County Children and Youth Services prior to this report.

Northampton County

6. A three month old female child nearly died on May 5, 2013 due to injuries received from physical abuse. Northampton County Children and Youth Services substantiated the father as the perpetrator in July 2013. On the date of incident, the mother took the child to the hospital due to bruising on the earlobe, left eye, and cheekbone. The child was admitted to the hospital and an examination revealed chronic and acute intracranial hemorrhaging and bilateral retinal hemorrhaging. The father was the only caretaker present when the child was injured, and the mother stated that the child was fine when the mother left the house on the date of incident. The father stated that earlier in the day while driving, he swerved the car to avoid hitting something and heard a thud. He assumed that the child had hit her head on the car seat but did not check. The father also stated that when they got home, the child accidentally hit her head on the door frame when the father was carrying her inside. The doctor stated that the father's explanation of what happened would not have caused this much damage, as the injuries sustained could only have been caused by blunt force trauma. The doctors also stated that the age of the child's bruises indicated that she was not immediately brought to the hospital.

A safety plan was developed with the mother and father not being permitted to be unsupervised with the victim child or her five-year old sister. The sister was taken to the maternal grandmother's home on the evening of the date of incident. The victim child was released from the hospital three days after the date of incident into the maternal grandmother's care. At the time of the child's discharge, hospital staff stated that it would take months to reduce the bleeding behind the child's eye. The mother then moved into the maternal grandmother's home and participated in parenting classes. The Visiting Nurses Program went to the house and worked with the mother showing her how to care for the child's injuries. The father is now residing with a family member. On May 30, 2013, the father admitted in a written statement that he shook the child until she was barely responsive and then placed her in the bed until the child's mother came home. The family was not known to Children and Youth Services prior to this incident. The police conducted an investigation in Aug. 2013. The father was charged with aggravated assault, simple assault, recklessly endangering another person, and two counts of endangering the welfare of children. The father pled guilty in Jan. 2014, to simple assault, recklessly endangering another person and one count of endangering the welfare of children. He is scheduled for sentencing in March 2014.

Philadelphia County

7. A 6 year old male child nearly died on April 7, 2013 as a result of medical neglect. Philadelphia Department of Human Services substantiated the case in May 2013, naming the mother as the perpetrator. The victim child's condition started when he was in the care of his father in the afternoon on the date of incident. The child had a cold that weekend. The mother sent the child to the father's home with cold medicine and an inhaler, which he normally uses for ongoing asthma symptoms. The child also has known allergies to peanuts and carrots. Around 2:00 pm on the date of incident, the father noticed that the child was having difficulty breathing. The child was given a couple puffs from the inhaler and then took his cold medicine. The child threw up about 20 minutes later. The father initially decided to take the child to the Emergency Room, but then decided against it because he did not have the child's medical insurance information. Instead, the father called the maternal grandmother to get the medical insurance information. The maternal grandmother told the father to bring the child home (as the mother lives in the maternal grandmother's home) and they would take the child to the hospital. The father brought the child to the mother's home around 4:00 pm on the date of incident. The stepfather was at the mother's home to receive the child. The father and the mother do not interact directly due to fighting with each other. The father reports that the child appeared to be doing better and was asleep when they

arrived at the mother's home. The mother and child arrived at the hospital at approximately 6:45 pm.

The hospital determined that the child suffered a severe allergic reaction, including swelling and difficulty breathing. Medical professionals involved in this case reported that the allergic reaction could have been fatal due to the mother's delay in seeking medical treatment for the child. The mother failed to act in a timely manner in getting the child medical care which resulted in the child suffering severe respiratory distress that almost killed him. The investigation determined that instead of taking the child to the hospital right away, the mother videotaped the child answering questions that she was asking about the child's condition. The mother also did not provide the father the child's medical insurance information or fill a prescription for a new nebulizer to replace the broken one the child had been using. The mother chose to take the child to a hospital a distance from home rather than calling an ambulance to come get child. When asked about this decision, the mother stated that she felt that she could get child to the hospital faster than an ambulance. The maternal grandmother will ensure that the mother keeps all future medical appointments and gives the child all prescribed medicines. A relative who lives in the father's home will ensure that the father is also providing proper medical care for the child. There are no other children in the home. The family was not known to Philadelphia Department of Human Services division of Children and Youth Services prior to this report.

8. A one year old female child nearly died on April 10, 2013 due to physical abuse and medical neglect. Philadelphia Department of Human Services substantiated the report in May 2013, naming the mother as a perpetrator for medical neglect, the mother's paramour as a perpetrator for physical abuse, and the child's babysitter as a perpetrator for physical abuse. Prior to the date of incident, the mother's paramour and a babysitter were caring for the child over a period of several days while the mother was not available. The child was observed "not acting as herself" and seemed "unwell." When the mother came back, she was advised by other family members to take the child to the doctor. The mother failed to seek medical treatment for the child for approximately one week. On the date of incident, the mother's paramour found the child on the floor with her eyes rolling back into her head. He threw water on her and attempted CPR. The maternal great uncle and maternal grandmother then took the child to the hospital. The child was cold and unresponsive upon arrival to the hospital and had to be intubated. The child was diagnosed with a collapsed lung, three fractured ribs, a severe liver laceration, and a small right kidney laceration, as well as bruising to the back, lumbar area, and both thighs.

It is still undetermined how the child's injuries occurred. None of the perpetrators by commission have admitted to causing the child's injuries. The child and his sibling are now residing with their biological father and he is filing for full custody. The mother has supervised visits with the children. The father and children are receiving In-Home Protective Services to monitor and assist in the child's recovery, provide trauma-focused therapy for both children, assist with the father's parenting skills, and help the father find and maintain employment. The father's family is providing support for him and the children during this time. The family was not known to Philadelphia Department of Human Services before this incident. The criminal investigation is ongoing at the time of this writing.

9. An eight month old male child nearly died on April 12, 2013 due to injuries received from physical abuse. In July 2013, the Philadelphia Department of Human Services, substantiated the report and named the parents as perpetrators. The child was taken to the hospital on the date of incident due to a stab wound to the back of the child's head. The parents both stated that the child was trying to pull himself up onto a bed frame when he slipped and fell backwards onto a knife, which penetrated his skull and went into his brain and brain stem. The child eventually stopped breathing on his own, was put on life support, and was listed in critical condition. The child is expected to survive, but will be in a vegetative state for the rest of his life. Both parents stated that one of the siblings (ages four and two) must have brought a Swiss Army knife into the house without their knowing. The child's neurosurgeon stated that the knife that caused the child's injury had a four to five-inch long blade, with a width of about half an inch. The neurosurgeon stated that the incident could not have occurred by falling onto the knife as the parent's state, it could only have penetrated that deep if it was inflicted. The father eventually admitted to stabbing the child in the back of the head during a violent argument with the mother. The father is currently incarcerated and the mother's case is pending with law enforcement.

A safety plan for the second child was completed immediately which stated that neither parent could have unsupervised visits with the child, and that the child will reside with the maternal aunt. The family is known to the Philadelphia Department of Human Services from two reports received in 2011. The first report alleged that the only person going in and out of the house was an eighteen-year old sibling with no parental supervision. It was discovered that this person was actually the child's father and the case was closed. A second report was received in 2011 when the youngest sibling received a skull fracture after a fifteen-year old aunt picked the child up in a car seat without realizing he was not properly secured. The child fell from the car seat onto the

pavement and fractured his skull. The investigation concluded that the explanation was consistent with the injury, and the report was unfounded.

10. A one year old male child nearly died on June 16, 2013. The Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS) investigated the case and substantiated the mother's paramour as the perpetrator by commission, as well as the mother as a perpetrator by omission for failing to protect child. The mother took the child to the hospital on the date of incident because the child was having difficulty breathing; however, the mother waited approximately ten hours to take the child to the Emergency Room. Upon examination, the hospital found bruising to the child's chest. X-rays revealed multiple rib fractures and pulmonary contusions. The child also received a CAT scan, which showed that the child had a lacerated liver. The mother did not have an explanation for the child's injuries. The mother initially stated that she was the only one who cares for the child, but later recanted and admitted to police that she left the child in her paramour's care while she was working from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm the day prior to the incident. The mother's paramour has not admitted to causing the child's injuries. No criminal charges have been filed at this time. There are no other children in the home. There is no history of involvement with DHS.

11. A four month old female child nearly died on June 17, 2013 due to failure to thrive. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS) substantiated the report in July 2013, naming both the mother and the father as perpetrators of neglect. On the date of incident, the child was admitted to the hospital due to seizures. The seizures were a result of "water intoxication" from the improper mixture of her formula by her parents. Neither parent was able to describe appropriate formula preparation to hospital staff. The child's sodium levels were dangerously low and her weight was in the zero percentile at the time of admission. A home assessment was completed two days after the date of the incident, and DHS found the home to be in "deplorable condition."

The child has a two-year old sister, who was placed in an emergency shelter by DHS after the date of incident. DHS first became involved with this family when the mother tested positive for marijuana use when giving birth to the sibling in December 2010. The home was assessed and was determined to be safe and adequately prepared for the arrival of the infant. The family was offered Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Services (for maternal substance abuse issues) but the mother declined. The final assessment determined that the infant was safe in the home and the case was closed in mid-December 2010. A second GPS report was received in January 2013 when the mother tested positive for marijuana at the time of the victim child's birth. The mother admitted that two weeks prior to giving birth to the victim child, the mother ingested cupcakes and brownies made with marijuana at her birthday party. The report was

investigated and findings were present; however, the mother ingested the marijuana-laced food at someone else's home. The family home was assessed and no safety threats were identified. The case was closed in February 2013. There are no criminal charges at this time.