



REPORT ON THE NEAR FATALITY OF:

[REDACTED]

Date of Birth: 12/13/2002
Date of Incident: 10/23/2019
Date of Report to ChildLine: 10/23/2019
CWIS Referral ID: [REDACTED]

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

Franklin County Children and Youth Services

REPORT FINALIZED ON:

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.

Franklin County has not convened a review team in accordance with the Child Protective Services Law related to this report. The report was unfounded on 11/12/2019.

Family Constellation:

<u>First and Last Name</u>	<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
[REDACTED]	Victim Child	12/13/2002
[REDACTED]	Mother	[REDACTED] 1978
[REDACTED]	Father	[REDACTED] 1980
[REDACTED]	Brother	[REDACTED] 2001
[REDACTED]	Sister	[REDACTED] 2003

* 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. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Summary of OCYF Child Near Fatality Review Activities:

The Central Region Office of Children, Youth and Families (CERO) obtained and reviewed all current case records pertaining to the [REDACTED] family. CERO staff conducted interviews with the Franklin County Children and Youth intake caseworker. This interview occurred on 12/18/2019. A review of the initial report and law enforcement involvement was reviewed. There were no prior reports regarding this family.

Summary of circumstances prior to Incident:

No prior agency involvement.

Circumstances of Child Near Fatality and Related Case Activity:

The victim child came to the hospital with his mother appearing extremely malnourished. At 16 years old, he weighed 28 pounds. Hospital staff witnessed the child lying on the bed in a fetal position. He was developmentally delayed and

nonverbal. [REDACTED]

Hospital staff witnessed the child ruminate his food as if he did not have the ability to get food at home, so when he did have food he regurgitated and re ate the food. The child was admitted to the hospital that same day. [REDACTED] from the hospital completed a consultation due to "failure to thrive", short stature, developmental delay and concern for medical neglect. The genetic testing has a working diagnosis of Psychosocial Dwarfism, which meant he was chronically "failure to thrive" most of his life.

On 12/23/2019, the child was discharged from the hospital weighing 45 pounds. [REDACTED]

A safety assessment was completed for the 2 other siblings in the home. Both siblings were safe and appeared cared for. [REDACTED] that an older sibling will assure safety of the children while they remain in the home with their mother.

On 1/17/20, the mother was charged with Aggravated Assault and 2 counts of Endangering the Welfare of Children and a warrant for her arrest was issued. [REDACTED]

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 family was cooperative with the agency and law enforcement during the investigation.

- Deficiencies in compliance with statutes, regulations, and services to children and families:
 - [REDACTED] but never made a referral to Childline.

- 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.

- 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:
 - None.

Department Review of County Internal Report:

The department agrees with the findings of the county report.

Department of Human Services Findings:

- County Strengths:
 - The county agency investigation complied with regulations and response times as required.
- County Weaknesses:
 - The circumstances of this case and the review of the county's work did not identify any systemic weaknesses.
- Statutory and Regulatory Areas of Non-Compliance by the County Agency:
 - There were no areas of non-compliance found during the review of this case.

Department of Human Services Recommendations:

The Department feels that a monitoring system should be implemented to assure that children receive adequate medical care throughout their lives.

The Department of Education should have a monitoring process for all children who are home schooled.

Medical professionals should be notifying county children and youth agencies when there is a concern regarding families who are missing pediatric appointments.