



REPORT ON THE NEAR FATALITY OF:

[REDACTED]

Date of Birth: 12/25/2014
Date of Incident: 01/20/2017
Date of Report to ChildLine: 01/20/2017
CWIS Referral ID: [REDACTED]

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

Lancaster County Children and Youth Agency

REPORT FINALIZED ON:
06/27/2017

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.

Lancaster 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 01/25/2017.

Family Constellation:

<u>First and Last Name:</u>	<u>Relationship:</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
[REDACTED]	Victim Child	12/25/2014
[REDACTED]	Sibling	[REDACTED] 2012
[REDACTED]	Sibling	[REDACTED] 2011
[REDACTED]	Sibling	[REDACTED] 2009
[REDACTED]	Biological Mother	[REDACTED] 1987
[REDACTED]	Biological Father	[REDACTED] 1985

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 reviewed various reports, assessments, and case documentation provided by Lancaster County. CERO staff attended the agency Act 33 meeting on 01/25/2017 and discussed the case with agency staff at that time.

Summary of circumstances prior to Incident:

There was no prior involvement with this family by Lancaster County Children and Youth Agency or other children and youth agencies.

Circumstances of Child Near Fatality and Related Case Activity:

On 01/20/2017, the father of the victim child brought him into Lancaster General Hospital after the victim child had ingested milk tank cleaner at the family farm. There were concerns for the supervision of the victim child at the time of the incident, and a subsequent report was made to Lancaster County Children and Youth Agency. The victim child was certified to be in serious condition as a result of

- The caseworker requested all medical records for [REDACTED]
 - The standby worker went immediately to the Lancaster General Hospital to see the child before the child was transferred to DuPont Hospital for additional medical treatment.
 - The agency caseworker discussed with the family increasing their level of supervision and the importance of keeping chemicals locked up to prevent future accidental poisonings.
 - The agency will continue to provide supportive services to the family until case closure.
 - Lancaster General Hospital acted appropriately in transferring [REDACTED] to DuPont Hospital for additional medical treatment.
- 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.
 - The agency will explore purchasing “Mr. Yuck” stickers and distribute them to families that it is currently serving as well as provided them during community outreach events.
 - The caseworker will obtain paperwork from the director of intake services about age appropriate activities for children that live on farms.
 - The agency caseworker will discuss with the family [REDACTED] parenting class that is tailored to the Amish/Mennonite community and encourage them to participate in this resource.

Department Review of County Internal Report:

The Central Region Office received the Lancaster County Child Near Fatality Team Report on 04/25/2017. DHS finds the county’s internal report as an accurate reflection of the Act 33 meeting. The report content and findings are representative of what was discussed during the meeting on 01/25/2017. As case activity continued beyond the Act 33 meeting, there are findings that are not incorporated into the county report and will be addressed by DHS findings. Written feedback was provided to Lancaster County Administration on 04/27/2017.

Department of Human Services Findings:

- County Strengths:
 - The agency responded immediately to the hospital and was in constant communication with medical professionals, and with each other, coordinating to see the child and the family.
 - The agency worked closely with the family to assure that potential farm hazards were addressed.

- County Weaknesses:
 - None Noted.

- Statutory and Regulatory Areas of Non-Compliance by the County Agency.
 - No areas of non-compliance were observed during the review of the agency's investigation.

Department of Human Services Recommendations:

The Department concurs with the recommendations proposed by the County Agency in their Act 33 Report.