

Fatalities

Berks County

1. A 3-month-old male child died on December 7, 2015, as a result of serious physical neglect. Berks County Children and Youth Services (Berks CYS) received the report on December 8, 2015, and on February 5 2016, determined the case status to be pending juvenile court. On May 3, 2016, Berks CYS indicated the case naming the child's mother and father as the perpetrators. Subsequently on July 5, 2016, following a finding of abuse against both parents by the juvenile court, Berks CYS updated the status of this case to founded. The mother reported that on December 7, 2015 she found the child unresponsive but alive in his bassinet around 8:00 PM. She stated that she performed CPR for five to ten minutes before pressing the emergency button for her home security system through Comcast. The father did not receive notification about the security button being pressed until 8:37 PM. Comcast then contacted the mother to find out if there was an emergency before contacting 911. When emergency medical personnel arrived at 8:50 PM, they found the child already deceased and in a state of rigor mortis. The family reported that the child had been sick for the past week and they were in the process of scheduling a doctor's appointment. The child was last seen by the doctor on November 12, 2015. The child weighed almost seven pounds at this appointment.

An autopsy revealed that the child had a lethal dose of Doxylamine in his system, which was the cause of death, in addition to chronic nutritional neglect. Doxylamine is an ingredient found in Nyquil brand medicine that the doctor did not prescribe for the child. At the time of his passing, the child weighed five pounds. On January 5, 2016, Berks CYS were informed that a witness had observed the mother giving one of the child's siblings a bottle of "strawberry milk" that smelled like medicine. The witness then found a bottle of Nyquil in the home and disposed of it. When this came to the attention of Berks CYS, the child's two siblings who were still residing in the home were removed and placed together in foster care. Since then, custody of the oldest sibling has been transferred to his biological father with whom the sibling is residing. The court has ordered that there be no contact between the mother and the oldest sibling.

The family was not known to Berks CYS prior to this incident, although they were previously known to the Lancaster County Children and Youth Agency (Lancaster CYA) and York County Office of Children, Youth and Families (York OCYF). York OCYF received two reports between July 2010 and November 2011 with concerns of leaving the child's older sibling outside in extreme heat and inappropriate discipline. Both reports were closed out after an initial assessment period without further services being provided to the family. In February 2015, a report was received by Lancaster CYA alleging that the oldest sibling had truancy issues and that the family had unstable housing. This report was accepted for ongoing general protective services and was closed in June 2015. No criminal charges have yet been filed as this case is still under criminal investigation.

Bucks County

2. A 2-month-old female child died on March 25, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. The Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services Agency (Bucks CYSSA) indicated the case on May 19, 2016, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator. The child's mother had called the police to inform them that her child was non-responsive. The child's body was taken to a local hospital where her body temperature was 33 degrees, indicating that the child had been deceased for approximately four to five hours. The mother reported that she had been napping with the child and when she woke up, found the child non-responsive. She stated that she may have rolled over on the child. When local law enforcement officials searched the apartment they found drug paraphernalia, and when the detective asked the mother about marijuana use she stated that she had smoked marijuana within the last two weeks. The Bucks CYSSA worker met with the mother a day after the child's passing and asked her to take a drug test, but the mother refused. She denied using drugs and stated that she was tired from being interviewed by the police. The mother was offered grief counseling and information on other support groups to help her cope with the loss of her child. The final Bucks County Coroner's Office report showed the cause of death to be sudden death of a co-sleeping infant. There were no other children in the home.

The family was previously known to Bucks CYSSA. Reports were received on January 30, 2016 and February 12, 2016 regarding concerns that the child was being hit by her father, substance abuse, drugs were being sold out of the family home, and the mother was placing the child in unsafe situations. These reports were unable to be substantiated and were closed out without any further services being provided to the family. On February 20, 2016, another referral was received alleging that the mother was placing the child in unsafe situations by taking the child into locations known for drug activity. The family continued to receive ongoing general protective services through Bucks CYSSA until after the child's passing. During their time working with the family, Bucks CYSSA provided repeated warnings to the mother about the dangers of co-sleeping with the child. The criminal investigation regarding the child's death remains ongoing.

Fayette County

3. A 23-month-old female child died on February 24, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. Fayette County Children and Youth Services (Fayette CYS) indicated the case on April 12, 2016, naming the mother and father as the perpetrators. On February 24, 2016, the mother reportedly left the family residence around 7:00 AM to run an errand. Allegedly, the child was left with the father although the father later denied having any contact with the child the morning of the incident. When the mother returned to the home around 10:00 AM, she found the child sleeping in her car seat. The mother stated that she was checking the child's diaper and the child awoke, so the mother proceeded to give the child a mixture of Gatorade and Pedialyte. While the child was drinking, her eyes began to roll back into her head. She stopped breathing and began to foam at the mouth.

The mother rushed the child to the local hospital, and upon their arrival, the child was unresponsive and physicians determined rigor mortis had already set in. The physician indicated she had been deceased for approximately five to six hours prior to her arrival at the hospital. An autopsy conducted on February 25, 2016, concluded that the child had died from malnutrition, dehydration, and pulmonary congestion. She weighed ten pounds at the time of her death and was 29.5 inches long. The father was interviewed by the police and stated that he had not seen the child since 9:00 PM the prior evening and could not provide any additional information regarding the child's condition.

The child had two older male siblings, a 4 year old and a 5 year old. Both children arrived at the hospital dirty and in diapers which were soiled. The 5-year-old sibling had diaper rash and a large circular bruise to his upper right arm. The 4-year-old sibling had minor bruises on various parts of his body and a scar to his lower left leg which was indicative of a burn. An assessment of the family's home revealed that the children had been living in unsafe and hazardous conditions. Both parents were drug tested on March 2, 2016, the father was positive for methadone, marijuana, and methamphetamines and the mother was positive for marijuana. After being medically cleared, both siblings were placed together temporarily in the home of the maternal grandmother and maternal aunt until Fayette CYS was granted custody on March 17, 2016, and the siblings were placed into the home of their paternal aunt. The children are not being provided any services outside of their aunt's home at this time other than routine medical care. Both parents were arrested on March 17, 2016, and charged with criminal homicide, endangering the welfare of children, and recklessly endangering another person. Both were denied bail and remain incarcerated while awaiting trial.

The family had prior involvement with Greene County Children and Youth Services (Greene CYS). Greene CYS provided ongoing general protective services to the family for a year starting in February 2012 due to concerns that the child's sibling was admitted to the hospital as "severe failure to thrive." The family received early intervention services and home nursing. Another referral was received in February 2015, another referral was received with concerns that the family's housing conditions were deplorable and that the mother was using drugs. Greene CYS were unable to locate the family due to the family moving to Fayette County. The case was transferred to Fayette CYS on March 9, 2015. A total of 11 attempts were made to meet with the family. After consultation with the county solicitor, the case was closed without any contact.

Perry County

4. A 12-year-old female child died on March 10, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. Perry County Children and Youth Services (Perry CYS) indicated the case on May 5, 2016, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator. On March 10, emergency response personnel were dispatched to a motel where the child and her family had been residing. The child had wandered onto the highway, where she was struck by multiple cars and killed. Video surveillance from the night of the incident shows that the child, who was diagnosed with autism, had been wandering

in and out of the motel room that evening. The video also revealed that the mother did not search for the child until twenty minutes after the accident had occurred. The child's half-brother was removed from the residence and went to stay at the home of his paternal grandmother and her husband, where he remains. His grandmother has filed for emergency custody.

The family was previously known to Perry CYC. From July 2009 to December 2013, eight general protective service (GPS) referrals were received. Concerns reported included: the victim child's behavior (stemming from her diagnosis of autism), cleanliness/hygiene issues, drug and alcohol use by the mother and her fiancé, behavioral health concerns for the child and the adults in the home, inability to maintain stable housing, and general issues with caring for the needs of a child diagnosed with autism. All of these reports were closed after an initial assessment as the family was receiving services through other community providers. The family received ongoing GPS services from March 2014 through February 2015 in order to ensure that the family was participating in needed services for the child. In September 2015, another GPS referral was received regarding inappropriate hygiene, drug abuse, mental health concerns, and lack of stable housing. Perry CYC opened an ongoing case with the family at this time and the family was still receiving services from the agency as well as family preservation services at the time of the child's death. The criminal investigation remains pending.

Philadelphia County

5. A 10-year-old male child died on February 10, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. The Southeast Regional Office of Children, Youth & Families (SERO) indicated the report on April 11, 2016, naming the child's foster mother and her adult friend who was also a caregiver as perpetrators for failing to get the child needed medical treatment. On April 7, 2016, a separate referral was made to the Philadelphia Department of Human Services (Philadelphia DHS) naming the child's school nurse as an alleged perpetrator for failing to provide for the child's immediate medical needs. This referral naming the school nurse as a perpetrator was indicated on May 10, 2016, for serious physical neglect.

On the day of the child's passing, he had gone to the school nurse's office around 9:00 AM to receive care as he started vomiting that day. The child was uncomfortable, weak, and moaning on his way to the nurse's office. The school nurse contacted the foster mother at around 9:30 AM to pick the child up and take him to the doctor. The school nurse contacted the foster mother once again around 11:20 AM to pick up the child. The school nurse left the school shortly thereafter to attend a training class, leaving the child in the care of a teacher's assistant, who was not appropriately trained to care for the child's medical condition. The child remained at the school until being picked up at 1:00 PM by the foster mother's adult friend who took the child back to the foster home. At 6:59 PM, a phone call was placed to 911 to report that the child was unresponsive in the home. The child was transported to a local hospital where he was later pronounced dead. A physician from the medical examiner's office reported that the child had died from a bowel obstruction. Though the death was determined to have been of natural

causes, the physician noted that it was possible that the child's death could have been prevented had he received medical attention sooner. He added that the child should have received immediate medical attention when it was noticed by school staff that the child was having difficulty sitting.

To ensure the safety of the other foster children to whom the perpetrators could have access, another foster child was immediately removed from the foster mother's home and placed in respite foster care and the foster mother was prohibited from having any other children in her home. The school nurse was suspended from her position with the school district.

The victim child's family was known to the Philadelphia DHS prior to the incident. Ten reports were received between 2007 and 2013 regarding concerns for inappropriate discipline, sexual assault, lack of supervision, and lack of medical care. The child was placed in foster care in February 2012. From 2013 to 2015, four general protective services reports were received regarding the child. Two reports were regarding prior foster homes where the child resided. These reports were regarding concerns for inappropriate care of the child and the child was removed from these foster homes following the assessment of the concerns. The other two reports were regarding the care of the child in his most recent foster home. None of these concerns were able to be substantiated and they were closed out after an initial assessment. Law enforcement has declined to pursue criminal charges against any of the perpetrators in these cases.

6. A 2-month-old male child died on February 10, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (Philadelphia DHS) indicated the case on June 16, 2016, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator. The child was taken to a pediatric hospital on February 10, 2016, but was already deceased upon his arrival at the hospital. The cause of death is currently unknown, but the autopsy found trace amounts of cocaine in his system. The child's mother was known to have a history of drug use as the child was born with marijuana, cocaine and amphetamines in his system. During the investigation it was determined that there were no signs of abuse or neglect, however; there was evidence of drug activity in the household. The home also had environmental issues resulting in the child being in an unsafe environment.

The mother stated that on the day of the incident she woke the child around 6:30 AM and gave him a bottle. Then at 8:30 AM, she gave him a bath, placed him in his bassinet, and went downstairs to wash out the bottles. The mother reported that the child did not exhibit any trouble breathing when he was placed in his bassinet, but when she returned fifteen minutes later to check on the child, she found him having difficulty breathing. The mother reported that she picked the child up and was screaming and shaking him. She called 911 and the operator walked her through the CPR process. When the emergency medical personnel arrived, the child was taken to the hospital where he was pronounced dead. There were no other children in the home at the time of the incident. The mother had two other children who died of undetermined causes. The family was not previously known to Philadelphia DHS. The Philadelphia police department's special victim's unit is

investigating this incident. The criminal investigation is still pending and no charges have been filed at this time.

7. A 4-year-old female child died on April 16, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. The Philadelphia Department of Human Services (Philadelphia DHS) founded the case on May 27, 2016, naming the child's father as the perpetrator after the juvenile court founded the physical abuse. On the morning of the incident, the child's mother left the home to go to the store, leaving the father to watch the child and her six siblings. The father walked into a room where the children were playing, removed his gun from the holster and started waving it around. The gun discharged, hitting the child in the head. The father contacted the mother to return home and when she arrived, informed her that there had been an accident. After finding the child to be slumped over on the bed, unresponsive, the mother contacted the police. The father changed his clothes and fled the home before the authorities arrived. Medical personnel pronounced the child dead at the scene at 2:25 PM. Later that day, the father turned himself in to the police and initially reported he left a gun out in the home, and that the child's sibling accidentally shot the child. The father later admitted to accidentally shooting the child and then altering the scene to make it appear that the child's sibling had shot the child. The child's father was arrested on April 17, 2016, and criminally charged with murder in the third degree, involuntary manslaughter, endangering the welfare of children, possession of an instrument of crime, recklessly endangering another person, tampering with physical evidence, and simple assault. He is incarcerated and is scheduled for a pre-trial conference hearing on December 1, 2016.

On April 17, 2016, Philadelphia DHS removed the child's siblings from the home and placed them in the home of the maternal grandparents who were granted temporary legal custody. The children continue to reside in the custody of their maternal grandparents. The victim child's family was previously known to Philadelphia DHS. Between 2006 and 2015, nine general protective reports were received. C concerns reported included: poor hygiene of children, lack of medical care, lack of food in home, and that the victim child was diagnosed with failure to thrive. Two child protective services reports were received for the family between 2012 and 2015. One report was indicated for the father's lack of supervision. The other report was unfounded and the records have been expunged.

Near Fatalities

Allegheny County

8. A 2-month-old female child nearly died on March 23, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families (Allegheny OCYF) indicated the case on April 22, 2016, naming the mother's former paramour as the perpetrator. The mother's former paramour requested the child be allowed to visit with him and his mother on March 22, 2016. The mother agreed to the overnight stay given her former paramour had been the child's caregiver previously. Around 3:30 AM on March 23, 2016, eye witnesses observed the former paramour erratically swinging the child's car seat as she lay inside. The child wore

only a onesie and was covered by a thin blanket. The eye witnesses attempted to intervene and the former paramour became combative resulting in physical injuries to them. The eye witnesses contacted 911 and the police arrived on the scene. The former paramour appeared to be under the influence even though he denied being intoxicated. He was not asked to provide any blood or urine samples. He denied ever swinging the car seat and reported he felt threatened by the eye witnesses. The former paramour was arrested and transported to jail. When emergency medical services arrived the child was located in the police vehicle where she was placed to warm up. Her lips and eyelids were blue in color and she was lethargic and unresponsive. The child was transported via ambulance to a pediatric hospital. The mother, who resided in Fayette County, was notified by the police of the incident and the mother went to the hospital to be with the child. Upon arrival at the hospital, it was determined that the child had sustained cerebral edema, intracranial and retinal hemorrhages. She was admitted to the hospital and the physicians reported she had "violent shaking injuries." While hospitalized, the child suffered multiple seizures, had to be placed on a ventilator, and developed blood clots in both legs.

On March 31, 2016, the mother relocated to Washington County. Washington County Children and Youth Services conducted a home visit to the mother's new residence to ensure the home would be appropriate for the child. The child was released from the hospital on April 7, 2016 to the mother's care. The family is receiving intensive in-home services to ensure follow-through with all medical appointments and early intervention services. The child is now doing well physically. The mother has a 4-year-old daughter who resides with her father in Fayette County full-time due to the child attending school in the area. The family has no prior children and youth involvement. The former paramour has been criminally charged with aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of children, false identification to law enforcement, simple assault-penetrate with hypodermic needle, and aggravated assault (victim less than 6, defendant 18 or older). He is awaiting trial.

9. An 18-month-old male child nearly died on April 3, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families (Allegheny OCYF) indicated the case on May 31, 2016, naming the child's babysitter as the perpetrator. On April 1, 2016, at approximately 9:00 PM, the child and his 7-year-old half-sibling were taken to the babysitter's home for the weekend. The babysitter reported that on April 2, 2016, at approximately 2:45 AM the child awoke screaming and clawing at his face. He climbed out of his pack-n-play onto the babysitter's bed. He jumped off the bed hitting his head on the television stand. The child appeared to be having a night terror. The babysitter explained she held his arms down and held him for about 40 minutes until he was soothed. The following day, he was clingy and did not wish to eat. The child presented as being tired, but continued to play with the other children. He took a nap around 3:00 PM and woke up around 5:45 PM. The babysitter picked up the child and was walking down the hallway when he began flailing, punching, screaming and kicking. The babysitter stated that she placed him in a seated position on the carpeted floor when he flung his head back slamming it off the floor. Immediately after this

incident the child's eyes were open, but he could not focus, he had labored breathing and was "lifeless".

The babysitter's husband contacted emergency medical services and the child was transported via ambulance to a pediatric hospital. The child was intubated and was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit. He had sustained subdural hemorrhages, brain edema, retinal hemorrhages and bruising to his face, head and left ear. The treating physician stated that the child's injuries were indicative of physical abuse and that the child's injuries could not have occurred as described by the perpetrator. The injuries were the result of a shaking injury and would have had to occur shortly before 911 was called. The child was discharged to his parents' care on April 8, 2016. The child was re-admitted to the hospital on May 16, 2016, after eye disc swelling was found during an eye examination. He underwent brain surgery to remove blood and place a permanent brain shunt to alleviate pressure.

The parents were previously known to the Allegheny OCYF due to allegations of inappropriate discipline. The case was closed during the investigation and was not accepted for services. The child's half-sibling is now residing with his biological mother. The child's parents have since separated and the father resides in Ohio and the mother resides with her parents as the child continues to follow-up with his ongoing medical appointments and early intervention services. The babysitter has three children of her own. Allegheny OCYF conducted a safety assessment for her children and determined that there were no concerns for their safety and services were not needed. The criminal investigation is ongoing.

10. A 3-month-old male child nearly died on March 15, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families (Allegheny OCYF) indicated the case on April 27, 2016, naming the child's mother and step-mother as the perpetrators. On March 15, 2016, the child was transported to a pediatric hospital due to a "change in his mental status". Upon arrival and examination at the hospital, the child was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit for further treatment and diagnostic testing. It was determined that the child sustained a right frontal bone fracture, three healing right side rib fractures, bilateral subdural hemorrhages, bilateral retinal hemorrhages, bilateral large pre-retinal hemorrhages and retinal folds. According to the treating physician, the head injuries would have been acute and the rib fractures were between seven to ten days old.

The step-mother provided two separate explanations of how the child potentially suffered the injuries. Initially, she stated when the child woke up in the morning she fed him a bottle and then took him for a two hour walk in his stroller. Once they returned to the residence, she fed and burped him. While sitting on the couch the child was pale in color and suddenly became stiff. His eyes rolled back in his head. She commented she attempted to wake him and patted him on his back. The step-mother mentioned she may have "blacked out" at this time due to being scared the child was choking. Two days later she provided another account of the events stating she was preparing food while she held the child in her arms when her knee gave out causing her and the child to fall into the refrigerator. She reported that the child hit his head off the top of a shelf during this fall. According

to the treating physician, neither of these explanations supports how the injuries were sustained. The birth mother was at school at the time that the head injuries would have occurred and could not provide any explanations for any of the injuries to the child. However, she could not be ruled out as a caregiver at the time the incident occurred causing the child's healing rib fractures.

On March 18, 2016, the step-mother was arrested and charged with aggravated assault of a child less than six years old and endangering the welfare of a child. She is still awaiting trial. On March 18, 2016, Allegheny OCYF obtained custody of the child. He was discharged on March 21, 2016, into the care of his maternal grandparents. The child has two half-siblings. The half-siblings were also placed with the maternal grandparents until May 24, 2016, when all three children were placed back into the care of their mother. The child is receiving early intervention services and is following-up with Ophthalmology and Neurosurgery appointments. The family had one prior involvement with Allegheny OCYF due to concerns for housing conditions and the step-mother throwing things at the children. This incident was closed out after an initial assessment period as there were no safety concerns for the children.

11. A 23-month-old female child nearly died on February 17, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families (Allegheny OCYF) indicated the case on April 14, 2016, naming an unknown individual as the perpetrator. The child was born with multiple congenital medical issues. She has a gastrostomy tube due to being born with a medical issue which causes swallowing difficulties. The child also suffers from a narrow airway resulting in the need for a tracheal tube and oxygen on occasion. The tracheal tube requires being flushed out several times a day by a "saline bullet." The child receives a total of 16 hours of in-home nursing care and early intervention services due to her multiple medical concerns.

On February 17, 2016, the mother reported the child appeared normal in the morning. A new in-home visiting nurse arrived to care for the child due to the usual nurse having the day off. The nurse who arrived had never cared for the child prior to this day. The mother provided the new in-home nurse with instructions on how to meet the child's needs then she left for work. The father left the home around 10:45 AM to attend an appointment leaving the nurse home alone with the child until he returned at 12:00 PM. When the mother arrived home from work hours later, both parents went to the grocery store and they returned home around 6:30 PM. When the parents arrived home, the mother noticed the child's mouth was extremely dry and she was pale in color. The mother flushed the child's tracheal tube with water from the filtration system. After feeding the child her dinner, the parents noticed the child had a mild tremor and appeared a little disoriented. The parents decided to transport her to a pediatric hospital. The child was admitted to the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit due to medical testing showing that she had an elevated sodium level. The physician reported the testing was consistent with a sudden ingestion of a large amount of salt equal to approximately one cup of salt. Due to the child's medical conditions, she could not have ingested the high levels of salt herself. The parents were unable to provide an explanation for the child's high

sodium levels, and the daytime in-home nurse was not cooperative in the investigation. The child was discharged on February 20, 2016, to her parents' care with the agency continuing to provide protective services. The family had no prior involvement with the child welfare system, nor do the parents have any other children. Law enforcement investigated the incident and closed their case. No charges were filed.

Beaver County

12. A 2-year-old male child nearly died on April 6, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Beaver County Children and Youth Services (Beaver CYS) indicated the case on April 27, 2016, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator. On September 13, 2016, Beaver CYS changed the case status to founded after the Beaver County court entered a finding of child abuse against the mother. On March 29, 2016, Beaver CYS received a general protective services report alleging concerns for the child's well-being due to the home being in deplorable condition and the family having a limited amount of food. In addition, it was suspected that the mother was using heroin and pain pills. The mother reported to others she had been in a car accident the previous evening and was feeling lightheaded and wanted someone to check-in on her the following day. Beaver CYS attempted to make four home visits with the last attempt being on April 4, 2016 to no avail.

On April 6, 2016, Beaver CYS received multiple reports alleging that the child had bruising to his face and was being locked in his room. The caseworker and a police officer went to the mother's residence and no one would answer the door. The landlord provided a key to the residence and the child was found to have bruises to both sides of his face, bruises to his neck and right leg, scratch marks to his cheek, and a burn mark to his right arm. The mother reported that the child had been projectile vomiting. The paternal grandmother transported the child to Heritage Valley Sewickley Hospital and the child was then transferred via ambulance to a pediatric hospital, and admitted to the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit after being diagnosed with a large, serious duodenal hematoma. According to the treating physician, the bruising was most likely due to the child's face being repeatedly grabbed, and the internal injuries would have occurred within 24 hours of the child being admitted to the hospital. The mother admitted to causing the bruising on the child's face. The child was placed into agency custody on April 8, 2016, and upon discharge from the hospital on April 20, 2016, the child was placed with the paternal grandparents. There were no other children residing in the home.

Beaver CYS had prior involvement with the mother and the child due to concerns for the mother using drugs and not caring for the child. On December 7, 2014, the child had been taken to the hospital on the advice of his primary care physician due to him having a cold and a small bruise in his ear. It was determined the child had a skull fracture and a torn frenulum in his mouth. The mother explained they had been in a car accident and the child fell from his car seat and landed on the floor of the vehicle. She also commented the child had fallen while his "binkie" was in his mouth causing the injury. Beaver CYS provided ongoing services to the family for six months after this report. The agency is currently providing supervised visitation

to the mother, parenting instruction and have requested the completion of a mental health and drug and alcohol evaluation for the mother and the father. The father does not have consistent and ongoing contact with the child. The law enforcement investigation is ongoing.

Bucks County

13. A 1-month-old female child nearly died on March 21, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services Agency (Bucks CYSSA) indicated the case on May 13, 2016, naming the child's mother and father as the perpetrators as they failed to access medical care for the child in an emergency situation which endangered the child's life. The parents are also named as the alleged perpetrators in the investigation of the physical abuse that led to the child being in serious condition. The case related to the physical injuries sustained by the child is currently assigned a status of pending criminal court due to an ongoing criminal investigation into the matter. On March 21, 2016, the child and her twin sister were allegedly brought to a neighbor's home to be babysat due to the parents and the child's older sibling all being ill. The neighbor reported that after a short period of time, the child began gurgling after being laid on the couch. The neighbor took the child over to another neighbor's house who expressed concerns that the child was turning blue. The neighbor returned to the family's home and told the mother to contact 911 or that she would make the call. The mother contacted 911 and reported that the child had gotten something stuck in her mouth. The mother said she had tried to retrieve the object and subsequently scratched the child's throat with her nails when she tried to remove the object from the child's mouth. The child was transported to a local hospital, where it was discovered that she had a posterior left rib fracture and a left femur fracture that appeared to be healing. The child was later transferred to a pediatric hospital. A magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) was taken of the child's cervical spine, which revealed that the child had ligamentous injury of the upper cervical and spine and some cerebral soft tissue swelling, suggesting that she was shaken. The child also had ecchymosis of the oral cavity, two labial tears, one perianal tear, and a wart or skin tag on her rectum. The parents provided no explanation for the injuries to the child.

The hospital also conducted a full evaluation on the child's twin and older sibling. The child's twin was also found to have injuries including a left femoral fracture and a buckle fracture of the tibia. The older sibling's skeletal survey showed that he had air in the back of his pharynx, which could be indicative of a blow to the chest or a hard fall. The injuries to the child's siblings are being investigated separately by Bucks CYSSA. The mother denied any drug use, but tested positive for methamphetamines on April 4, 2016. The father reported a long history of using methamphetamines and heroin.

On May 15, 2016, both parents were arrested and charged with aggravated assault, conspiracy-aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of children, and recklessly endangering another person. Both parents remain incarcerated and are awaiting trial. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for August 30, 2016.

Following the parents' arrest, the children were voluntarily placed in the custody of Bucks CYSSA. The child's siblings were formally placed with their paternal grandmother where they had been staying under a safety plan. The child remained in the hospital for two months, following the incident and was then placed with her siblings in the paternal grandmother's home. The child currently receives 20 hours per day of nursing care and must be fed through a gastrostomy tube. The family was not known to Bucks CYSSA prior to this incident.

14. A 9-month-old female child nearly died on February 13, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services Agency (Bucks CYSSA) indicated the case on April 6, 2016, naming the father's paramour as the perpetrator. On February 13, 2016, the child was brought to a local hospital by her father's paramour, who reported that she put the child down on the bed as she was going to tend to her 6-year-old and 3-year-old sons who had started fighting. As she exited the room, she heard a thud and turned around to see the child had fallen off the bed, which was about 21 inches off of the floor. The father's paramour stated that the child cried, but recovered quickly and seemed fine so she continued with her plans and took the children to the barber shop. She later noticed the child was very "loopy" and was drifting in and out. The father's paramour felt that the child needed to be seen at the hospital and contacted him to notify him of her concern. Surveillance footage shows that there was a delay in the child receiving medical care upon arrival at the hospital as the father's paramour parked her car in the parking lot rather than immediately taking the child into the emergency room. The child's father arrived at the hospital shortly after the child and his paramour.

Hospital staff performed CPR on the child and intubated her. She was then transferred to a pediatric hospital via helicopter. The child was treated for a subdural hemorrhage, a retinal hemorrhage in her right eye, an injury to the tissue in her brain caused by a lack of oxygen and blood circulation, and swelling to the soft tissue and ligaments of her neck. The child abuse physician stated that the child's injuries were consistent with inflicted trauma and were a result of acceleration and deceleration forces along with shaking and impact, such as with a serious car accident or a television falling on a child's head. During the investigation, conflicting accounts of what may have happened to the child were reported. A witness reported seeing the father's paramour holding the child under her arms, while sitting on the bed. The paramour was "flipping" the child and it looked like "she got hurt." This same witness also reported that the mother's paramour had provided a story to someone about what happened to the child that was different than what this person had witnessed.

Since the child's initial hospitalization, she has improved and is now breathing on her own and responding to light although she remains unable to track objects with her eyes or hold her head up on her own. In March 2016, the child was transferred to a specialized facility to begin rehabilitation and on April 27, 2016, she was returned to the care of her mother. She is currently receiving speech, physical, and occupational therapies.

On February 17, 2016, a safety plan was put in place for the father's paramour's two children. They are currently residing with their maternal grandfather and step-grandmother and are not permitted to have any unsupervised contact with their mother. The family was not known to Bucks CYSSA prior to this incident. On May 3, 2016, the father's paramour was arrested and charged with aggravated assault and endangering the welfare of the child. She was released on bail and is awaiting trial which is scheduled for September 26, 2016.

15. A 16-year-old female child nearly died on April 28, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services Agency (Bucks CYSSA) indicated the case on June 1, 2016, naming three residential facility staff members as the perpetrators. The incident occurred at the Foundations Behavioral Health Residential Facility (Foundations). On April 28, 2016, the child ingested numerous prescribed medications that were left unattended in the unit's medication room. The pharmacy had delivered the medications around 3:00 PM. The nurse noticed that the incorrect medication was delivered for another child, so he placed the medication, which was enough for one week, on the medication counter to be sent back to the pharmacy at the next delivery. The nurse left the unit around 5:00 PM to distribute medication to the other residential facility units. The incident was reviewed on the video and it was observed that the top half of the medication room door was left open throughout the day and that the nurse or medication technician was not always present in the medication room when the door was open.

At the time of the incident, the child was on the unit with three staff members: a medication technician and two residential advisors. The incident occurred during dinner time. The child was in the dining room and then left the dining room without informing the staff where she was going. The video showed that the child went into the common area and was walking around near the medication room. The child then went into the medication room and took several packs of medications that were left unattended on the medication counter. The child left the medication room, entered her bedroom, and closed the door. Later that evening, the child requested to speak to the campus coordinator. The child informed the campus coordinator that she had taken the medications from the medications room and ingested them.

The child was taken to a local hospital, where she was intubated and then transferred to a pediatric hospital. It was medically determined that the child overdosed on Latuda, Seroquel, Claritin and Depakote. On May 2, 2016, the child was medically cleared and placed in a psychiatric hospital. The child will not be returning to Foundations. The child's family was previously known to Delaware County Office of Children and Youth Services, who received several referrals on the family from November 2012 to January 2013 regarding concerns that the child was sexually abused and that the child had also abused her sister. None of these concerns were able to be substantiated and the family's cases were closed following the completion of the investigation.

In order to ensure the safety of all of the children at Foundations, changes were made at the facility including restructuring the door to the medication room so that the door is no longer structured like a barn door, changing the locks on the

medication room door as some of the locks were loose, keeping the medication locked at all times and locked in the medication room when not in use, and re-training all staff members on the safe administration of medication and how to properly secure medication. There is an ongoing criminal investigation regarding this matter. No charges have been filed at this time.

Clearfield County

16. A 2-year-old female child nearly died on May 10, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. Clearfield County Children, Youth and Family Services (Clearfield CYFS) indicated the case on June 9, 2016, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator. On May 10, 2016, the mother, the child and the child's 7-month-old brother took a nap around 12:45 PM. The mother awoke about an hour later and noticed the infant was in his bed, however; the child was not in the room. When the mother went downstairs to locate the child, she found the child had dilated pupils and was not as active as usual. The mother inquired if she had taken any medication due to her physical state. The mother remembered finding a Subutex pill a week prior and placing it into the box where she held her mail. The mother denied the pill belonged to her though she was drug tested and was positive for the substance. The child was standing near this box when the mother found her. The mother rushed the child to a local hospital where the child was administered Narcan. The child was then flown via medical helicopter to a pediatric hospital and admitted to the Intensive Care Unit. The child received additional dosages of Narcan while at the pediatric hospital. Through medical testing, it was determined the child had ingested Subutex. The child was discharged to her mother's care on May 11, 2016.

While the child was in the hospital, the child's half-sibling was cared for by his paternal grandfather. A safety plan was established stating the maternal grandmother would supervise the mother while she cared for the children. Both children remain in her care. The Clearfield CYFS is providing ongoing services for the family including family preservation services. The mother is receiving counseling and drug and alcohol services. In addition, the mother is receiving in-home parenting instruction while the children participate in Early Head Start. The mother was previously known to Clearfield CYFS due to concerns she was using Suboxone and Percocet and was not taking the half-sibling to his medical appointments. The family was referred to Early Head Start at the conclusion of the investigation. The mother has been charged with child endangerment and recklessly endangering another person. She is currently out on bail and is awaiting trial.

Dauphin County

17. A 4-month-old female child nearly died on March 24, 2016, due to physical abuse and serious physical neglect. On April 27, 2016, Dauphin County Social Services for Children and Youth (Dauphin SSCY) indicated the child's father and mother as perpetrators of the abuse. The child was taken to a local hospital on March 24, 2016, because she had stopped eating two days prior. The child weighed almost eight pounds and had lost a pound in the past week. She had been seizing

and needed to be intubated. She was diagnosed with dehydration and failure to thrive. Her eyes were drifting to the left and not tracking, she had no head control, and her head appeared large. Both parents stated the child was doing fine until two days prior, when she stopped eating. It was confirmed during the investigation that the parents were taking the child to her appointments scheduled. The last appointment was on March 8, 2016; the notes indicated that the child was dehydrated, had poor head control and the doctor suggested that the parents increase feeding to help her gain weight. On March 24, 2016, a chest x-ray and computerized tomography scan of her head were completed. The child had the following injuries: twenty-nine healed or healing rib fractures, a well healed collarbone fracture, a well healed tibia fracture, a compression fracture of the spine, several areas of blood inside and outside of her brain, blood in her neck and spine, and at least four skull fractures.

The child is still in the hospital in outpatient rehabilitation and is being fed through a nasogastric tube and has to be in a cervical collar for at least the next three months. The criminal investigation is ongoing at this time as neither parent has admitted to harming the child, although they are the only two people who were responsible for her care. Both parents feel that her injuries could be due to a fall from the couch, which took place four or five days prior to the referral being received. The parents also feel that they could have been caused by the father's seven-year-old daughter (who resides with her mother and visits sporadically). Both of these scenarios however would not explain the child's injuries.

Both parents have since stopped cooperating with the agency and law enforcement and are refusing to provide any statements or further explanation. There are no other children in the home and the family was not previously known to Dauphin SSCY. The court order issued on April 18, 2016, prohibits both parents from having any contact with child. She is currently in the custody of Dauphin SSCY, and will remain in outpatient rehabilitation at Hershey Medical Center. A foster home has been identified and visitation has begun with the foster mother. The criminal investigation is still ongoing at this time.

Franklin County

18. On March 11, 2016, a 2-year-old female child nearly died as a result of physical abuse. Franklin County Children and Youth Services (Franklin CYS) indicated the case on May 9, 2016, naming the mother as a perpetrator for failure to act and the mother's paramour as a perpetrator for the physical abuse. On March 11, 2016, the paramour reported that he was the primary caregiver for the child while the mother was at work. He stated that at approximately 5:30 AM he heard the child fall down the steps and heard her crying. The paramour stated when he reached the child she told him she was thirsty and wanted a drink of water. He asked the child if she had fallen down the stairs and she said "yes." The paramour then got the child a drink and noted that she appeared drowsy. The child then started to have a seizure so the paramour called 911. Emergency medical services transported the child to a local hospital. The medical evaluation determined that the child had a subdural hematoma, lacerations of her liver and spleen, and a fractured left hip/pelvis bone.

Due to the severity and number of injuries the child sustained, concern was expressed by the physician that physical abuse may have occurred. The child was then transported by helicopter to a pediatric hospital's trauma unit. It was determined that the child had suffered prior injuries over a period of time including healed fractures of the bones in each foot, a healing fracture of the pelvis, and internal injuries to the liver, pancreas and spleen. The pediatrician stated the subdural hematoma and retinal hemorrhaging were caused during a separate and more recent event. The mother reported that she was the sole primary caregiver of the child over the course of time that the child suffered the prior injuries. The hospital's Child Protection Team Pediatrician reported that the child's injuries could not be explained by a fall down the stairs and the agency's investigation determined that the mother's paramour caused the injuries to the child.

On March 28, 2016, the agency was granted emergency custody of the child and she was discharged from the hospital, and placed in foster care where she remains. The child has supervised visitation with her mother and older siblings. The child's two older siblings who were also residing in the home at the time of the incident initially resided with their maternal grandmother as the result of a safety plan developed by Franklin CYS with the mother. The older siblings were interviewed and examined and made no disclosures of child abuse or neglect and were found to have no injuries. They have since been returned to the mother's care following the mother's completion of court ordered services. The mother's paramour left the home upon initiation of the investigation and has had no contact with any of the children. The mother and her children are continuing to receive services from Franklin CYS. Franklin CYS conducted two prior general protective services investigations on the family. The first was in November 2015 and the second in February 2016. One report alleged concerns for inappropriate discipline and the second noted concerns for injuries to the child's face and ears with an unknown cause. Neither investigation found any physical harm or injuries to the children and were closed after an initial assessment period. The criminal investigation is ongoing at this time and to date no criminal charges have been filed.

Fulton County

19. A 5-month-old male child nearly died on February 11, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Fulton County Services for Children (Fulton SC) indicated the case on April 1, 2016, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator. The child was brought to the War Memorial Hospital in West Virginia on February 11, 2016 by his mother and grandmother. The family reported having concerns for dehydration after the grandmother had found the child to be cold, pale, and unresponsive. The child was transferred to a local hospital where he was diagnosed with intracranial bleeds and several hematomas. He was then transferred to another local hospital's Intensive Care Unit where it was determined that the child had fractures in both of his arms and retinal hemorrhages. All injuries were believed to be non-accidental and to have occurred when the child was in the sole care of his mother. The mother could not provide any explanation for the injuries. She stated that she blacks out and does not remember doing anything to the child, but acknowledges that she is the only one who could have caused the injuries. A witness reported seeing the

mother holding the child under his arms while the child was crying and noted that it appeared as though the mother had just shaken the child. Witnesses also reported seeing the mother aggressively pick the child up out of the swing by his arms, and placing the child into water to revive him after he experienced seizure-like activity rather than seeking medical care. The child was discharged from the hospital to his father. The child is experiencing some medical deficits from the abuse but has continued to improve. There were no other children in the family. The child remains with his father, who now resides in Franklin County. Fulton SC assured that the child received an early intervention assessment and made a referral to Franklin County Children and Youth Services to monitor the father and the child's follow up medical care. The family was not previously known to Fulton SC. The case remains under criminal investigation. No charges have yet been filed.

Greene County

20. A 3-year-old female child nearly died on April 14, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. Greene County Children and Youth Services (Greene CYS) indicated the case on May 20, 2016, naming the child's father as the perpetrator. The child had been sick on the evening of April 13, 2016 and the father had given her a dose of liquid Tylenol. The morning of April 14, 2016, the child woke up at 8:00 AM and went into the bathroom and ingested a bottle of liquid Tylenol and a bottle of liquid Motrin while the father and his paramour were still asleep. Around 8:30 AM, the father heard the child getting a drink from the refrigerator. The father then entered the bathroom and found the empty bottles of medicine. The father explained these bottles were almost full the prior evening. It took the father until 9:00 AM to get the child to admit she had ingested the two liquids. The father stated he went to take his daughter to the hospital but his vehicle would not start. Given the child seemed fine to the father, he spent the next four hours fixing his vehicle. There was no cell phone coverage and a house phone had not yet been installed, so he was unable to call for assistance. The father stated he and his paramour continued to check on the child throughout the morning. Once the father was able to start his vehicle, he drove the child to his parent's home. The father stated he then contacted the local hospital who advised him to use his judgment in determining if the child needed to be seen medically. The paramour's father was contacted and he advised them to transport the child to the hospital. The father took the child to a local hospital's emergency room around 6:00 PM.

Treating physicians evaluated and observed the child until she was transported via ambulance to a pediatric hospital for further treatment. The child has a medical condition which impacts her liver capacity, which was not reported to the emergency room staff by the father. As being aware of the child's medical condition was critical to her overall care, this information was reported to the medical staff by Greene CYS. The treating physician reported taking too much Tylenol could damage the liver, so the child was admitted to receive a treatment to reverse the effects of the Tylenol. The child was discharged from the hospital on April 15, 2016, and Greene CYS took emergency custody of the child and placed her in the care of her maternal great-grandparents. At the dependency hearing ten days later, the child was returned to her father's care after the father made some safety repairs in his

home. The family is following up with routine medical care. No additional services are being rendered. The family was known to the agency due to the child testing positive for opiates at birth, and then for a second time due to parental substance abuse. The child had been in foster care from November 2013 through August 2015 when she was returned to her father's care. The police investigation has been closed.

Lancaster County

21. A 12-year-old male child nearly died on April 20, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. Lancaster County Children and Youth Agency (Lancaster CYA) indicated the case on June 17, 2016, naming the child's mother and father as the perpetrators. The child was taken to a local hospital on April 20, 2016, by his parents after they had initially taken him to his primary care physician, who informed the parents that they needed to take the child to the hospital due to the severity of his condition. It was initially reported by the parents that the child was experiencing severe respiratory issues for two days prior to arrival at the hospital. The parents seemed reluctant to take the child to the hospital, but did comply after being informed that a required call would be placed to child protective services if they did not. The child was transferred to a pediatric hospital that same day for further evaluation and testing. The child has a history of genetic issues which impact the functioning of the child's immune system, the majority of which were unknown to both hospitals upon admission. Initially, medical staff did not appear to have concern or question the parents' care of the child as it would not be uncommon to wait a couple days to see if the child's condition improves prior to seeking medical treatment. However, during further information gathering and follow up with the family, medical staff began to piece together a concerning pattern as this was not the child's first admission at the hospital. Medical personnel began to sense the parents were not disclosing the entire history or background of the child's medical needs. A treating doctor contacted The Clinic for Special Children (Clinic) regarding possible outpatient treatment and follow-up. The hospital was informed by the Clinic that the child had been a patient with them for years and the child was prescribed a medication for an immune deficiency. The parents were not providing the child the medication as required which was making him extremely vulnerable to infectious diseases. The child's lack of medication for his medical condition has a direct correlation with why he continues to become ill and present with diagnoses such as pneumonia and bacterial infections.

Lancaster CYA completed safety assessments on the child's four siblings and had no concerns for their safety while in the care of their parents. The child also remains in the care of his parents. Lancaster CYA has opened the family for ongoing general protective services. The major area of focus is to monitor and assist the family to ensure the child is receiving appropriate medical care and follow-up based on his medical condition. Lancaster CYA has verified through regular contact and ongoing collaboration that the child has been attending all appointments and receiving his required medication. The family was not previously known to Lancaster CYA. Both parents have been charged with endangering the welfare of a child and have been

provided the opportunity to participate in Lancaster County's Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition program which is offered to first time offenders.

Lehigh County

22. A 3-month-old male child nearly died on February 14, 2016, due to physical abuse. Lehigh County Children and Youth Services (Lehigh CYS) indicated the report on April 14, 2016, naming the child's father as the perpetrator. On February 14, 2016, the father was the only adult with the child at the time of the incident. Upon returning home from work, the child's mother found the father asleep with the child on the couch. The mother reported that when she woke up the child around 9:00 AM she noticed his head looked abnormally shaped. When the mother touched the child's head, the child screamed and became inconsolable. The child was taken to a local hospital where he was admitted to the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. The initial medical reports indicated the child's neurologic tone and strength to be normal and no retinal hemorrhages were noted. On this same date, a second physical examination revealed tenderness and swelling to both right and left scalps, and minor facial abrasions. The child's head computerized tomography scan and 3D reconstruction revealed a fracture of the right and left parietal bone with a depressed fragment, and subdural hemorrhages. The child's fracture pattern correlates to significant application of force, either by a direct contact injury or from rotational cranial acceleration/deceleration and then subsequent impact. The physician noted that the child's symptoms would have occurred immediately and would have likely included crying, irritability, and a change in mental status. The child's mother reported no issues were relayed from the paternal great-grandparents who were caring for the child the previous night. The child's mother reported that she reached out to the father who initially stated nothing had happened to the child while the child was in his care, but later called the mother back stating he might have bumped the child's head against an end table. The father submitted to a drug test and tested positive for barbiturates, cocaine, heroin metabolite, opiates, and tetrahydrocannabinol.

The child had a 21-month-old male sibling who also resided in the home. On February 16, 2016, the child's mother entered into a safety plan with Lehigh CYS agreeing that the child and his sibling would have no contact with their father until the investigation was completed. The child was discharged from the hospital to his mother's care on February 18, 2016. The mother and father were offered in-home services in their respective homes. Based on the mother following through with assuring the safety of the child, her relocating to a home away from the father and her ongoing follow through with services, the safety plan was lifted on March 8, 2016. The family was not known to the county agency prior to this incident. The case is under criminal investigation.

Luzerne County

23. A 3-year-old female child nearly died on March 9, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. Luzerne County Children and Youth Services (Luzerne CYS) indicated two reports on April 11, 2016, naming the child's mother as the

perpetrator. The original referral regarding this incident solely listed the child's mother as the alleged perpetrator; therefore, Luzerne CYC made a second referral on April 23, 2016, adding the child's father as a perpetrator. This report was indicated on May 9, 2016. The child suffered a right parietal skull fracture and abrasions to her right forehead, abdomen and hip as a result of falling six feet out of a window onto a concrete sidewalk. The child was flown to a local hospital. The investigation concluded that the parents both observed the child near the window, yet neither one of them took action to remove the child. The child was discharged from the hospital on March 10, 2016. There were four other siblings in the home who were taken into protective custody, along with the victim child. All of the children were placed together in a foster home. The parents were referred for mental health services and parenting education. Following the incident, the family relocated to Northumberland County and the Court jurisdiction was transferred to Northumberland County. The family was previously known to Luzerne CYC due to a referral being received on April 2015 relating to concerns for truancy, inadequate shelter and drug abuse. The referral was assessed and closed at intake. No charges have been filed in this case.

Lycoming County

24. A 3-week-old male child nearly died on May 13, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. On June 17, 2016, Lycoming County Children and Youth Services (Lycoming CYC) indicated the case naming the mother as the perpetrator. On May 13, 2016, the child was taken to a local hospital by the child's mother and maternal grandmother to be treated for a head injury. The child had a skull fracture, a scalp hematoma, and bruises on the right side of his body, head, and temple. That same day, the child was transferred to a specialized hospital for treatment. There was concern that the child had also lost almost one and a half pounds since his birth. While at the hospital, the mother was falling asleep while holding the baby and appeared to be under the influence as she was slurring her words and not making eye contact. The mother has a history of heroin and prescription drug abuse. When asked about the injuries to the child, the mother reported that the child was sleeping on a chaise lounge, his 4-year-old sibling was sleeping on the couch, and the mother had also fallen asleep. She awoke when she heard the child crying and found the 4-year-old sibling standing near the child, who was on the floor. The mother asked the sibling what happened and he stated the baby rolled over, but later said he picked the child up and tried to put him in his pack n-play but dropped him. Safe sleep practices had been discussed with mother prior to the incident, as the case was open with Lycoming CYC for ongoing general protective services on May 4, 2016. She had indicated that she was aware of the importance of safe sleep practices. On May 15, 2016, the child was discharged from the hospital to his mother with a safety plan in place that his maternal grandmother and maternal aunt would supervise the mother's contact with the child.

In addition to the child and the 4-year-old male sibling, the mother has two older children. Lycoming CYC completed a safety assessment and determined that the children were not safe in the home due to drug abuse, lack of supervision and parenting concerns. A safety plan was put in place where the maternal

grandmother and aunt agreed to supervise contact between the mother and the children. On the day after the safety plan was put in place, Lycoming CYS found the mother unsupervised with the child and the 4-year-old sibling. At that time, Lycoming CYS was granted emergency custody of all four children. On May 16, 2016, the child and his 4-year-old sibling were placed with their biological father. The 9-year-old sibling and the 6-year-old sibling were placed with the 9-year-old's paternal grandmother. Lycoming CYS located the 6-year-old's father in the state of Indiana and made a referral to the Indiana Department of Child Services for a home study of his home, which was determined to be appropriate. On May 26, 2016, the 6-year-old sibling went to live with her father in the state of Indiana. Lycoming CYS currently has an ongoing general protective services case with the mother. The mother has agreed to accept Family Group Decision Making, parenting/outreach services, drug and alcohol treatment, and counseling services. She has supervised visitation with the three children residing in Lycoming County.

The family was previously known to Lycoming CYS. Three general protective services referrals were received from May 2009 through November 2011. The referrals were for concerns related to poor parenting skills, inappropriate supervision, drug and alcohol abuse, and the child making inappropriate sexual comments. All three referrals were closed out after an initial assessment without any further services being offered to the family. Lycoming CYS provided ongoing general protective services to the family from February 2012 through August 2013 in order to address concerns for drug abuse and the mother driving under the influence with the children in the car. A referral regarding truancy concerns was closed out after an initial assessment in April 2014. In May 2016, concerns were received for drug abuse, poor parenting skills, and unsafe home conditions. During this assessment, the child was born drug affected. The family was receiving ongoing general protective services from Lycoming CYS at the time of the child's near death. Law enforcement completed a criminal investigation and determined the incident to be accidental. No charges were filed.

Montgomery County

25. A 4-month-old female nearly died on April 25, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth (Montgomery OCY) indicated the case on June 1, 2016, naming the child's mother and father as the perpetrators. The mother stated that she and the father were in an altercation while she was holding the infant. The mother asserted the child's injuries were a result of the child being hit in the head by a cell phone. The father reported that while arguing with the mother he threw his cell phone and it accidentally hit the child in the head. The child was taken by her mother to a local hospital and subsequently transferred to a more specialized hospital. The child was examined by the child abuse pediatrician who determined that the injuries sustained were consistent with violent shaking. As a result, the child suffered a severe brain injury including a concussion and severe hemorrhaging. The account provided by the child's parents was inconsistent with the injuries sustained. The child was placed in foster care where she is receiving supportive services. The child's sibling, who also resided in the home at the time of the incident, was placed with the children's maternal

grandmother by the family court. The family was not previously known to Montgomery OCY. The criminal investigation is ongoing and no charges have been filed at this time.

Schuylkill County

26. A 19-month-old male child nearly died on April 19, 2016, due to serious physical neglect. Schuylkill County Children and Youth Services (Schuylkill CYS) indicated the case on June 16, 2016, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator. The mother failed to provide the child with proper nutrition resulting in the child's weight decreasing and sodium levels indicating dehydration. The mother failed to replace the child's nasogastric feeding tube when the child removed it and admitted to feeding the child strictly via mouth resulting in the child's weight decreasing and sodium levels indicating dehydration. Medical records for the child indicated that he was previously diagnosed with a seizure disorder and Sturge-Weber Syndrome. The family previously lived in New Jersey where he was treated for the disorder.. The child had two procedures, one in December 2015 and the other in January 2016. The child was discharged from the hospital on March 24, 2016, with a plan to receive 12 hours of nursing in the home. At that time, the mother, the child and the child's 4-year-old sibling resided with the maternal grandmother, who had medical power of attorney for the child due to the intellectual limitations of the mother. Also according to medical records, the child was to move to Pennsylvania with the mother following a gastrostomy and follow-up appointments with the neurosurgeon; however the mother moved to Pennsylvania prior to that occurring.

The child was hospitalized until May 12, 2016, at which time he was discharged to foster care. There was no previous history for this family with Schuylkill CYS. However, the family was known to the New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS). In October 2015, a report was received with concerns of unsafe home conditions and inadequate supervision of the sibling. The concerns were unable to be substantiated and the referral was closed. In February 2016, a referral was received regarding truancy concerns for the child's sibling, but the sibling was not of mandatory school age so DYFS did not respond to this referral. At this time, the mother retains custody of the 4-year-old sibling as all of the sibling's needs appeared to be met. The child remains in a medical foster home and the family has been referred for services which include a psychological evaluation for the mother, early intervention services for the sibling and parenting education for the mother and her paramour. There is no pending criminal investigation.

Union County

27. A 3-month-old female child nearly died on February 17, 2016 as a result of physical abuse. Union County Children and Youth Services (Union CYS) indicated the case on April 12, 2016, naming the mother's former paramour as the perpetrator. The mother's former paramour was the sole caretaker for the child when the injuries would have occurred. On the evening of February 16, 2016, the mother left the child in the care of her former paramour. The next evening, the former paramour contacted the mother to report that the child was crying and had

a lump on her head. The mother instructed him to take the child to the hospital, where she would meet them. The child was taken to a local hospital, where a computerized tomography scan revealed the child to have a skull fracture and intracranial hemorrhage. At this time, the child was flown to a specialized hospital where she was admitted to the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. A medical examination revealed the child sustained a leg fracture, two bruises to the left arm, bilateral skull fractures, and intracranial hemorrhages. A witness, who was out with the former paramour and the child from 11:30 AM until 6:30 PM that evening, confirmed that the child was healthy and happy during the day on February 17. The mother's paramour denied causing the injuries and did not have knowledge as to how the injuries occurred. He also denied that the child had any accidents that day. During the investigation, a witness who was present in the home at the time of the incident told investigators that the former paramour and child were alone in his bedroom when she heard the child scream and cry. The witness reported that a few minutes later the mother's former paramour came out of the bedroom and showed the witness that the child's head was swollen.

According to the physician's report, he believes the history provided does not explain the injuries and the injuries are a result of significant trauma.

The child had two half-siblings who resided with the mother and child at their home in Lycoming County. Lycoming County Children and Youth Services (Lycoming CYS) assessed the safety of the child's half-siblings and determined that there were no concerns for their safety with the mother. The child was discharged from the hospital on February 19, 2016, into the care of her mother. The mother obtained a Protection from Abuse order against her former paramour who had no further contact with the child. The family was previously known to Lycoming CYS. A report was received in January 2016 due to concerns that one of the child's half-siblings had received first and second degree burns. Lycoming CYS investigated and determined that the injuries were caused during an accident in the kitchen and closed the family's case in March 2016. The criminal investigation is still on going and no charges have been filed at this time.

Westmoreland County

28. A 4-month-old female child nearly died on June 1, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Westmoreland County Children's Bureau (Westmoreland CB) indicated the case on June 23, 2016, naming the child's paternal uncle as the perpetrator. Around 8:00 AM on June 1, 2016, the paternal grandmother woke up the paternal uncle requesting he watch the child while she ran to the grocery store to pick-up additional formula. Prior to the paternal grandmother leaving the residence, she placed the child into the baby swing in the living room. After she left, the paternal uncle reported he increased the height of the swing two inches, so he could lie on the couch and push the child with his foot. He initially reported he fell asleep, but when he woke up he found the child lying on the carpeted floor crying. He ran to the neighbor's apartment and she called emergency medical services (EMS) when she saw a visible lump on the child's head. The paternal uncle called the paternal grandmother who returned to the residence as the EMS arrived. EMS observed the

child and explained to the paternal grandmother that she could transport the child to a pediatric hospital herself, which the paternal grandmother opted to do. Upon examination, it was determined the child had sustained a large right parietal skull fracture, soft tissue swelling, four bruises on her right cheek and eye lid, and left ear bruising which appeared to the treating physician to be the result of a pinch. The child was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit. The treating physician indicated the child's injuries were the result of three distinct points of impact, and the injuries would not have been caused by the child falling out of a baby swing. The paternal uncle later changed his account of events and stated that when the paternal grandmother left the residence the child became fussy and he carried her upstairs to get her a diaper and fell on the stairs resulting in the child hitting her head. The treating physician stated this account of events does not explain all of the child's injuries either.

The child was discharged on June 2, 2016, and was returned to the care of her paternal grandmother, who had custody of the child prior to the incident. Given the paternal uncle was being investigated as an alleged perpetrator and there was a prior order from the family court stating that the child was not to be left alone with the paternal uncle due to him previously testing positive for marijuana, the paternal grandmother moved in with the paternal great grandfather to ensure the child's safety. The paternal grandmother is taking the child to all of her follow-up medical appointments. The Westmoreland CB closed the family's case with no services being rendered. The paternal grandmother and paternal uncle were both charged with endangering the welfare of a child and are awaiting a hearing. The family was previously known to the Westmoreland CB prior to this incident due to a report being made that the child's parents were abusing substances. The case was closed due to the paternal grandmother having custody of the child.

York County

29. A 2-year-old male child nearly died on March 6, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. York County Office of Children, Youth and Families (York OCYF) founded the case on April 28, 2016, naming the child's minor paternal uncle as the perpetrator. On March 6, 2016, the child was brought to a local hospital with unexplained vomiting and respiratory problems. When the child's diaper was being changed, the hospital noticed bruising on his stomach and back. After medical testing, it was determined the child had elevated enzyme levels and liquid around the liver. This was considered to be a serious condition due to the possibility of a liver laceration. The child was transferred to a specialized hospital for further tests and monitoring. The child's uncle has been residing with the family for about three months at the time of the incident. The mother reported that on March 6, when she returned home from work, she noticed that the child seemed warm so she dressed the child in a t-shirt and diaper only. She cooked and cleaned while the paternal uncle and child played. The child then went to bed around 7:55 PM. The mother reported that she left the home to pick up her daughter, go to the grocery store and then to visit her niece. The paternal uncle was left to care for the child in her absence. Around 9:00 PM, while at the niece's house, the mother received a call from the child's father, who had recently returned home from work, indicating that the child was

having difficulty breathing. Through medical consultation it was determined that the child's injuries would have been created by trauma to the abdomen. In an interview with the paternal uncle, he admitted to hitting, punching, shaking and pushing the child. The uncle was then placed in a residential shelter care facility pending criminal charges. After the child was discharged from the hospital he had follow up appointments scheduled at Hershey Medical Center. The child was seen at those appointments, and then was sent for outpatient follow up with his primary care physician. He does not have any ongoing medical issues. The child did not have any siblings in the home. York OCYF closed the case on April 20, 2016. The family had not been known to York OCYF prior to the incident. The child is residing at home with his mother and father. The uncle was subsequently charged and pled guilty to endangering the welfare of a child and simple assault. He was released to the care of his parents in New York, with probation oversight. He has no access to the child.