

Allegheny County

1- 2. A 3-year-old male and his 6-year-old brother died on April 1, 2014, as a result of physical abuse by their mother. Both cases were substantiated by Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families on April 30, 2014. The father was not present at the time of incident. On the morning of the incident, the mother put an older sibling on the school bus and then placed the 3-year-old and 6-year-old in a bathtub full of water and attempted to drown both children. The mother then contacted the maternal grandfather, who came to the home and discovered the children unresponsive and contacted 911. The children were taken to the hospital where the 3-year-old was pronounced dead upon admission. The 6-year-old was placed on life support and died later the same day. The mother confessed to drowning the children. She was arrested and charged with criminal homicide, aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of children, and recklessly endangering another person. She was arrested and charged with Criminal Attempt Homicide, Aggravated Assault, Endangering the Welfare of Children and Recklessly Endangering Another Person and has been admitted to a mental health facility for competency assessment and is currently receiving treatment. The older sibling is home in his father's care and is receiving community-based counseling services. This family was known to Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families in the past. In April 2013 the agency received a report that the mother had backed her vehicle over the children while they were playing in the driveway. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families did a safety check on the children and determined the incident to be an accident. Medical professionals also determined the injuries to be accidental and the case was not opened for services.

Fulton County

3. A 3-month-old male child died on June 17, 2014, due to injuries sustained from physical abuse. Fulton County Services for Children substantiated the case in August 2014 naming the child's father as the perpetrator. The child was transported to the hospital after the father claimed to have found the child lying on his belly in his crib. The father was the only caregiver for the child during the time that the child would have sustained the injuries. The child was examined and diagnosed with multi-layer retinal hemorrhaging and subdural hematomas that the doctor stated were non-accidental in nature. Both parents were interviewed by police the night the child was taken to the hospital. Neither parent was able to provide an explanation for the child's injuries. The criminal investigation is on-going at this time. The child's 18-month-old older brother was initially placed with the paternal grandparents after the incident. He has since returned home to his mother and father. Fulton County Services for Children opened the family for services and has completed multiple announced and unannounced visits to the home to monitor the safety of the victim child's sibling. The family is currently receiving on-going case management. The parents are attending a program for parenting support and instruction and the brother is attending Head Start. The family was known to Fulton County Services for Children. In November 2013 the agency received a report alleging the older sibling had head injuries that were caused by the mother. The agency completed an assessment of the family and closed the case after it

2014 2nd Quarter Fatalities/Near Fatalities 2
April 1 – June 30 2014

was determined the older sibling did not have any injuries. The mother was pregnant with the victim child at the time of this incident.

Monroe County

4. A 4-year-old female child died on May 6, 2014, as a result of medical neglect. Monroe County Children and Youth Services substantiated the case in June 2014 naming the child's babysitter as the perpetrator. The babysitter called 911 because the child was unresponsive. EMS arrived at 9:30 am and found the child already deceased. The child had resided with the babysitter from the time she was 3 weeks old through an informal arrangement made with the child's mother. The mother had stopped by to see her child the day before her death at which time the babysitter requested she take the child to the doctor. The child had been sick with a cough and a fever for several days. However, the mother declined to take the child to the doctor. When questioned, the babysitter claimed to have obtained several doses of amoxicillin from a neighbor on May 4, 2014 and gave the child three doses that day, and one dose on May 5, 2014. An autopsy determined that the child had strep throat, laryngitis, and tonsillitis at the time of her death while toxicology revealed that a lethal amount of Oxycodone was the cause of death. Three grandchildren also living with the perpetrator have been removed from the home and placed in kinship care with the mother of one of the half-siblings. The perpetrator remains in her home, is unable to have contact with the children at this time, and is receiving drug and alcohol treatment. The family was not known to the county agency prior to this incident. The case is under criminal investigation and a grand jury has been convened.

Philadelphia County

5. On Apr. 5, 2014, an 11-year-old female child died after she was accidentally shot by her sibling. The child died of a gunshot wound at her home. On April 28, 2014, the Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the mother as the perpetrator of the fatal act due to a lack of supervision. The mother failed to adequately secure the weapon resulting in the death of the child. She is currently incarcerated and charged with involuntary manslaughter, endangering the welfare of children, possession of an instrument of a crime, simple assault, and recklessly endangering another person. The family has a history of involvement with Philadelphia Department of Human Services. The mother was also identified as a perpetrator of abuse in 2009. The child has four siblings. One sibling was placed with his father and two other siblings were placed in the care of a maternal aunt. A fourth sibling remained in placement at a residential facility due to an unrelated delinquency matter. Dependency petitions were filed on all of the children. The mother has a criminal history for assault, terroristic threats and retail theft.

6. A 2-year-old female child died on April 3, 2014, after ingesting methadone she found in her home. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS) indicated the case in May 2014 and named the victim child's biological mother as a perpetrator of physical abuse and the maternal grandmother as a perpetrator for lack of supervision. At the time of the incident both the mother and victim child were living at the maternal grandmother's home. On the night the child died the grandmother went to check on her

and found her to be unresponsive. The maternal grandmother called emergency services immediately. The child was pronounced dead at the scene by the EMT. The child was transferred to the medical examiner that evening where tests eventually revealed the child had methadone in her blood. The medical examiner also noticed signs of physical injuries on the child. The victim child had an older sibling who was supposed to be living with the biological father at the time, but was at the victim child's residence at the time of the incident. The older sibling was removed from the home and placed in foster care while paternal relatives are in the process of seeking custody. The victim child's family was known to DHS from two previous General Protective Services referrals which did not warrant any services. The Special Victim's Unit of the Philadelphia Police Department is currently investigating this case for possible criminal charges.

Somerset County

7. A 1-year-old female child died on Aug. 5, 2011, due to injuries sustained from physical abuse. Somerset County Children & Youth Services founded the case in June 2014 as a result of the criminal convictions of both the mother and her paramour. On the day of the incident emergency services was called to the mother's home in the early morning hours of August 5, 2011. The child had been found unresponsive and was declared dead at the scene. Her body was taken directly to the coroner's office for examination. An autopsy revealed the cause of death to be asphyxiation due to compression of the mouth and neck. The child also sustained blunt force trauma to her head and a fractured right radius and right ulna. She had multiple bruises and lacerations on her body. During the investigation, very little information was provided by the mother or her paramour regarding the circumstances of the child's death. At the time of the incidents the agency provided a case status of pending criminal court due to the ongoing criminal investigation into the child's death. On April 17, 2012 the mother plead guilty to one count of recklessly endangering another person. She was sentenced to time served. The judge followed the aggravated range guidelines for sentencing as he felt the mother had failed to provide care and protection of the child. At the time of her release, the mother did not have any other children. Her whereabouts are currently unknown. On Feb. 11, 2014, the mother's paramour entered an Alford plea for the charge of voluntary manslaughter. This plea means that he maintains his innocence but admits that there was enough evidence against him to likely prove he was responsible for the death of the child. He was sentenced to four to 12 years in a state correctional facility. The mother and child were not previously known to the county. However her paramour was known to the county in 2010 for physically abusing his former paramour's son. As a result of pending criminal charges for that incident, the paramour was being monitored by county probation. Somerset County Children and Youth received a second report while the paramour was residing with his then paramour and their newborn son. This referral was closed in July 2011 after the agency determined there were no safety threats. Probation was still monitoring the case at that time and had no concern about the living situation as long as he was being supervised around his child. It is believed that the paramour started to reside with this victim child and her mother sometime in July of 2011.

Near Fatalities

Berks County

1. A 6-year-old female child nearly died on May 6, 2014, as result of medical neglect. Berks County Children & Youth Services substantiated the report in May 2014 and identified the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. The mother stated that the victim child was having difficulty breathing so she drove her to St. Joseph's hospital. The child was examined and transported to Lehigh Valley Hospital where she was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). The physician who treated the child upon her arrival at Lehigh Valley Hospital noted she had also examined this child when she had been admitted in July 2013. At that time the child was diagnosed with asthma exasperation. The child was discharged from the hospital with maintenance medication and her mother was instructed to follow up with the child's primary care physician and a pulmonologist within one week. The mother failed to follow the discharge instructions. As a result the child was without the medication required to control her asthma. When the child was admitted to the ICU in May 2014 initial testing showed her oxygen levels were dangerously low. The doctor stated that if left untreated much longer the child could have died. A plan was put into place which included Children and Youth Services assuring the child would be seen by her primary care physician as well as a pulmonologist within one week of discharge, and that she would have the required medications. The child was discharged from the hospital to the mother's care in May 2014. No criminal charges are pending.

Cambria County

2. A 6-month-old female child nearly died on Feb. 9, 2014, after sustaining burns to approximately 20 percent of her body. Cambria County Children & Youth Services substantiated the case in May 2014 naming the father as the perpetrator of physical abuse. On the day of the incident, the father had been caring for the child at the paternal uncle's home. He took the child to the hospital on the evening of Feb. 9, 2014, and initially told the hospital the child had a diaper rash and that he had placed her in the tub to give her a bath. The father also stated that the child started to scream and cry and when he removed the child from the tub he could see her skin was bubbling and peeling. The medical team noted the child had blistering on her legs, thighs, buttocks, and vaginal area and was transferred to a burn center. Upon examination at the burn center, the child was also noted to have scratches on her face and under both ears, bruising on her shoulders, bruising inside her right ear, and a contusion to her nose. After several weeks of treatment, the child was discharged from the burn center to a rehabilitation facility on March 7, 2014. She was later discharged from the rehabilitation facility to the care of her mother on March 27, 2014. Both mother and father agreed to a safety plan that would not allow the father to have contact with the child. On April 9, 2014, the father was arrested and charged with felony aggravated assault and misdemeanor endangering the welfare of a child. The father confessed to law enforcement that he intentionally submerged the child in water that he knew was too hot and would harm her. He stated that he was angry and frustrated and "just snapped."

The victim child has two older, maternal half-brothers with whom the victim's father does not have access to or contact with. The victim child's father stated that he has an older son that he does not have involvement with. The family first became known to the agency in October 2011 due to allegations that the mother was using drugs and the family had inadequate shelter. The mother admitted to using drugs and alcohol while the children were in the care of others. Cambria County Children and Youth Services closed this case in December 2011 after it was determined that no safety threats were present. Another referral was received the day after the victim child's birth alleging concerns for drug and alcohol use by caregivers and concerns for the wellbeing of the victim child. Again, no safety threats were identified and it was determined that the children were receiving appropriate care. The case was closed on Sept. 27, 2013. After this most recent incident, the family was accepted for services with a focus on parenting skills and the victim child's on-going medical needs. The child is receiving in-home nursing care, occupational therapy, physical therapy, early intervention services, and follow-up medical checks at the burn center. Since being arrested, the father was released from prison after posting bail. As a provision of his bail, he is not allowed contact with the victim child. He is currently awaiting trial.

Crawford County

3. A 2-year-old male child nearly died on April 4, 2014, after he was accidentally shot in the face by his 4-year-old brother. Crawford County Children & Youth Services investigated the incident and named both biological parents as perpetrators of abuse due to a lack of supervision. On the day of the incident the mother stated that her 4-year-old son woke her from a nap to tell her that his brother was shot and needed help. Emergency services arrived at the home and transported the child via ambulance to a local hospital. The emergency room physician stated the child had several facial fractures, subdural hematomas, and had bone fragments and shrapnel from the bullet lodged in his right temporal lobe. The victim child was flown to Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh for emergency brain surgery that evening. He is expected to survive but will have permanent brain damage and impairment. When the mother was interviewed by police she stated that her husband keeps his gun in a living room dresser drawer when he's not working and that their children knew it was there. The father stated that he usually takes his gun with him to work but was running late this morning and forgot. He also stated he was worried about the gun while at work but did not call home to let the mother know the gun was in the house. Several days after the incident, the caseworker and supervisor visited the home to conduct an interview where they discovered one of the children, a 1-year-old, was locked in her room. When questioned, the parents stated they lock the children in their bedrooms when the parents are sleeping because it is the only way to prevent them from getting into things. The caseworker discussed safety concerns about locking the children in their rooms to both parents. The two siblings in the household were removed after the visit and temporarily placed with the paternal grandmother and aunt. The family was known to Crawford County Human Services from a referral in 2012 for the older child due to concerns he was acting out inappropriately for his age. The family was referred for counseling at that time and the case was closed. This case is currently under investigation by the Meadville Barracks of the Pennsylvania State Police.

Dauphin County

4. A 3-month-old female child nearly died on May 22, 2014, due to injuries from physical abuse. Dauphin County Social Services for Children & Youth substantiated the report in July 2014 naming the father as the perpetrator. On the date of incident, the child's grandmother brought her to the hospital after noticing that the child's eyes were deviating to the right. Upon examination hospital staff noticed that child had multiple small abrasions and bruises. In addition to her eyes deviating to the right side, she also demonstrated inappropriate arm grasp. In addition, the child appeared to be seizing. A CT scan showed an infarct (lack of blood flow) and a subdural hematoma to the head. In addition, she had multiple bilateral rib fractures and multiple rib fractures in various stages of healing. The child is now in kinship care with her maternal great aunt and the parents are allowed supervised visits. Multiple medical specialists are providing follow up care. A neurosurgeon is continuously observing the fluid retention around her brain, a neurologist is monitoring seizure activity and the diminished functioning on her left side, and an ophthalmologist and vitreoretinal specialist are treating her retinal hemorrhages. She will continue treatment with a pediatric audiologist for damage to her hearing the extent of which is still unknown. The child's long term prognosis is unknown and continually evaluated. The child was in the care of her father the night before her admission to the hospital. When questioned about the injuries, the father reported that in the last two days he had almost dropped the child multiple times, but denied causing the injuries to the child. The father has a history of criminal charges. The Steelton police continue to investigate this incident. There are no other children in the home. The family was not known to Dauphin County Social Services for Children and Youth prior to this incident.

Delaware County

5. A 1-month-old male child nearly died on April 9, 2014, due to head injuries caused by physical abuse. Delaware County Children & Youth Services substantiated the report in June 2014 naming both parents as perpetrators. On the date of incident, the parents took the child to the hospital because the child was having seizures and "not acting right." Initially, the parents did not offer an explanation for the child's condition, but later the father stated that he had dropped the child onto the kitchen floor several days earlier and the child had rolled off the sofa onto the floor approximately a month before. The child was examined and diagnosed with extensive intracranial hemorrhaging, edema of the corpus callosum, frontal and parietal cystic encephalomalacia, extensive bilateral intraocular hemorrhaging, a left subconjunctival hemorrhage, and bilateral subdural hematomas. The child was discharged from the hospital on April 23, 2014, to a medical foster home. The child is now on a feeding tube. Medical professionals determined that the extent of the child's injuries was caused by non-accidental trauma. The parents have been granted bi-weekly visitation with the child, which is supervised by Delaware County Children and Youth Services. The case is still pending criminal investigation by Delaware County Police Department. The father has a history with Delaware County Children and Youth Services with a child from a previous relationship. In July 2010 a 2-month-old half-sibling sustained multiple traumatic injuries due to physical abuse. Delaware County Children and Youth Services substantiated both parents as

perpetrators of physical abuse in September 2010. The father was criminally charged with simple assault, aggravated assault and endangering the welfare of a child and was incarcerated after the 2010 incident. The half-sibling is now in the full custody of his biological mother.

Erie County

6. A 1-year-old female child nearly died on May 14, 2014, due to alcohol poisoning. The Erie County Office of Children & Youth indicated the report in May 2014 listing the mother and her friend as perpetrators of physical abuse. The mother and her friend took the child to the hospital due to the child's altered mental state. The hospital did blood work and the medical team reported the child's blood alcohol was .289 and labeled the child in critical condition and near death. Medical professionals stated that the child would not have been able to consume the amount of alcohol needed to raise the blood alcohol to this level on her own. The child was stabilized and flown to Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh for further treatment. The mother works from 1 pm to 1 am and it is common practice for the regular babysitter to bring the child home sometime after the mother returns from work. However, in the early morning hours prior to the incident, the regular babysitter dropped the child off to a friend of the mothers at the mother's insistence. This friend was known to use drugs and alcohol. When questioned at the hospital, the mother gave multiple stories about the child's condition, first reporting that the child fell and hit her head, and later stating that she accidentally made the child's bottle with a water bottle full of vodka. During questioning the mother's friend excused himself to the restroom and fled the hospital. Medical personnel stated he smelled of alcohol at the hospital. The mother admitted that she and her friend had been using marijuana prior to taking the child to the emergency room. The child was released from the hospital May 15, 2014, into the care of a foster family where she remains. The child's biological father was incarcerated at the time of the incident, but has since been released from prison. His whereabouts are currently unknown. The Erie County Office of Children and Youth is working on arranging a kinship placement for the child. In the meantime, the case has been opened for ongoing services. The child is receiving early intervention services and the mother has been referred to mental health services, drug and alcohol treatment, and parenting skills education. It is unclear at this time if the child will suffer lasting impairment from the incident. The family has no prior history with the Erie County Office of Children and Youth. Erie County police charged the mother with endangering the welfare of a child, providing alcohol to a minor, and recklessly endangering another person. The babysitter has not been charged at this time.

7. On June 30, 2014, a 3-year-old male child nearly died as a result of non-accidental, serious physical injuries. The child's mother and her paramour have been identified as perpetrators of child abuse. At approximately 9:00 am the child was transported via ambulance to the emergency room. He was unresponsive upon arrival and remained unresponsive in the emergency room. Medical examination revealed a large subdural bleed and skull fracture. In addition, the child had several areas of bruising and abrasions on his back, buttocks, left lower abdomen, left side of his neck and behind the right ear. He was flown to the Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh (CHOP) where he was immediately admitted for emergency surgery. The child was found that morning on the

floor having seizures. The mother stated that when she arrived home from work at 11:00 am the previous day the child was vomiting and not feeling well. She also stated that she thought the child was sick because he gets hungry and gets into the garbage sometimes. She put the child down for a nap at noon and when he awoke at 7:00 pm he ate something and went back to sleep for the night. The mother said the bruises weren't there the day before and when questioned the mother's paramour admitted he was home at with the child but denied witnessing or causing the child's injuries. The child was transferred from CHOP to a rehabilitation center and was released on Oct. 5, 2014, and is now residing in a kinship care foster home with his maternal great aunt and uncle. The victim child's half-sibling, who is 5 years old, is now living with his maternal grandmother. A criminal investigation is ongoing.

Mercer County

8. A 7-year-old male child, a few days shy of his 8th birthday, nearly died in June 2014 due to medical neglect. Mercer County Children & Youth Services substantiated the report in July 2014 naming the mother, her paramour, maternal grandmother and maternal step-grandfather as perpetrators of child abuse. Mercer County Children and Youth Services received an initial report on June 6, 2014, that the child looked like a walking skeleton. The agency immediately conducted an unannounced visit to the child's home. After seeing the child the caseworker asked the mother to immediately take him to a local hospital and drove them both to the emergency room. Medical personnel described him as looking like a Holocaust victim. The child was transported to the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh via ambulance. He weighed 25 pounds at admittance; the normal range for a child his age is between 45 and 55 pounds. The mother claimed the child had a metabolic condition which caused his failure to thrive but that was found to be untrue. The child gained five pounds in the week he spent in the hospital. The physician who treated the child at the hospital stated that if the child had not received care, he would have died within two weeks. The child suffered serious bodily injury as a result of the starvation. He was discharged from the hospital on June 13, 2014, into a foster home. The child's three siblings, ages 4, 9, and 11 are together in a different foster home and are receiving counseling services. The mother, who is incarcerated, gave birth to a baby girl on Sept. 20, 2014. The baby has been placed in the same foster home as the victim child. This family was known to the county agency prior to this incident. Mercer County Children and Youth Services received a report regarding the victim child in March 2007 for failure to thrive, but the allegation could not be substantiated and the family was not accepted for services. Mercer County Children and Youth Services provided in-home services to this family from February 2008 to February 2009 due to poor home conditions and parenting. Additional reports were received in May 2012, October 2012, and December 2012 regarding verbal abuse, the child's failure to gain weight, and that the child was being locked in a room with a dog and only being fed hot sauce. Due to a lack of evidence, none of these assessments were accepted for services. The Greenville Police are still investigating this incident. Note: this summary was updated on August 13, 2014.

Montgomery County

9. A 1-month-old male child nearly died on May 30, 2014, due to physical abuse. Montgomery County Office of Children & Youth substantiated the report in June 2014 naming the father as the perpetrator. On the date of incident, the father allegedly dropped the child on the arm of the couch while feeding him. The child went limp and unresponsive. The father called 911 and performed CPR on the child until the ambulance arrived. The child was found to have three large subdural brain hemorrhages, bilateral retinal hemorrhaging, bruises to the face and head, and an injury to the cervical area of the spine. The father was teary-eyed at the hospital and repeatedly said "it's my fault" when told about the injuries. Medical professionals stated that the child's injuries are typically caused by a shaking or a slamming action. On June 3, 2014, the child had an MRI which revealed an old brain injury. The father has admitted to vigorously shaking the child. The child was in foster care for three days and then returned to the mother's care on June 6, 2014. The child will require follow-up medical care with multiple specialists. The father is no longer living in the home. The father is allowed visitation with the child, supervised by Montgomery County Children and Youth Services. There are no other children in the home. Law enforcement has interviewed all parties but no charges have been filed.

Philadelphia County

10. A 2-year-old male child nearly died on June 3, 2014, after swallowing medication he found at his maternal grandmother's home. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS) substantiated the case in June 2014 and named the maternal grandmother a perpetrator of child abuse due to neglect. The child was in the care of his maternal grandmother when the incident took place. He found medication prescribed to the maternal grandmother in an unsecured bottle and swallowed approximately 20 pills while his grandmother was sleeping. Emergency paramedics were called and the child was taken to the hospital via ambulance. Upon arrival the child was given a drug to reverse the effects of the medication he ingested and was then transferred to St. Christopher's Hospital for further observation and treatment. While interviewing the child's mother at the hospital it was discovered that in addition to the child's 4-year-old sibling, a maternal cousin also lived in the household. The parents of the maternal cousin were incarcerated. In order to ensure safe housing, the cousin was placed in a foster care home. A safety plan for the victim child and his sibling was put into place and signed by the mother. The plan for the victim child and his sibling required the mother to obtain appropriate housing for both children. She then registered with the Office of Supportive Housing for assistance. She must also ensure the child's sibling receives a medical evaluation, and allow the victim child to remain in the hospital until discharged. Several days after admittance the victim child was discharged from the hospital into a foster care home due to the unresolved unsafe family housing situation. DHS obtained temporary custody of the victim child and his sibling prior to the victim child's discharge from the hospital. Both children were placed in foster care, but due to capacity issues they could not be placed together. The biological mother has supervised visitation with both children while she attempts to locate appropriate housing. The family was known to

DHS prior to this incident for reports of neglect for which they received services. The police have concluded their investigation and no criminal charges will be filed.

11. On April 23, 2014, a 2-year-old male child nearly died as a result of physical abuse. The child suffered abdominal trauma, splenic artery transection and pancreatic transection requiring emergency surgery. The Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS) indicated the mother's paramour as the perpetrator of abuse on May 19, 2014. The mother's paramour took the child to a playground where he reported the child had fallen off a jungle gym. The child became unresponsive after returning home and was transported to a hospital where a medical team determined that child's injuries were the result of child abuse. He was released from the hospital into kinship care with a maternal cousin. The mother's paramour was arrested, charged with attempted murder, aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of children, simple assault and recklessly endangering another person and is currently incarcerated. DHS has a history of involvement with the mother and child. The child has two siblings who were living in the home at the time of the incident. One sibling moved into his father's home and the other sibling moved into the same kinship care home as the victim child. The mother has supervised visits with the children.

12. A 3-year-old female child nearly died on June 28, 2014, as a result of non-accidental, serious physical injury. The Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS) indicated the report in July 2014 named the father as a perpetrator. The mother, maternal grandmother and paternal grandmother were named as perpetrators by omission. The child resides with her maternal grandmother but on the day of the incident was in her father's care who also resides in the home. The paternal grandmother stated that when she attempted to wake the child on June 28, 2014, she wasn't acting like her normal self so took her to the hospital emergency room where she was examined and immediately transferred to the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) for treatment. Upon further examination, it was determined that the child had five liver lacerations, liver failure, acute kidney failure, a right posterior rib fracture, free fluid around the liver and air in her chest and lungs. The doctor stated that these appear to be older injuries. After weeks of treatment, the child was released from the hospital into a medical foster care home. She is continuing to receive treatment from CHOP for nephrology, GI and trauma. DHS has arranged for hearing tests due to a delay in the child's language and arranged for Early Intervention services. The four other children living in the father's home have been interviewed by DHS and determined to be safe with a plan. The father has been arrested as a result of the incident and charged with attempted murder, aggravated assault, unlawful restraint of a minor, false imprisonment of a minor, endangering the welfare of children, simple assault and recklessly endangering another person. He is currently incarcerated. The police investigation is ongoing.

13. A 1-month-old female child nearly died on April 22, 2014, as a result of neglect. The Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS) indicated both parents as perpetrators. The parents brought the child to the emergency room due to the child having a watery stool, vomiting and a weight loss of two pounds since birth. The initial admission diagnosis was hypercalcemia and dehydration which contributed to the

child's failure to thrive. A medical care team and a DHS worker met on April 24, 2014, at which time a physician deemed the child's medical condition to be a near-fatality as a result of malnutrition. The child has two siblings living in the home, a male, 9 years old, and a female, 6 years old. The child has been discharged from the hospital to her parents. A safety plan has been implemented in the home and the child is progressing remarkably well. A family friend has moved into the home to supervise the parents to ensure the proper care of the child and that the parents participate in parenting classes. The family was not known to the agency prior to this incident. No criminal charges will be filed in this case.

Washington County

14. A 10-month-old male child nearly died on May 5, 2014, due to head injuries sustained during a fall. Washington County Children & Youth Services (WCCYS) substantiated the report in July 2014 naming a household member caretaker as the perpetrator of child abuse due to a lack of supervision. On the morning of the incident, the father took the oldest sibling to school and asked the household member caretaker, who is the maternal grandmother of the victim child's half sibling, to watch the victim child and his older half-brother. The child's mother was upstairs sleeping when the father left. All of the other relatives, who lived in the home, had already left for the day. The caretaker left the children unsupervised in the living room for approximately two minutes to take the garbage out through the sliding glass doors. While she was outside, she heard a thud and then the child crying. The child apparently climbed a flight of stairs and then fell from an unsecured ledge. The caretaker allegedly found the child lying on the floor and noticed that he was not using his right arm. The child appeared to be sleepy. The caretaker woke up the mother and told her to call 911. The child was transported to the hospital via ambulance and then flown to another hospital for treatment. It was determined that the child had a frontal skull fracture, a parietal fracture, a left mastoid bone fracture, and subdural and epidermal bleeding. The child has two half-siblings who are now living with their biological mother in a different residence. The caretaker tested positive for marijuana and moved out of the home after the incident. She is being charged with endangering the welfare of a child by the Washington County Police. The child was discharged from the hospital on May 10, 2014, and is expected to make a full recovery. WCCYS allowed the child to return to the family home on May 11, 2014, after visiting the home to ensure that home was safe and that a railing was installed at the ledge where the child had fallen. WCCYS arranged for drug and alcohol treatment and parenting skills training for the parents, which they successfully completed. The family was not known to the agency prior to this incident.
Note: This summary was updated on August 14, 2015.

Westmoreland County

15. A 9-month-old female child nearly died on June 22, 2014, as the result of a near drowning. Westmoreland County Children's Bureau (WCCB) indicated the report and named the father as a perpetrator of child abuse due to serious physical neglect and a lack of supervision. The father reported that on the day of the incident he was home with the four children and placed the victim child in the bathtub because she had soiled

her diaper. He left the bathroom to get a towel and said that he drained the tub and only an inch or two of water remained. He stated he pulled two towels from the dryer, placed a load of dirty laundry into the washer, checked on a pizza he was preparing and heard water running but thought it was the washer. As he approached the bathroom he realized the sound of running water was from the bathtub where he found the child face down and unresponsive. The father began CPR for five minutes and was able to revive the child before the EMT arrived. The child was transported to the emergency room and admitted to the Intensive Care Unit in critical condition. WCCB prepared a safety plan which the parents refused to sign stating the near drowning of their daughter was an accident. WCCB conducted a Due Process Hearing in order to provide for the safety of all the children in the household. As a result of the Hearing the father may not have unsupervised contact with the victim child and her 3-year-old sister. He is permitted unsupervised contact with the two boys, 5 and 7 years old. As a result of the investigation by the Pennsylvania State Police the father was charged with endangering welfare of children and reckless endangering another person. Both parents have been charged with four counts of felony endangerment of children and the father is also charged with misdemeanor reckless endangerment of children. Neither parent is currently incarcerated. A hearing is scheduled for January 13, 2015.

16. A four-month-old male child nearly died on March 26, 2014, due to severe injuries sustained by physical abuse. Westmoreland County Children's Bureau (WCCB) investigated the report and in May 2014 indicated the child's father as the perpetrator. The child was brought by ambulance to the emergency room where he was assessed and found to be in critical condition. Doctors stated that the child had subdural bleeding on both sides of his brain and that he needed to have neurosurgery immediately to drain the blood and relieve pressure on his brain. The child also had bruising all over his shoulders and legs and hemorrhages to both eyes which was indicative of severe non-accidental physical trauma. Doctors noted that the child was in extreme pain when brought into the hospital. After his surgery doctors stated that due to the injuries sustained the child is unlikely to develop normally and will most likely have lifelong impairment. Currently the child must be fed through a tube. The father was the only adult present when the injuries occurred and he stated he had no idea how the child was injured. Doctors at the hospital stated that routine care of an infant could not have caused the injuries and that the only explanation is severe non-accidental physical trauma. There are two other children in the home who were examined and found to be in good health. During their forensic interview both of the children expressed fear of the father and stated that he has hit them in the past and that he is mean to the infant and their mother. The mother was able to verify that she was at work during incident and the agency determined the children to be safe with their mother as long as the father was not present. There was a safety plan put in place that the father was to have no unsupervised visits with the children. The child was released from the hospital into the mother's care after she demonstrated that she was able to meet the child's medical needs. Shortly after being released from the hospital the mother and three children all moved back to their home state of Kentucky where their family and support system is located. WCCB closed the case and made a referral to Kentucky social services for the family. The perpetrator was arrested and charged with three counts of aggravated

2014 2nd Quarter Fatalities/Near Fatalities 13
April 1 – June 30 2014

assault and two counts of endangering the welfare of a child. He has pled not guilty to the charges and a jury trial is expected to begin in July 2015.

Note: This summary was added June 16, 2015.

York County

17. On May 7, 2014, a 3-month-old male child nearly died as a result of non-accidental injuries. The father of the child was indicated as the perpetrator on July 3, 2014. The child was taken to the hospital emergency room by the father, unresponsive and in cardiac arrest. Prior to arriving at the hospital, the child was at home alone with the father. The father reported that the child had been sick for a few days. He also stated that he and the child were sleeping and when the child woke up, he fed the child and changed the child's diaper. The father reported that the child then began having difficulty breathing and he performed cardio pulmonary resuscitation on the child. The father took the child next door to the child's maternal grandmother's home and from there proceeded to the hospital. Once at the hospital, a CT scan was completed on the child which revealed subdural hemorrhages, severe brain injury affecting most of the brain and bleeding in the retina. The child was transported to another hospital where the initial exam showed a contusion on his forehead and petechiae in his left eye lid. A CT Scan showed a brain bleed which appeared to be acute, as well as the presence of old blood. Medical personnel suspected non-accidental trauma. No criminal charges are currently pending against the father. The child was adjudicated dependent on June 23, 2014, and was transferred to a specialty care agency on June 26, 2014. A medical team determined that child has severe, permanent brain damage and will require twenty-four hour care for the remainder of his life. The child's family is permitted supervised visitation. The mother has an extensive history of involvement with York County Office of Children Youth & Families. The family has been accepted for ongoing services. A law enforcement investigation is ongoing.