

Fatalities:

Beaver County

1. A two-month old female child died on July 26, 2012 due to physical injuries she received. Beaver County Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in August 2012 and named the father as the perpetrator. On July 24, 2012 emergency responders were contacted by the father due to the child turning blue and not breathing properly. The father provided a timeline that indicated he waited approximately an hour and a half to call 911. Father states that he attempted to revive child and provide the child cardiopulmonary resuscitation on his own prior to calling the mother who then told father to call 911. The child was transported to the hospital in cardiac arrest. The child was diagnosed as having a subdural hematoma and retinal hemorrhages. The cause of child's death is listed as blunt force trauma. The father admitted to police that he shook the child on four different occasions. The shakings were hard enough that the child's chin would hit the child's chest. He has been charged with four counts each of aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of children and recklessly endangering another person. He has also been charged with one count of criminal homicide. He is currently incarcerated and awaiting trial. The father self-reported he has mental health issues for which he is prescribed medication. The father stated he does not take the medication because it makes him tired. The father is also a substantiated perpetrator of physical abuse in 2010. The father bit his now former paramour's child on the leg because the child had bit him on the leg. The mother stated that she only knew a little bit about the previous report but did not know details about the incident. The mother and child were not known to the county agency prior to the incident.

Cambria County

2. A one-year old female child died on Aug. 11, 2012 due to physical injuries. Cambria County Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in October 2012 and named the mother's paramour as the perpetrator. Emergency services were called to the home on Aug. 10, 2012 due to the child being unconscious. The mother's paramour was the only caretaker home with the child at the time of the incident. The child was diagnosed with severe subdural hematomas, retinal hemorrhages in both eyes with detached retinas, and bruising to her body. The cause of the child's death was determined to be from blunt force trauma to the head. The mother's paramour provided several different explanations for the child's injuries. The mother acknowledged that she had seen bruising to the child's abdomen but had attributed the injuries to falls. There is no information from either CYS or the police that mother failed to protect her child. The mother's paramour has been arrested and charged with criminal homicide, aggravated assault, simple assault, and endangering the welfare of children. He is currently incarcerated awaiting trial. The family was not known to the county agency prior to this incident.

Lackawanna County

3. A seven-month old male child died on Aug. 3, 2012. Lackawanna Children and Youth Services substantiated the case in Sept. 2012 and named the father as a perpetrator of physical neglect. The father admitted to watching the child while the

mother was at work and that he fell asleep with the child by his side. When he woke up he noticed the child had labored breathing and knew something was wrong. The father admitted to placing the child in a play pen and delaying calling emergency services. The mother contacted emergency services upon returning home, approximately two hours later. The father admitted to using marijuana the night prior to the incident and the father's drug screen came back positive for high levels of Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). Lackawanna County Children and Youth Services investigation determined that all of father's actions caused a "substantial and unjustified risk" that resulted in the child's death. The father was incarcerated after the incident on unrelated charges. Law enforcement is investigating the case and is awaiting the results of the child's autopsy prior to formally charging the father. The child's two-year old brother is residing with the mother. They have moved to a family member's home. The mother has agreed to not allow the father any access to the brother. The mother and the sibling were provided grief counseling. The mother is also seeking counseling from a private provider.

Lancaster County

4. A one-year old female child died on April 4, 2011 as a result of physical abuse. Lancaster County Children and Youth Services (CYS) substantiated the report in Sept. 2012 naming the father as the perpetrator. Lancaster County CYC received a report regarding the child's death in April 2012; however, the report was not investigated as a fatality because her death was believed to have been accidental at the time. After a yearlong police investigation, the father confessed to causing the child's death. The father reported that the child would not stop crying and fussing and he "just wanted it to stop". The father admitted that he laid on top of the child and suffocated her. The father said that he felt that if the child was out of the way, his relationship with her mother would improve. Prior to his confession the father had been incarcerated in the county prison on theft charges. He remains incarcerated on the additional charge of criminal homicide. The mother has two older children, ages 5 years and 3 years, who are not the biological children of the perpetrator. The county agency first became involved with the family in May 2009, due to concerns about the residence the older children's father was living in. Unrelated children had been removed from that residence. The county agency asked that the older children visit with their father outside of his residence and the case was then screened out. Another referral was received on the family in Oct. 2010 regarding concerns that the mother was pregnant with the victim child, was missing prenatal appointments, and had a history of drug and alcohol use. The county agency received confirmation from the hospital that the mother would be drug tested when she delivered and that they would contact the county agency after the mother gave birth. The case was then screened out. A third referral was received just prior to the victim child's birth. The referral mentioned concerns about the crowded living environment. At the time of the referral the mother, the victim child's father, and the two older children were residing with the maternal grandmother and the maternal grandmother's paramour. Also residing in the home at the time of the referral was the father's 12 year old son. This referral was screened out after the county agency determined that the oldest daughter's school had no concerns about the children. The family was active with the county agency at the time of the death. A referral had been received by the agency at the end of Jan. 2011 regarding some

injuries to the victim child's sternum and hemorrhaging to the child's eye. The agency visited with the child and did not see any visible injuries to the child. There were, however, safety concerns with the family regarding domestic violence between the mother and the father, so the decision was made for the family to be opened for services. The mother requested in-home services to help her live on her own and care for the child. The family service plan was in the process of being developed when the child passed away. Services are still being provided to the family due to mother's use of drugs and a lack of a stable home environment. The safety plan is that the two older children are residing with the maternal grandmother and have no unsupervised contact with the mother.

Philadelphia County

5. A seven-year old male child died on June 30, 2012 due to drowning. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS) substantiated the report in Aug. 2012 for lack of supervision, naming the daycare owner and a daycare worker as perpetrators. The child and twenty other children were taken to a residential pool to go swimming. The owner of the home was present, but did not interact with the children. Although there were originally four staff members present, the daycare owner and one of the workers left the residence to go to a casino. The children who were interviewed during the investigation stated that there were approximately fifteen children in the pool with one staff member supervising. The other staff member stayed indoors with the younger children. The daycare workers stated that the child had become upset and left the pool to go sit on the porch; however, the children interviewed during the investigation stated that they last saw the child going down the slide into the deep end of the pool. The children reported telling the staff member that they thought the child was at the bottom of the pool. The child was discovered missing at 3:00 p.m. The staff called the owner and they returned to the residence and began looking for the child. There are conflicting reports about whether staff went into the pool to look for the child. The child was found after midnight, at the bottom of the pool, which was described as filthy. The mother reported that she never signed a permission slip for the child to go swimming. During the investigation, it was found that the daycare owner opened this daycare using a false identity. Both the daycare owner and the other staff were substantiated as perpetrators on this case had criminal offenses that would prohibit them from being licensed to work with children. The daycare owner had two separate daycare programs, both of which are now closed. The case has been assigned to the Philadelphia Police Department's Homicide Unit and criminal charges are pending.

Near Fatalities

Allegheny County

1. A one-year old male child nearly died on July 18, 2012 as a result of physical injuries. Allegheny County Department of Human Services substantiated the mother and her paramour as perpetrators of physical abuse. At the time of the incident, the mother and the child were residing in the home of the maternal grandmother, the maternal grandmother's paramour, and the mother's three younger siblings. The mother had to leave the home to go to the store. She contacted her paramour to come

to the home to watch the child as no one else in the home was able to do so. The mother returned to the home approximately an hour later and found out that the child had vomited and was unresponsive. The paramour had told the mother that the child had tripped and fallen over a fan. The mother contacted paramedics who transported the child to the hospital. The child was diagnosed with having a depressed skull fracture, multiple bruises to his face, chest, back, and buttocks, and lacerations to his liver, spleen, and kidneys. The physician determined that the injuries were not consistent with the explanation provided and that the injuries were non-accidental in nature. The injuries were acute in nature and happened within a short time frame prior to the child going to the hospital. As neither the mother nor her paramour was able to provide an explanation for the injuries the child sustained, both of them were substantiated for physical abuse. The mother and her paramour have been charged with aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of children, and reckless endangerment. The mother is currently incarcerated and is awaiting a pre-trial conference. The mother's paramour, who was 17 years old at the time of incident, has been charged as a juvenile. At the time of the incident, the child's father was actively using marijuana. The child was placed into foster care while the father completed drug and alcohol treatment. The child was returned to the father's care in Sept. 2012 where he remains at this time. The county agency closed their case with the father at the beginning of Dec. 2012. The father and child continue to receive community services.

Bucks County

2. A one-year old male child nearly drowned on June 1, 2012. The Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services Agency substantiated the report in July 2012, naming the 19 year old maternal aunt, the maternal aunt's 19 year old paramour, and the maternal grandmother as perpetrators for lack of supervision. The aunt's paramour found the child submerged in a backyard pond at the maternal grandmother's home. On the date of incident, the mother had left the home and left the maternal grandmother in charge of the children. Maternal grandmother went shopping and left the victim and his three siblings home with the maternal aunt, the maternal aunt's paramour, their 10 month old son, a 17 year old maternal aunt, and that aunt's 18 year old paramour, and their one year old child. The 19 year old maternal aunt's paramour has a recent criminal history for endangering the welfare of his own child. Despite knowing this, the maternal grandmother left the child victim in his care. The maternal aunt's paramour stated that he had gone to the bathroom and all of the children were in the home at that time. When he got out of the bathroom, the child was missing from the home. One explanation given for the victim getting out of the house was that the victim's 5 year old brother had unlocked the back door. At the time of the incident, the agency had been providing services to the 19-year old aunt, her paramour, and their 10 month old son, in the maternal grandmother's home, for eight months. This was due to a domestic violence incident that resulted in the aunt's paramour being charged with endangering the welfare of a child. The agency was not aware that the victim's mother, the victim, his three siblings, the 17 year old maternal aunt, her 18 year old paramour, and their one year old son were also living in the maternal grandmother's home. Subsequent to the incident, the victim and his siblings were informally placed in the care of the maternal great grandparents. The mother now resides with the maternal great

grandparents and the family is receiving intensive family based services and early intervention services. The mother will be participating in Job Corps training as well. The perpetrators' 10 month old son was informally placed with a maternal great aunt and uncle. This child has been returned to the care of his parents and the Judge stated the agency could close the case with this family as long as they were agreeable to services. The 17 year old aunt's child was voluntarily placed at Christ's Home for Children. The 17 year old aunt has also been accepted for services as a child as well as a parent. Family group decision making did occur with this family and they had numerous family and friends participate. Unfortunately, no one was able to take this child into their home. The 17 year old aunt is currently receiving intensive reunification services so that her child will eventually be able to return home.

Erie County

3. A 10-month old female child nearly died on Aug. 10, 2012 as a result of a lack of supervision. Erie County Children and Youth Services (CYS) substantiated the report in Oct. 2012 naming the mother as the perpetrator. The father admitted that he overdosed on methadone a few weeks prior and some pills fell on the floor but were cleaned up. The father said that the child was fine when he left the home on the evening of the incident. The mother said that she put the child to bed around 8PM, and that when she checked on the child two hours later, she found the child barely breathing, with her eyes rolled back in her head. The mother provided varying stories about what had happened. First, the mother stated that she found the child with eyes rolled back in her head, but another time stated that she found the child face down in the crib, with her face in a pillow. One story was that a teenage sibling (unknown who, as the mother allegedly has no contact with her two teenage children) found the child "whistling" while breathing in her crib. The child was life-flighted to a hospital. The child's toxicology screen was positive for methadone. The methadone is believed to have caused the child's impaired breathing. The mother was unable to explain how the child ingested methadone while in her care. Abrasions were noted on the child's neck and nose, but could have been a result of medical treatment and do not appear to be the result of abuse. Erie Police are still investigating. The mother has three other children who live with their fathers. The mother has weekend visitation with the youngest child which are supervised by the child's father. The other two children are teenagers and the mother has no contact with them. The child was discharged from the hospital on Aug. 15, 2012 and is doing well medically. The child is currently in agency custody and is placed in the kinship home of her maternal aunt. She is having partially supervised visits with her parents in that she visits for a total of five hours, but two of the hours are unsupervised. The father is currently participating in mental health services and both parents are providing random urine samples for drug testing. The family was known to Erie CYD prior to this incident. The family was referred to CYD in June 2012 because the sibling, who had visitation at the home, had ringworm. There was also a referral in Oct. of 2011 after the mother tested positive for methadone when the child was born. Both of these referrals were closed at intake.

Lehigh County

4. A one-year old male child nearly died on July 28, 2012 as result of physical abuse. Lehigh County Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in Sept. 2012 naming the mother's paramour as the perpetrator. The child was taken to the hospital because he was seizing and bradycardic, which required intubation and resuscitation. The child had a significant left-sided subdural hematoma, with a large mass along the midline shaft that required immediate surgical intervention. The child also had ecchymosis along the right frontal scalp, facial bruising and petechiae, and bruising to the chest, back, and scrotum. It was later discovered that the child also had a pancreatic contusion and retinal hemorrhaging. The child had surgery in Oct. 2012 to close his skull. It is not clear how the child sustained the injuries, but the injuries were life-threatening and were determined to be non-accidental in nature. The mother's paramour was the sole caretaker for the child prior to the child's hospitalization. The state police have completed their investigation and are awaiting charges to be filed against the mother's paramour. The state police have forwarded their report to the District Attorney's office. This family was known to Lehigh County Children and Youth Services. In June 2012, Lehigh County Children and Youth received a General Protective Service referral regarding the child's poor hygiene and the mother using drugs. The agency found the allegations to be unsubstantiated and had the mother submit to a drug screen, which was negative. The case was closed at the end of June 2012. A similar report was received at the end of July 2012. The caseworker went to the home and left a note for the mother and scheduled a visit for July 30. This visitation never occurred as the near fatality incident occurred on July 28. There are no other children in the home.

5. A one-year old male child nearly died on July 23, 2012 as a result of physical abuse. Lehigh County Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in September 2012, naming a caretaker as the perpetrator. The child had been staying with a family friend and her paramour as the child's mother had been recently incarcerated. The paramour is the individual who was named as the perpetrator. The family friend found the child unresponsive and contacted emergency responders. The child was found to be in cardiac arrest upon arrival at the hospital and placed on a ventilator. The child remained on the ventilator for several days. It was determined that the child had several healing fractures once the child was removed from the ventilator. These fractures were investigated separately from the incident in which the child went into cardiac arrest. This investigation was substantiated in Sept. 2012 and both the family friend and her paramour were named as perpetrators as it was determined the fractures were caused by the paramour and the family friend failed to protect the child. On Aug. 30, 2012 the paramour admitted to law enforcement officials that he had covered the child's mouth and nose to stop the child from crying on the day when the child went into cardiac arrest. After additional assessment, the incident in which the child went into cardiac arrest was determined to be a near fatality on Sept. 7, 2012. Prior to the paramour's admission, it was unknown why the child had gone into cardiac arrest. The child lost blood flow to the brain as a result, and now suffers from severe brain damage. The child was discharged from the hospital and was initially staying at a rehabilitation facility. The child was later returned home to his mother. The child is receiving Early Intervention Services and out-patient medical follow-up. The mother

and child are receiving in-home services. The perpetrator did not show remorse for his actions. The perpetrator has been arrested and is currently in Lehigh County Prison. The perpetrator does not have any children. A witness who was interviewed stated they had seen the perpetrator abusing the child. The witness failed to call authorities because they did not want to believe that the perpetrator was abusing the child. Lehigh County Children and Youth has a history of involvement with the mother. The mother has several children who have all been privately placed with other people. The county agency also has a history of involvement with the perpetrator and the perpetrator's paramour with other children. The regional office is currently assessing the county agency's handling of this case.

Monroe County

6. A two-year old male child nearly died on June 24, 2012 due to a lack of supervision. Monroe County Children and Youth substantiated both parents for lack of supervision resulting in physical injuries. The child fell from a second story window, sustaining a bruise and abrasion on the right side of his forehead, a skull fracture, and a fractured right forearm. The victim child, a five year old sibling, and a ten year old sibling were playing in their bedroom. The father was in his bedroom and the mother was downstairs making dinner when the incident occurred. The ten-year old left the room to use the bathroom. The victim child pushed a toy box under the bedroom window and climbed on top of toy box. There was no screen on the window and the child fell out of the window, approximately 25 feet. A neighbor found the child on the ground under the bedroom window, crying and trying to stand. The neighbor carried the child to the front door, and the parents called 911. The child was taken to the hospital and remained in there for two days for observation. On June 5, 2012, Monroe County Children and Youth received a referral on the family regarding poor home conditions and father slapping the ten-year old sibling. The family was open for this intake at the time of the near fatality. The mother and father signed a safety plan after the incident stating that all of the children would be under the direct supervision of a parent at all times. When the victim child was released from hospital, the mother, victim child, and the five-year old sibling went to stay with a neighbor due to concerns about the conditions of the home. It was noted that window guards were needed in the upper level windows of the home, there was a large gap on a porch railing, and the home needed a thorough cleaning. The family acknowledged the concerns with the home and had previously attempted to contact the landlord to have them make the repairs to the home. The landlord had not been responsive to the family's request. The father and two older children remained in the home and completed the necessary repairs to the home. All of the needed repairs were completed, and the home was deemed to be safe by Monroe County Children and Youth two days later. The mother and younger children returned to the home at that time. Pocono Mountain Regional Police Department criminally charged both parents for endangerment of a minor child. The parents are currently awaiting trial. The landlord has also been cited by the code enforcement officer.

Northampton County

7. A two-month old male child nearly died on Aug. 25, 2012 due to physical abuse. Northampton County Department of Human Services, Children, Youth, and Families

Division substantiated both parents as perpetrators in Oct. 2012. The parents brought the child to the emergency room on Aug. 25, 2012 after the mother reportedly accidentally dropped the child on a linoleum floor. Examination of the child revealed a hematoma to his forehead and intracranial bleeding with two skull fractures. The child's injuries did not match the mother's explanation. A CAT scan determined that the victim child had three skull fractures and old brain hemorrhaging which was the result of a prior injury. The investigation determined the victim child had multiple skull fractures at different stages of healing that could not have been self inflicted. The mother and father's explanations for the child's condition were not consistent with his injuries and his injuries could not be explained; therefore, the report was substantiated. The family was not known to the county agency, however, the mother has two older children who are not in her care; they reside with their biological father. The mother self-reports alcohol and drug use during pregnancy and does not appear to be bonded to the victim child. The father, who works full time, was the child's primary caregiver and appears to be well bonded to the child. There are no other children in the victim's home. The Northampton County Court has adjudicated the child dependent and placed him in the custody of Northampton County Department of Human Services, Children, Youth, and Families Division due to both parents being indicated perpetrators on this case, The parents have been court-ordered to comply with visiting nurses services and obtain psychological and drug and alcohol evaluations. The police are investigating and plan on filing criminal charges against the parents after approval by the District Attorney.

Philadelphia County

8. A four-year old male child nearly died on July 24, 2012 due to physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS) substantiated the report, naming the mother and the mother's paramour as perpetrators. The child was taken to the hospital for stomach pain, and it was determined that the child had a liver laceration that may have been caused by trauma. The child was interviewed and reported that the mother's paramour kicked him in the stomach and his mother held her hand over his mouth. The mother and her paramour were both arrested and charged with aggravated assault, conspiracy aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of children, simple assault, and recklessly endangering another person. The mother and her paramour are co-defendants in their case and their preliminary hearing is scheduled for the end of Dec. 2012. The child has three siblings; two were living with relatives at the time of the incident. The victim and his two older siblings have a stay away order against the mother and do not have contact with her at this time. The victim child was initially placed into foster care, but has since been reunified with his biological father. The father will be receiving foster care aftercare services for the next year. The child is attending trauma focused therapy. The nine-month old sibling is currently residing with the paternal great-aunt with a plan for reunification with the mother. Mother is receiving parenting and anger management services. The mother currently has supervised visits with the nine-month old child. There is currently a restraining order that restricts contact between the nine-month old and his father. The family was not known to the county agency prior to this case.

9. A two-year old male child nearly died on Aug. 6, 2012 due to physical injuries. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS) substantiated the mother and her paramour as perpetrators of physical abuse in Aug. 2012. The mother reported that the victim child had a stomach ache and had thrown up what he ate that day and the day before. The mother said that the child hit his head on the coffee table the day before. The child was brought to the hospital via ambulance after losing consciousness. It was discovered that child had subdural hematoma, retinal hemorrhaging, internal bleeding, and a rib fracture. The child required a craniotomy. The child's injuries were determined to be caused by physical abuse. The mother and her paramour have been arrested and both have been charged with aggravated assault, conspiracy-aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of children, simple assault, and recklessly endangering another person. Both the mother and her paramour are currently incarcerated. The child has three sisters, ages 6, 4, and 11 months. The two oldest children are residing with their biological fathers, respectively. The youngest child is currently residing with her maternal grandmother. The siblings were evaluated at the hospital and no concerns were identified. The victim child was placed in a medical foster home pending further assessment of his paternal grandfather as a kinship resource. The child lived with his biological father and two siblings for past 2 years, but moved in with the mother because the father could not afford daycare. At the time of the incident, the child had not seen the father for several months. This family has been involved with DHS in the past. In June, 2007, the family was referred due to concerns of lack of supervision and not having enough food. This report was closed at intake. In June, 2008, a report made on a sister due to burns. This report was substantiated and the family was accepted for services until Feb. 2009. In April 2011, the mother called DHS and requested services as she was behind in paying her rent, wanted assistance in filing for child support. A referral was made to community based prevention services.

10. An eleven-month old female child nearly died on Sept. 4, 2012 as a result of physical injuries. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS) substantiated the father as the perpetrator of abuse in Oct. 2012. The parents stated that they called their insurance company on September 2, 2012 because the child "was not herself." The parents stated that they were told that the child was "in a sleep walking state," and that the child eventually fell asleep around 4 a.m. The next morning, the parents checked on the child around 10 a.m. and the child was "very stiff." When the child was brought to the hospital, she was unresponsive and had possible seizure activity. The hospital discovered that child had subdural, subarachnoid, and bilateral hemorrhages as a result of non-accidental trauma. The father admitted to hitting the child on her head and jaw. The father has been arrested and charged with aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of a child, simple assault, and recklessly endangering another person. He is currently incarcerated and is awaiting trial. DHS was involved in Dec. 2011 for a report that the child had burns on her feet. This report was unfounded. The victim child was discharged from the hospital into a medical foster home on Oct. 31, 2012. The hospital has set up services for the child that include early intervention services and Child Link services. The plan is for reunification of the child with the mother.

11. A 14 year old male child nearly died on Sept. 11, 2012 due to physical injuries. The Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS) substantiated the report in Oct. 2012 and named the mother as the perpetrator. There had been an argument between the child and the mother due to the child refusing to go to school. The mother stabbed the child with a knife during the argument. The child received numerous stab wounds to his arms, neck and torso. The child was discharged from the hospital a week later and is currently in juvenile detention due to an incident following his discharge in which he physically assaulted a peer in the community. There had been an extensive history of involvement with Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services Agency and Philadelphia DHS dating back to April of 2001. DHS became involved with the family in April of 2001 due to the child being inappropriately disciplined by the mother. The family was accepted for services in May 2001. Between this time and the date of the near fatality, the family frequently moved back and forth between Philadelphia and Bucks County. Throughout this period of time, the child had multiple placements in psychiatric hospitals and residential treatment facilities. At the time of the near fatality, the family was receiving after-care services through two different private providers; however, the family was not active with a county children and youth agency. The child does not have any siblings. The father of the child is deceased. The mother is currently incarcerated due to the incident.

12. A three-year old female child nearly died on Sept. 13, 2012 due to physical injuries. The Philadelphia Department of Human Services substantiated the report in October 2012 and named the father as the perpetrator. The child was brought to the hospital by emergency responders and was unresponsive. The child was on a visit at the father's home and was being cared for by the father. Upon examination it was found that the child had bruising to her lower abdomen and both upper thighs. It was determined the child had internal bleeding and a lacerated liver and spleen. The father reported that he had spanked the child earlier in the day. The father put the child to bed after the spanking and went to a store, leaving the child home alone. Upon arriving home from the store, he found the child unresponsive. The father believes that the child fell out of her bed while he was gone and hit her head on a radiator. The child did not have any injuries to her head. Medical examination determined that the injuries sustained by the child were inflicted and were the result of blunt force trauma. The father was the only caretaker for the child when the injuries occurred. The child does not have any siblings. The child has since been discharged from the hospital and is living with the mother. This family was not known to the county agency prior to the incident. The father has been arrested and is currently incarcerated.

13. A one-year old female child nearly died on Sept. 13, 2012 due to serious physical neglect. The Philadelphia Department of Human Services substantiated the report in Oct. 2012 and named the mother as the perpetrator. The child had ingested her aunt's Lomotil, which is used to treat diarrhea, and became lethargic. The aunt was visiting at the mother's home, where child resided. The mother of the child did not seek any medical treatment for the child's lethargy. After a period of approximately twelve hours from when the mother realized the child ingested the medicine, the mother sought medical treatment as the child was not getting better. Upon medical examination, it was

determined the child had significant swelling to her brain. The swelling was due to oxygen deprivation and the swelling would not have been as significant had the mother sought medical treatment sooner. The ingestion of the medicine was determined to be accidental and not due to a prolonged or repeated lack of supervision. The child has been discharged back to the care of the mother. The county agency has implemented services to assure the safety of the child and also to provide rehabilitative services for the child. The child has four older siblings residing in the home. These siblings were not removed from the home during the investigation as it was determined their safety could be assured with them remaining in the home. However, the siblings are now in formal foster care as the mother was arrested and incarcerated due to this incident. The county agency had been involved with the family on an intake level in the past due to substantiated sexual abuse of one of the child's siblings committed by mother's former paramour. The family was not opened for services.

Susquehanna County

14. A one-year old male child nearly died on Sept. 20, 2012 due to serious physical neglect. Susquehanna County Services for Children and Youth substantiated the report in Oct. 2012 and named the mother as the perpetrator. The child was brought to the hospital by emergency responders with significant burns to his abdomen, lower extremities and scrotum. It was determined that the mother left the child bathing in a sink for an extended period of time and the temperature of the water caused the burns. The mother did not seek any medical treatment for the burns until relatives noticed the burns and confronted her 24 hours later. The mother had covered the burns with clothing and sheets and this likely exacerbated the child's burns. The child was hospitalized for two weeks due to the injuries. The child and a sibling are now residing with their father in a different state. This family was not known to the county agency prior to this incident. There is a criminal investigation pending.

Union County

15. A one-year old female child nearly died on Aug. 13, 2012 due to physical injuries she received. Union County Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in Sept. 2012 and named the mother's paramour as the perpetrator. The child was brought to the hospital by emergency responders due to the child being unresponsive. The mother's paramour claimed that he was playing a video game and when checking on the child found her slumped over in a chair. Upon medical examination, it was determined that the child had injuries consistent with abusive head trauma. The child was being cared for by the mother's paramour as the mother was at work. The child had significant injuries which required extensive surgery. The child spent one month in the hospital and has since been transferred to a long-term rehabilitation facility through Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. The child is breathing on her own, but has a surgically implanted feeding tube and has little viable brain tissue left. The child is expected to live until her twenties and not survive after this. The mother and child previously resided in Lycoming County and that county agency had a history with the mother and child. The first referral was received in March 2010 when the mother was pregnant with the child. The concerns were that the mother was oppositional and that her own father was threatening her. The county agency was able to respond to the

concerns as the mother was a child herself at that time. The mother went to live with her boyfriend's mother at the time and the case was closed on the intake level. Another referral was made in April 2012 regarding concerns that the mother and the child were homeless and the mother was not providing adequate medical care for the child. The county agency offered services for the mother and child and after seeing that progress was made, closed the family for services in June 2012. The mother's paramour has been charged with aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of children and recklessly endangering another person.

Westmoreland County

16. A three-month old male child nearly died on June 1, 2012 due to physical injuries he received. The Westmoreland County Children's Bureau substantiated the report in July 2012 and named both parents as the perpetrators. The parents brought the child to the hospital due to the child being unresponsive and having injuries to his head. Upon medical examination, it was determined that the child had a fracture to his occipital bone, internal swelling of the head and abrasions to his face. The account from the parents as to what happened varied. However, the one consistency in the accounts was that the father was startled from sleeping, jumped out of bed and accidentally kicked the child, who was lying on the floor, to the head. It was determined through the investigation with supporting medical evidence that these accounts were inconsistent with the child's injuries and that the injuries were somehow inflicted. As the parents were the sole caretakers at the time of the incident, they were both held responsible. The child has since been discharged from the hospital and is residing with a maternal aunt. The child does not have any siblings. This family was not known to the county agency prior to the incident. There is a criminal investigation pending.

17. A four-year old child nearly died on July 10, 2012 due to physical injuries he received as a result of a lack of supervision. The Westmoreland County Children's Bureau substantiated the report in Aug. 2012 and named a paternal aunt, who was acting as a babysitter to the child at the time of the incident, as the perpetrator. The aunt was caring for the child and his six year old sibling at her home. The child and the sibling found a loaded handgun in the basement of the home and the handgun discharged as the child was handling it. A bullet that was fired from the gun struck the child to the head. The child had to have one of his eyes removed, along with brain tissue and part of his temple bone. The child and his sibling remain with their parents. There is a cousin of the child who lives with the aunt; however, he is an adult. There had been concerns made to the county agency in the past regarding possible sexual abuse of the child by this cousin however, these allegations were received as general protective service cases and the allegations were never proven. The gun belonged to the adult cousin and he has been charged with reckless endangerment. The aunt was investigated criminally, but no charges were filed and the criminal case against her was closed.