



REPORT ON THE NEAR FATALITY OF:

[REDACTED]

Date of Birth: November 3, 2014
Date of Incident: April 23, 2015
Date of Report to Child Line: April 28, 2015
CWIS Referral ID: [REDACTED]

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

Allegheny County Children, Youth, and Families

REPORT FINALIZED ON:
10/01/2015

Unredacted reports are confidential under the provisions of the Child Protective Services Law and cannot be released to the public.
(23 Pa. C.S. Section 6340)

Unauthorized release is prohibited under penalty of law.
(23 Pa. C.S. Section 6349 (b))

Reason for Review:

Pursuant to the Child Protective Services Law, the Department, through OCYF, must conduct a review and provide a written report of all cases of suspected child abuse that result in a fatality or near fatality. This written report must be completed as soon as possible but no later than six months after the date the report was registered with ChildLine for investigation.

The Child Protective Services Law also requires that county children and youth agencies convene a review when a report of child abuse involving a fatality or near fatality is substantiated or when a status determination has not been made regarding the report within 30 days of the report to ChildLine.

Allegheny County has not convened a review team in accordance with the Child Protective Services Law related to this report. The County did not convene a review team due to the fact that the investigation was unfounded on May 14, 2015, within 30 days of initial report.

Family Constellation:

<u>First and Last Name:</u>	<u>Relationship:</u>	<u>Date of Birth:</u>
[REDACTED]	Victim Child	11/03/2014
[REDACTED]	Sibling, (twin)	[REDACTED] 2014
[REDACTED]	Mother	[REDACTED] 1980
[REDACTED]	Father	[REDACTED] 1979

Summary of OCYF Child Near Fatality Review Activities:

The Department interviewed the Allegheny County caseworker on two separate occasions, the latest being May 14, 2015 to discuss the outcome of the ChildLine investigation. The caseworker reported that the investigation was unfounded and the intake case was closed on May 14, 2015.

Children and Youth Involvement prior to Incident:

No prior involvement with Allegheny County Children, Youth, and Families (CYF).

Circumstances of Child Near Fatality and Related Case Activity:

On April 28, 2015, Allegheny County CYF received notice that the victim child was brought in to [REDACTED] Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh, (CHP), on April 26, 2015 by his father. The victim child was reportedly projectile vomiting for three days prior to the admission. The child reportedly had [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] There were no other reported injuries noted on the physical exam performed on the victim child.

Upon admission, it was reported by the father that the only trauma that had occurred was that the victim child fell off the couch onto the hardwood floor in the family home. This occurred while the mother was attending to the other child. This incident was reported to have occurred on April 23, 2015. The victim child's mother was the only person in the home at the time of the incident.

Per information given by the parents, the victim child was having episodes of vomiting after his feedings, which continued over the course of the weekend prior to admission. The vomiting continued on the morning of the date of admission and upon his return home from work, the father found the victim child's [REDACTED] to be raised and extended. It was reported that the father is a physician. The father contacted the victim child's pediatrician and then transported him to the emergency department. CHP was going to keep the victim child in the hospital for 48 hours to monitor his progress.

The parents had another child in the home, the victim child's twin sibling who had not yet been seen at the time of the incident. Allegheny County CYF responded to the home and brought the twin sibling to the hospital for an exam to assure his physical well-being. [REDACTED]

Per the medical records, the physician's assessment of the evaluation for abuse injuries was negative. [REDACTED]

The victim child [REDACTED] to the parents and referred for follow up monitoring [REDACTED] No further investigation into suspected abuse was conducted.

Summary of County Strengths, Deficiencies and Recommendations for Change as Identified by the County's Child Near Fatality Report:

Due to the report being unfounded within 30 days, the County did not convene an Act 33 meeting.

Department Review of County Internal Report:

The County did not complete an Internal Report due to the investigation being completed within 30 days with an unfounded status.

Department of Human Services Findings:

- County Strengths:
 - Allegheny County CYF investigated the incident, allegations of physical abuse, in a timely manner and unfound the report within 30 days. They spoke with and reviewed the medical findings and were told that the injury to the victim child was physiological and not the result of child abuse. They assessed the safety of the children in the home and found no indication of abuse or neglect. The county closed out the case within 30 days.
- County Weaknesses: None
- Statutory and Regulatory Areas of Non-Compliance by the County Agency.

None

Department of Human Services Recommendations:

For Allegheny County to continue to be diligent in its investigations of fatalities/near fatalities.