

Fatalities

Bucks

1. A 13-year-old male child died on February 23, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services Agency (BCCYSSA) indicated the report on March 29, 2019, naming the victim child's mother and adult sibling as the perpetrators. On February 25, 2019, five bodies were discovered in a residence. The victim child's mother and adult sibling were found alive and transported to a local hospital. At the hospital, the mother and adult sibling confessed to the murder of the victim child. There were no surviving children in the home and no services were offered. At the time the report was indicated, the mother and adult sibling had been charged with criminal homicide and conspiracy-criminal homicide. The family was previously known to child welfare. Between 1999 and 2006, New Jersey Department of Child Protection and Permanency (NJDCPP) received referrals on the family regarding inadequate supervision, physical abuse, and sexual abuse that were unsubstantiated. In April 2006, NJDCPP received two child protective service referrals regarding sexual abuse that were substantiated. In March 2018, BCCYSSA received a general protective services referral regarding the sexual abuse that had been substantiated by NJDCPP in 2006, but the referral was screened out because there was no new information to warrant an investigation. In February 2019, BCCYSSA received two GPS referrals regarding inadequate shelter, behavioral health concerns, and conduct by the parent that places the child at risk. BCCYSSA was in the process of conducting an assessment on the referrals at the time of the incident.

Dauphin

2. A 7-year-old male child died on January 5, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Dauphin County Social Services for Children and Youth (DCSSCY) indicated the report on January 29, 2019, naming the victim child's father as the perpetrator. It was determined that on the date of the incident the father went to the victim child's room and fatally shot the victim child in the head. The father then shot and killed the victim child's mother, and then himself. All three parties were found deceased, and there were no other children in the home. The family was previously known to child welfare. In October 2018, DCSSCY received a general protective service referral regarding domestic violence and violence against the victim child. The referral was determined to be invalid, but the mother was provided with resources for counseling and domestic violence.

Lancaster

3. An 11-year-old male child died on January 9, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Lancaster County Children and Youth Social Services Agency indicated the report on February 21, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was shot in the head by the mother, who then shot and killed herself. The mother and victim child were from Northumberland County, but were staying in a hotel in Lancaster County where they were found. There were no other children in

the family and no services were provided. The family was previously known to child welfare. In November 2015, Columbia County Children and Youth Services received a general protective service (GPS) referral regarding unsanitary home conditions, and the report was determined valid. In April 2018, Union County Children and Youth Services received a GPS report regarding unexplained bruising on the victim child that was screened out. In September 2018, Northumberland County Children and Youth Services (NCCYS) received a GPS referral regarding inadequate shelter and health care that was determined invalid. NCCYS received a child protective services referral concerning bodily injury to the victim child in December 2018, and a GPS referral regarding truancy in January 2019. NCCYS had been attempting contact with the family in order to assess the most recent referral at the time of the incident.

Lawrence

4. A less than 1-day-old male child died on October 12, 2017, as a result of physical abuse. Lawrence County Children and Youth Services (LCCYS) indicated the report on January 24, 2019, naming the victim child's father as the perpetrator. On October 23, 2017, the victim child's teenage mother was admitted to the hospital for stomach cramps and other medical concerns. While at the hospital, the mother reported that she had given birth to the victim child and that the father strangled the child to death immediately after his birth. The mother also reported that the body of the child was put into a bag that was placed in a safe filled with concrete to hide the odor, as well as disclosing that the father had tried to violently abort the child multiple times during the pregnancy. There were no other children in the home, but the mother received medical and behavioral health treatment services. At the time the report was indicated, the father had been charged with criminal homicide, aggravated assault of an unborn child, concealing the death of a child, abuse of a corpse, recklessly endangering another person, and tampering with evidence. The family was previously known to child welfare. In August 2015, LCCYS received a general protective service referral regarding the father and unlawful contact with a minor child that had been determined invalid.

Luzerne

5. A 6-month-old male child died on November 19, 2018, as a result of physical abuse. Luzerne County Children and Youth Agency (LCCYA) indicated the report on January 15, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child's mother reported finding an unknown substance on the ground, tasting the substance with her finger, and later putting her finger in the victim child's mouth. The mother then contacted emergency medical services when the child started to turn blue. Attempts to resuscitate the victim child were unsuccessful and the victim child was pronounced dead. Medical testing determined the substance to be fentanyl. The victim child had one sibling, who was taken into protective custody and placed with the maternal aunt. The mother was court ordered to participate in parenting education and drug and alcohol and behavioral health treatment services. At the time the report was indicated, the mother was incarcerated and had been charged with

involuntary manslaughter and endangering the welfare of children. The family was previously known to child welfare. In June 2018, LCCYA received a general protective service referral when the father of the children filed a protection from abuse (PFA) against the mother. The PFA was dismissed by the courts and the LCCYA case was closed.

Montgomery

6. A 16-month-old male child died on August 20, 2015, as a result of physical abuse. Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth (MCOCY) founded the report on January 28, 2019, naming the victim child's babysitter as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the family called emergency medical services to the home when the victim child was found unresponsive in his bed. The victim child presented at the hospital with multiple organ failures and was pronounced dead on the same day of the incident. At the time of the incident, a safety plan was developed for the victim child's four siblings, requiring the paternal grandparents to supervise all contact between the parents and siblings. There were no services provided to the family. On November 29, 2018, the victim child's babysitter admitted to banging the child's head on a window sill and causing his death. The babysitter was arrested, charged with involuntary manslaughter. The family was previously known to child welfare. In July 2013, MCOCY received a general protective service referral regarding inappropriate discipline, inadequate food, and parent conduct placing the child at risk, which had been determined invalid and no services were provided.

Philadelphia

7. A 22-month-old female child died on October 7, 2018, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (PDHS) founded the report on January 11, 2019, naming the victim child's father as the perpetrator. It was determined on January 11, 2019, that the father did not believe his former paramour to be an appropriate caregiver, but he left the victim child in the care of the former paramour which led to the victim child's death. On October 7, 2018, the father's former paramour disclosed that she smothered the victim child and threw her out with the trash. The victim child's body was found by police in a park later the same day of the incident. The victim child had no siblings and no services were provided to the family. The former paramour was previously indicated for the incident. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed against the father. The family was previously known to child welfare. Between December 2016 and September 2018, PDHS received three general protective service (GPS) referrals for the victim child's family concerning parental substance use and inappropriate caregivers, which had been screened out or determined invalid. In October 2017, PDHS received a general protective service report regarding a domestic dispute that was determined valid and the family was referred to services. In May 2011, PDHS received a child protective service referral regarding the former paramour concerning physical abuse that was indicated. In November 2016, PDHS received GPS referral regarding the former paramour's failure to seek medical attention for a child which was determined valid. In April 2017, Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth received a GPS referral

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regarding the former paramour and inappropriate discipline that was screened out.

8. A less than 1-day-old male child died on December 31, 2018, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on January 15, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the mother delivered the victim child, alive and full term, in the bathroom of her home. The mother then cut the umbilical cord, suffocated the child, and put him in plastic bags. A friend of the mother visited later the same day, and the mother disclosed what had happened with the child. The incident was later reported to police. Police brought the child to the local hospital emergency room after discovering him in an outside trash bin. Attempts were made to resuscitate the child but were unsuccessful, and he was pronounced dead. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was ongoing. There were no other children in the home and no services provided to the family. The mother was previously known as a subject child.

Venango

9. A 14-year-old male child died on July 5, 2018, as a result of serious physical neglect. Venango County Children and Youth Services (VCCYS) indicated the report on January 14, 2019, naming the victim child's mother and the mother's paramour as the perpetrators. On date of the incident, the victim child was found deceased in his sibling's bedroom. It was determined that the victim child died from a fentanyl overdose, which was also confirmed by the toxicology report. It was reported that the mother and her paramour were dealing drugs out of the home, which included fentanyl laced heroin. The victim child had one sibling who was placed with a maternal grandmother. Services were declined by the family. At the time the report was indicated, the mother and her paramour had been charged with involuntary manslaughter and drug delivery resulting in death, and were incarcerated awaiting trial. The family was previously known to child welfare. Between September 2015 and April 2018, VCCYS received three general protective service referrals regarding parental behavioral health concerns, inappropriate discipline, and lack of supervision. The parental behavioral health concerns and lack of supervision referrals were determined valid, and the inappropriate discipline referral was determined invalid. In May 2017 and October 2017, VCCYS received two child protective service referrals regarding sexual abuse of the sibling that were determined unfounded.

Near Fatalities

Allegheny

1. A 2-year-old male child nearly died on December 21, 2018, as a result of physical abuse. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families (ACOCYF) indicated the report on February 15, 2019, naming the victim child's mother, caregiver, and an adult household member in the caregiver's

home as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, ACOCYF went to the caregiver's home to investigate reports received concerning the victim child's two siblings. The mother had signed guardianship of the victim child and his two siblings to the caregiver in August 2018, due to concerns that her current neighborhood was no longer safe for the children. At the time of the investigation by ACOCYF, the victim child was observed to be emaciated and was transported to a regional pediatric hospital. It was determined at the hospital that he had lost seven pounds, a third of his body weight, since a weight check that occurred in July 2018. Linear scars were also observed around the child's ankles and wrists, indicative of restraint. The treating physician determined that the child endured gross neglect while in the care of the caregiver. The mother and caregiver were aware of the abuse and failed to protect the child. The child was placed into foster care and his siblings were placed with relatives. The child received early intervention services and other family members received behavioral health treatment services. At the time the report was indicated, the caregiver had been charged with endangering the welfare of children, aggravated assault, recklessly endangering another person, strangulation, and unlawful restraint. The family was previously known to child welfare. In June 2018, ACOCYF received a general protective service (GPS) referral regarding allegations of sexual abuse of the oldest sibling that was determined invalid. In November 2018, ACOCYF received a GPS referral regarding truancy for the caregiver's child that was determined invalid.

2. An 11-month-old female child nearly died on February 20, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Allegheny County Office of Children Youth and Families (ACOCYF) indicated the report on March 22, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was transported by ambulance to a local trauma hospital after sustaining first- and second-degree burns. She presented at the hospital with blistering burns on her legs, chest, and lower back, and was admitted to the burn unit for treatment. It was later determined that she sustained the burns when the mother placed her into bath water that was too hot. The victim child had three siblings, who were placed with the maternal grandmother. The victim child was also placed with the maternal grandmother upon discharge from the hospital. The mother received parenting instruction, and the children continued to receive routine medical treatment. At the time the report was indicated, the mother had been charged with aggravated assault-victim less than six and defendant 18 or older, endangering the welfare of a child, recklessly endangering another person, and false reports, and was awaiting trial. The family was previously known to child welfare. Between January 2017 and May 2018, ACOCYF received four general protective service (GPS) referrals regarding inadequate hygiene, food, clothing and nurturing, delayed medical care, inappropriate discipline, inappropriate caregivers, and conduct by parent that places child at risk. All four referrals were screened out. In August 2018, ACOCYF received another GPS referral regarding inadequate hygiene, delayed medical care, and conduct by parent that places child at risk which was determined valid. The family was open with ACOCYF at the time of the incident.

Berks

3. A 6-month-old female child nearly died on January 7, 2019, as a result of serious physical neglect. Berks County Children and Youth Services (BCCYS) indicated the report on January 28, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the mother observed that the child was limp and not breathing properly and called 911. The victim child presented at a children's hospital with acute methadone ingestion, which was further confirmed by a positive urine drug screen for methadone. The mother reported being on methadone for a year, and that she occasionally used the same syringe for the methadone as she used to administer the child's Motrin. The victim child had one sibling. The safety assessment by BCCYS determined that the sibling was safe, but a safety plan for supervision by the maternal grandmother was put in place. The family received behavioral health, drug and alcohol treatment and early intervention services. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family was previously known to child welfare. In June 2018, BCCYS received a general protective service referral regarding parental substance use that was determined invalid, but the family was opened for services and closed in July 2018.

Carbon

4. A 4-year-old male child nearly died on November 26, 2018, as a result of physical abuse. Carbon County Children and Youth Services (CCCYS) indicated the report on January 24, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, a male caregiver of the victim child called CCCYS to report injuries sustained by the child, and subsequently brought the child in to the agency. The victim child presented with black eyes, head swelling, and bruises on his body. The child was taken to the emergency room by a CCCYS caseworker and was hospitalized due to a brain bleed. Bruises, abrasions, and contusions were discovered all over his body, all in various stages of healing, and he was malnourished. The victim child reported that the injuries were caused by his mother. The male caregiver reported taking the child into his care after visiting the mother's home and observing the injuries to the victim child. When interviewed, the mother admitted to hitting the child with a paddle but denied causing all of the injuries. The victim child had two siblings, for which CCCYS secured emergency protective custody, and all three children were placed in foster care. Once CCCYS was able to locate the children's father, the children were placed into his custody. CCCYS provided foster care and case management services to the children while they were in the custody of CCCYS, and then referred the family to Dauphin County Children and Youth Services where the father was residing. At the time the report was indicated, the mother had been charged with aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of children, and simple assault, and was incarcerated. The family was previously known to child welfare. In December 2015, Luzerne County Children and Youth Agency (LCCYA) received a general protective service (GPS) referral regarding inappropriate discipline, parental substance use and domestic violence that was determined valid, but no case could be opened by LCCYA because the family moved. In December 2016, a GPS referral regarding parental substance use was received by CCCYS but was screened out. Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services also received a GPS referral in December 2016 regarding parental substance use that was determined

valid, but the family was not accepted for services at that time. In September 2018, CCCYS received a GPS referral regarding parental substance use, but the referral was screened out due to a lack of information. In November 2018, CCCYS received a GPS referral for truancy. CCCYS was attempting to locate the family to investigate the most recent GPS referral at the time of the incident.

Delaware

5. A 23-month-old female nearly died on December 22, 2018, as a result of physical abuse. The Southeast Regional Office of Children Youth and Families indicated the report on February 1, 2019, naming the victim child's foster parent as the perpetrator. The foster mother reported that the child had been vomiting and had fallen on the day before the incident. Later that same day, the foster mother heard the child crying, entered the bedroom, and observed the child having a seizure and that she had vomited again. After consulting with the child's placement team, the foster mother transported the child to a specialty children's hospital. Medical scans and imaging revealed multiple issues with the child's brain, including fluid on the brain, blood clots blocking blood drainage, and tears in the blood vessels. The child also had several bruises to her forehead and right thigh, and skin injuries. Medical documentation supported that the head injury sustained by the victim child was inconsistent with normal household falls, as had been reported by the foster mother, and the foster mother could not account for the other injuries to the child. Upon discharge from the hospital, the child was placed in a different foster care setting. The victim child had three siblings who resided with the biological parents, and the family received in-home services. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed and the criminal investigation was ongoing. The child's biological family was previously known to child welfare. In April 2015, Delaware County Children and Youth Services (DCCYS) received a general protective service referral for failure to provide medical care for an older sibling of the victim child that was determined valid, and services were provided to the family. In July 2016, DCCYS received a child protective service (CPS) referral concerning malnourishment of the victim child, which was indicated and resulted in the placement of the victim child into foster care in 2016. The foster parent had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

Erie

6. A 4-year-old female child nearly died on January 17, 2019, as a result of serious physical neglect. Erie County Office of Children and Youth (ECOCY) indicated the report on February 8, 2019, naming the victim child's mother and maternal aunt as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child was brought into a local hospital after the maternal aunt and the mother found the child lethargic and the unable to feel her legs. The victim child was admitted to the hospital for observation and subsequently tested positive for synthetic marijuana. It was determined that the child was in the care of the mother and maternal aunt when she ingested the substance, and the aunt reported making breakfast with a baking sheet that had been in contact with the synthetic marijuana on the night before the

incident. The child was court-ordered released to the care of the paternal grandmother and the family was not accepted for services. The maternal aunt had one child in the home who had also been taken for emergency care at another hospital, but the aunt's child was not experiencing the same symptoms as the victim child. The maternal aunt's child was placed in foster care as a result of the incident. The victim child had one half-sibling who did not reside in the home. The mother received services for behavioral health and housing. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was ongoing. The family was previously known to child welfare. In 2010, the maternal aunt's parental rights were terminated for a child. In March 2016, ECOCY received a child protective service referral regarding the maternal aunt causing bodily injury to her child, which was determined founded and the child was placed with the father. . In February 2018, ECOCY received a general protective service referral for the maternal aunt regarding inappropriate discipline that was screened out. In early June 2018, ECOCY received a general protective service referral for the victim child and mother regarding homelessness. The referral was determined valid and ECOCY provided shelter and behavioral health services to the family.

7. A 2-month-old male child nearly died on January 12, 2019, as a result of serious physical neglect. Erie County Office of Children and Youth (ECOCY) indicated the report on March 14, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of incident, the mother found the victim child unresponsive and contacted emergency medical services (EMS). The child was transported by EMS to a local hospital, and then transported to the regional pediatric hospital due to concerns associated with failure to thrive. He was diagnosed with malnourishment, sepsis, acute kidney injury, severe acidosis, status epilepticus, and extensive cortical edema which was consistent with encephalitis. The child weighed under five pounds upon admission to the regional pediatric hospital, which was only a seven-ounce weight gain since his birth. The doctor stated that the child was emaciated upon admission and that his immune system was compromised. It was determined that the child had not been seen by a primary care physician since his birth. The victim child had a 2-year-old sibling in the home, although there were no safety concerns for the sibling because that child received regular medical care. The family received ongoing community services. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family was previously known to child welfare. Between November 2017 and December 2018, ECOCY received three general protective service referrals regarding the sibling's father for inappropriate caregivers, inadequate clothing, inadequate shelter, inadequate health care and substance use, which were determined valid. The family was referred to community services, and the family was opened for services at the time of the incident.

Lancaster

8. A less than 1-day-old male nearly died on January 14, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Lancaster County Children and Youth Social Services Agency (LCCYSSA) indicated the report on March 14, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child's mother gave birth to the child while on the toilet at work, and

left the baby submerged in the toilet until emergency medical services (EMS) arrived. Law enforcement and EMS performed cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) because the child was blue and not breathing. The child was transported to a hospital where he presented with severe hypothermia and respiratory inadequacy. He was hospitalized for six days and then discharged into the custody of LCCYSSA. The child received placement services and regular, ongoing medical care. The victim child had a 2-year-old sibling that resided with family before and after the incident. At the time the report was indicated, the mother had been incarcerated and charged with endangering the welfare of children. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

9. A 2-year-old female child nearly died on January 17, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Lancaster County Children and Youth Social Services Agency (LCCYSSA) indicated the report on March 5, 2019, naming the victim child's adult caregiver as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was brought to a hospital with second-degree burns on the face, neck, chest, lower back, hips and vagina. Several bruises, marks, and scars were also found on all four of the child's arms and legs, as well as hematomas on the back and top of her skull. The child required transport to the specialty hospital due to the severity of the burns. The caregiver had been responsible for the child for two days leading up to the date of the incident and reported that the injuries to the child occurred when a cup of hot tea was knocked over onto her. It was determined the explanation provided was inconsistent with the injuries sustained, as there was evidence that the injuries occurred on an earlier date and medical treatment had not been provided. The child was released from the hospital into the care of her father and paternal grandmother. The child had two maternal siblings who were placed with other relatives. The family received medical services for the victim child, and housing services. At the time the report was indicated, the caregiver had been arrested and charged with two counts of aggravated assault, aggravated assault to someone less than six, concealment of a child, conspiracy, and endangering the welfare of a child, and was incarcerated awaiting trial. The family was previously known to child welfare. In May 2012, LCCYSSA received a general protective service (GPS) referral about the mother's violent behaviors and police activity at the home. During LCCYSSA involvement in 2012, an older sibling of the victim child went to stay with her father and paternal relatives due to safety concerns, and the case was closed in August 2012. In October 2014, LCCYSSA received a GPS referral regarding parental substance use and housing concerns when the mother gave birth to the second sibling of the victim child, but the report was determined invalid. In June 2017, LCCYSSA received a GPS referral regarding housing concerns when the mother was pregnant with the victim child, which was screened out because the mother was residing with relatives.

Lehigh

10. A 13-month-old female child nearly died on December 16, 2018, as a result of physical abuse. Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services (LCOCYS) indicated the report on February 6, 2019, naming the victim child's father as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child

was evaluated at a local medical facility after the parents observed the child to be lethargic and having trouble walking. It was determined that the child had ingested synthetic marijuana, and the substance was determined to belong to the father. The victim child has two older siblings who were determined to be unsafe in the home. The victim child and siblings were temporarily placed with a foster care resource family as a result of a safety plan. The children were returned to the care of the mother after the completion of parenting assessments and implementation of services in the home, and the father was permitted supervised visitation. The family continued to receive in-home supportive services. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was ongoing. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

McKean

11. A 3-month-old female child nearly died on December 19, 2018, as a result of physical abuse. McKean County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on February 12, 2019, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the parents took the victim child to the emergency room of a local hospital for concerns of a head injury. In addition to moderate head swelling on the left side of her head, a skull fracture was found on the left side of the head. A rib fracture and additional bruising were also discovered during examination. After providing explanations that were inconsistent with the child's injuries, the mother admitted to throwing a chair at the father during an argument that occurred four days before the child was brought into the hospital, and that the chair had hit the victim child in the head. The father confirmed the initial incident and admitted to observing the chair hit the child. The victim child had one sibling, and both children were removed and temporarily placed into foster care. The father was permitted visitation with the sibling, and the sibling was returned to the father's care after cooperation with services. The victim child was moved from foster care into kinship care. The family received services including drug and alcohol assessments, parenting classes, early intervention services, and behavioral health counseling. At the time the report was indicated, the father had been arrested and charged with endangering the welfare of children and recklessly endangering another person, and was out on bail. The mother had been charged with endangering the welfare of children, recklessly endangering another person, aggravated assault and simple assault, and was incarcerated. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement, although the mother had been known as a subject child.

Mercer

12. A 3-year-old female child nearly died on January 30, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Mercer County Children and Youth Services (MCCYS) indicated the report on February 28, 2019, naming the victim child's father and step-mother as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child was found unresponsive in the home and was transported to a local hospital by emergency medical services. Upon arrival at the hospital, the physician determined that the child sustained a brain bleed and bruising on the front left side of the head, as well as a skull fracture and a broken arm.

The child was transferred to a local pediatric hospital, where the injuries were determined to be indicative of non-accidental trauma. The child had been staying with the father and step-mother at the time that the injuries were sustained. After initially providing reports that were inconsistent to the child's injuries, the father admitted to poor anger management and the stepmother reported witnessing the father inappropriately discipline the victim child. The child was discharged from the hospital to the care of her mother. The victim child has two maternal half-siblings who live with the mother and two paternal half-siblings. The paternal siblings were placed into kinship care. The family received occupational and physical therapy services for the victim child, and parenting education services. At the time the report was indicated, the father had been arrested and charged with aggravated assault, and was awaiting trial. The family was previously known to child welfare. In July 2016, MCCYS received a general protective service (GPS) referral regarding medical neglect that was determined valid. In August 2017, MCCYS received a GPS referral regarding inappropriate discipline that was determined valid, but no injuries were noted, and the family was not accepted for services. In February 2018, MCCYS received a GPS referral regarding parental substance use that was determined invalid. In March 2018, MCCYS received a child protective service (CPS) referral regarding physical abuse of the victim child, but the allegations could not be substantiated, and the report was determined unfounded.

13. A 2-year-old male child nearly died on January 16, 2019, as a result of serious physical neglect. Mercer County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on February 15, 2019, naming the victim child's mother and her paramour as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, it was reported that the paramour crushed up suboxone pills on a table within the child's reach and then left the child alone in the room. The mother entered the room and found residue from the substance on the child's face, and the mother and paramour transported the child to a local hospital because it appeared he had ingested the substance. The child was responsive upon arrival at the hospital but became lethargic and less responsive while at the hospital. Narcan was administered to the child, and he was transferred via ambulance to the regional pediatric hospital for observation and treatment. The victim child had one sibling who was placed with the father, and the victim child was released to the father's care. At the time the report was indicated, both the mother and paramour had been charged with aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of a children, and recklessly endangering another person, and were incarcerated awaiting trial. The family was previously known to child welfare. Between June 2016 and February 2018, MCCYS received three general protective service (GPS) referrals regarding domestic violence, parental substance use, and parental behavioral health concerns that were all determined valid. The family was accepted for services after the February 2018 referral. In August 2018, MCCYS received a GPS referral for inappropriate caregivers for the sibling at the father's home, which was determined invalid but referred to Crawford County Children and Youth Services where the father resided.

Philadelphia

14. A 14-month-old female child nearly died on December 23, 2018, as a result of serious physical neglect. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (PDHS) indicated the report on February 5, 2019, naming victim child's father as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child's mother contacted emergency medical services after finding the victim child gasping for breaths. The child was still gasping for breaths, lethargic and had contracted pupils when she presented at the hospital. She responded after receiving two doses of Narcan. A blood screen determined that she had ingested the prescription pain medication Oxycodone. The victim child had two siblings who were not in the home at the time of the incident. The victim child and two siblings were placed into the care of their paternal grandmother and remained in her care as a part of a safety plan. On January 10, 2019, all three children were adjudicated dependent. The children were provided case management services and kinship care services. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.
15. A 3-week-old male child nearly died on January 21, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. The Philadelphia Department of Human Services (PDHS) indicated the report on March 1, 2019, naming the victim child's father as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was taken to the emergency room by his parents due to seizure-like activity. The child appeared drowsy upon arrival at the hospital, and he was found to have two fractured ribs, bleeding in the brain, a bruise on his mouth and an abrasion across his neck. Medical staff verified that the injuries occurred from direct blows to the child. It was determined that the father was the only person present with the child at the time the injuries occurred. The victim child was discharged to a medical group home where he continued to receive care and services for his injuries. There were no other children in the home. The family received case management, counseling, and placement services. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was ongoing. The family was previously known to child welfare. In December 2018, PDHS received a general protective service referral regarding parental substance use while the mother was pregnant with the victim child. The referral was screened out but the family was referred for services.
16. A 10-month-old male child nearly died on December 16, 2018, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on February 14, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child's mother reported that the child became fussy while in his walker, and that she placed the child on the floor of the living room before leaving the room. When the mother returned to the living room less than five minutes later, she found the child lying face down on floor unresponsive. The mother and child were transported to the local hospital by the mother's paramour, who had been in the home at the time of the incident. A physician determined that the child had ingested extended release opioids. The mother denied drug use or knowledge of how the drugs could have gotten into the home, but she admitted that she was the primary caregiver for the child. The victim child was discharged from the hospital into his father's care. The victim child had no siblings and no services were provided to the family. At the time the

report was indicated, the criminal investigation was ongoing. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

Venango

17. A 23-month-old female child nearly died on December 13, 2018, as a result of serious physical neglect. Venango County Children and Youth Services (VCCYS) indicated the report on February 1, 2019, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of incident, the victim child arrived at a local emergency department in cardiac arrest. The child presented with a temperature of 86 degrees and had to be resuscitated in order for her pulse to be detected. She was then transported by helicopter to a pediatric specialty hospital, where she was placed on a ventilator and required a feeding tube and catheter. The medical examination noted that she was hypothermic and exceptionally underweight at only 16 pounds, and she was subsequently diagnosed with severe malnourishment. Medical testing also confirmed that the child did not have any medical condition that would have caused the cardiac arrest or the extent of the malnourishment, but the specific cause for hypothermia could not be determined. It was determined that the severity of the child's condition could only have been caused over a period of time, and that the mother and father were the primary caregivers. The victim child had two siblings who were initially placed with the maternal grandmother as part of a safety plan, but the children were subsequently placed into two different non-relative foster care homes due to violations of the safety plan. The family received in-home parenting services, as well as behavioral health evaluations for the parents and early head start services for a sibling. At the time the report was indicated, both the mother and father had been charged with endangering the welfare of children, engaging in criminal conspiracy, and recklessly endangering another person. The family was previously known to child welfare. In April 2015, VCCYS received a general protective service (GPS) referral regarding parental substance use at the time of the birth of a sibling that was determined valid, and services were offered but not accepted by the family. From July 2015 to July 2017, three GPS referrals were received by VCCYS with concerns for parental substance use that were determined valid, and services were offered but declined by the family. In May 2018, VCCYS received a GPS referral regarding inappropriate discipline, domestic violence and parental behavioral health concerns that was determined invalid.

Washington

18. A 1-month-old female child nearly died on November 7, 2018, as a result of physical abuse. Washington County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on January 2, 2019, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child presented at the hospital after a reported fall from the parents' bed. The parents reported that the victim child had been lying on the father's chest, and that the child fell off of the bed onto the floor after both the father and child had fallen asleep. The victim child was experiencing seizure activity, and a medical scan revealed blood on her brain. Further examination revealed other injuries, including additional bleeding in and around her brain,

healing fractures to her ribs that were between seven and ten days old, fractures in both of her legs, bruising and scabs under her arms, linear marks on multiple parts of her body, handprints and bruising on both of her legs, and bruising on her stomach and hymen. The physician determined that the injuries were indicative of abuse and could not have occurred from falling off a bed. The parents had sole access to the victim child at the time the injuries would have occurred. There were no other children in the home. The victim child was placed into foster care and the case was accepted for services. The parents were ordered to engage in behavioral health evaluations, substance use treatment, and parenting services. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was ongoing. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

Westmoreland

19. An 11-month-old male child nearly died on December 5, 2018, as a result of physical abuse. Westmoreland County Children's Bureau (WCCB) indicated the report on January 31, 2019, naming the victim child's maternal aunt as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the maternal aunt had been caring for the victim child while the mother was at work, and reported finding the victim child limp, unresponsive, and not breathing. The aunt attempted cardiopulmonary resuscitation before transporting the child to an urgent care center where emergency medical services (EMS) were contacted. Narcan was administered to the child when EMS arrived, and he was transported by ambulance to a local pediatric specialty hospital where additional doses of Narcan were administered. The child tested positive for the substances cocaine, heroin, fentanyl, and codeine. The child was released to his mother's care and the family was not accepted for services. The maternal aunt had one child, and the aunt's family was accepted for and received services, including offender's treatment and a drug and alcohol evaluation. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was ongoing. The family was previously known to child welfare. In October 2008, WCCB received a general protective service referral for the aunt's family concerning parental substance use that had been determined invalid.