## **Fatalities**

## Bedford

1. A 12-year-old female child died on October 31, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Bedford County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on December 9, 2019, naming the victim child's stepfather as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the stepfather shot and killed the victim child and her mother. The stepfather contacted police and turned himself in. There was one other child in the home at the time of the incident who was residing with the biological father and remained in his care. There were no services provided. At the time the report was indicated, the stepfather had been criminally charged. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

# <u>Dauphin</u>

2. An 8-month-old male child died on October 21, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Dauphin County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on November 27, 2019, naming the victim child's mother's paramour as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was brought to the hospital via ambulance and was pronounced dead. The child sustained bruising, hemorrhaging, and microfractures to the skull consistent with trauma. The mother's paramour admitted to law enforcement that the child fell off the bed and the paramour picked the child up and dropped him. The mother's paramour stated that he tried calming the victim child down but admitted to gripping the child's head tightly and violently shaking the child. There were no other children in the home at the time of the incident and services were not provided. At the time the report was indicated, the paramour had been criminally charged. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

### Lackawanna

3. A 16-month-old male child died on October 29, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Lackawanna County Office of Youth and Family Services (LCOYFS) indicated the report on December 12, 2019, naming the victim child's mother's paramour as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child presented at the hospital with no pulse or heart rate, fresh bruises on the face, neck, and ears, and scratches on the feet. The mother reported the child was with mother's paramour while mother was showering and when she was done, she found the child unresponsive in the pack and play. The child was air lifted to a trauma center and succumbed to the injuries sustained. During the investigation, the paramour confessed he struck the child several times and strangled him; the paramour also stated that he had struck the child numerous times prior to the incident. The mother of the child denied any knowledge of abuse to the child. There were two other children in the home at the time of the incident who remained in the care of the mother based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the paramour had been criminally charged. The victim child's family was previously known to child welfare. In August 2016, LCOYFS received a CPS referral regarding sexual abuse which was indicated, and services were provided. In December 2016, Clearfield County Children, Youth,

and Family Services (CCCYFS) received a general protective services (GPS) referral alleging conduct by the parent or caregiver that places a child at risk which was determined valid and services were provided. In April 2017, CCCYFS received a GPS referral regarding parental substance use which was determined valid and services were provided. In November 2018, CCCYFS received a GPS referral regarding domestic violence which was determined valid and services were provided. In May 2019, LCOYFS received a GPS referral from CCCYFS regarding truancy which was screened out and services were not provided.

## Lehigh

4. A 3-month-old male child died on September 5, 2019, as a result of serious physical neglect. Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services (LCOCYS) indicated the report on November 5, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was found unresponsive by the mother, after the mother had left the child in the care of a 12-year-old sibling for a period of two hours. The sibling reported giving the child a bottle and propping the bottle up with a blanket during this time. When the mother returned to the residence and checked on the child, the child was unresponsive. The child was transported to a local hospital and pronounced dead. There were no visible signs of trauma and an autopsy was conducted. The final results of the autopsy were pending at the time the report was indicated. Through the investigation, it was determined the mother acted recklessly by leaving the victim child in the care of the older sibling; the sibling did not have the knowledge to be an appropriate caregiver for the child. Moreover, the sibling was ill at the time of the incident. The sibling and two other children were placed with a relative based on the result of a safety assessment that was conducted and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family was previously known to child welfare. In August 2015, LCOCYS received a general protective service (GPS) referral regarding parental substance use which was determined invalid and services were not provided. In March 2018, LCOCYS received a GPS referral regarding substance use by a parent which was determined valid and services were not provided. In May 2019, LCOCYS received a GPS referral regarding parental substance use which was determined valid and services were not provided.

### Luzerne

5. A 2-month-old male child died on September 28, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Luzerne County Children and Youth Agency indicated the report on November 26, 2019, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child was brought to the local emergency room by the parents where the child was pronounced dead. The child had computed tomography scans post-mortem which revealed that the child had rib fractures and a hemorrhage to the front left skull. Some of the fractures to the ribs were partially healed. The child also had an old hemorrhage to the right side of the skull indicating multiple subdural hematomas in varying stages of healing. Both the physician and coroner agreed that the child's injuries were due to non-accidental trauma. The father confessed to the police that he had squeezed the child on three separate occasions and that the most recent time that he had squeezed the child was on

September 26, 2019. The mother denied causing any of the child's injuries although she did admit to the police, she had become suspicious that the father might be hurting the child. Both parents were the primary caregivers for the child on a daily basis and neither offered any explanation that accounted for the injuries to the child's head. There were no other children in the home at the time of the incident and no services provided. At the time the report was indicated, the father had been criminally charged however, the criminal investigation was pending. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

## Mercer

6. A 14-year-old male child died on October 24, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Mercer County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on November 19, 2019, naming the victim child's father and an unrelated household member as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, emergency medical services and law enforcement were dispatched to the home in response to the victim child being unresponsive; when they arrived, the child was dead. It was determined through the investigation that the child had been dead for approximately 11 hours prior to the call to emergency services. The child had two black eyes, a skull fracture, and a healing basilar fracture; it appeared that the child was emaciated and had been severely beaten. The father did not provide a plausible explanation as to how the child sustained the injuries. The investigation revealed an unrelated household member, who acted as the child's caretaker on several occasions, was aware of that the child had two black eyes. The unrelated household member was also inconsistent as to the explanation of events leading to the incident. There was one other child in the home at the time of the incident who was placed in foster care and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the father and unrelated household member had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare. In November 2016, Beaver County Children and Youth Services received a child protective services report alleging causing serious physical neglect which was indicated, and services were provided. In December 2017, Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families (ACOCYF) received a general protective services (GPS) referral regarding inadequate food which was determined valid and services were provided. In June 2019, ACOCYF received a GPS referral regarding inadequate basic needs which was screened out and services were not provided.

## Philadelphia

7. An 8-month-old female child died on October 14, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on November 8, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the child was brought to the hospital by the police. The police stated they were called to the scene due to a report of gunshots. The child was found shot in the head by the mother. The child was pronounced dead at the hospital. There was one other child in the home who was also involved in the incident and pronounced dead. There were no services provided. At the time the report was indicated, the mother had been criminally charged. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

- 8. A 4-year-old female child died on October 14, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on November 8, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the child was brought to the hospital by the police. The police stated they were called to the scene due to a report of gunshots. The child was found shot in the head by the mother. The child was pronounced dead at the hospital. There was one other child in the home who was also involved in the incident and pronounced dead. There were no services provided. At the time the report was indicated, the mother had been criminally charged. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.
- 9. A 6-month-old male child died on September 9, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (PDHS) indicated the report on October 10, 2019, naming the victim child's father as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was found unresponsive by the father and was transported by emergency medical services to the local children's hospital. Upon examination, the child was found to have hemorrhaging of the brain and eyes, rib fractures, and a disarticulation of the lumbar spine. Later that day, the child succumbed to the injuries sustained. The mother was not home at the time of the incident and the father could not provide an explanation as to how the child sustained the injuries. There were three children living in the home at the time of the incident who were placed with relatives based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the father had died by suicide therefore, no criminal charges had been filed. The family was previously known to child welfare. In July 2018, PDHS received a general protective services (GPS) referral regarding inadequate healthcare which was determined valid and services were provided. In February 2019, PDHS received a GPS referral regarding inadequate education which was determined valid and services were provided. The family was receiving services at the time of the fatality.
- 10.A 2-year-old male child died on November 12, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on December 11, 2019, naming the victim child's mother' paramour as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was transported to the hospital by emergency services who were contacted due to the child being unresponsive. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation was attempted by family members, emergency services, and the hospital however, the child remained unresponsive and was eventually pronounced dead. The mother's paramour was the primary caretaker at the time of the incident. The autopsy ruled the report a homicide due to blunt impact injury to the torso, head, and extremities. There were four other children in the home at the time of the incident who were placed with relatives based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted and services were not provided. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending, and no criminal charges had been filed. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.
- 11.A 4-year-old female child died on November 3, 2019, as a result of serious physical neglect. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (PDHS) indicated the report on December 12, 2019, naming the victim child's unrelated caregiver

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as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child reportedly fell out of a second story window and was transported to the hospital. The caregiver reported the child was in the second-floor bedroom and the caregiver stepped away for a minute, heard a noise outside, went to the window and noticed the child slumped over a metal chair outside. The caregiver reported the child began to have a seizure, so the caregiver ran the child upstairs and put the child in cold water and then realized the child was not breathing. The caregiver called emergency medical services and began cardiopulmonary resuscitation. The child presented at the hospital with a cleft lip, multiple lesions on the face and neck, many other marks on the cheeks, old burns on the body and unexplained burns to the left thigh and arm. The child also presented with infected stitches in the lip and back of the head. The child received a computerized tomography scan which revealed the child was brain dead. The child later succumbed to the injuries sustained which were indicative of abuse. There were four other children in the home at the time of the incident who were placed with relatives based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted and services were not provided. At the time the report was indicated, the caregiver had been criminally charged. The victim child's family was previously known to child welfare. In September 2016, PDHS received a general protective service referral regarding parental substance use which was determined valid and services were provided.

### Snyder

12.A 14-month-old male child died on October 15, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Snyder County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on December 10, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was found by the grandfather in the bathtub drowning. At the time of the incident, the father was asleep and through the investigation it was determined the mother was responsible for caring for the child however, she fell asleep on the couch. During this time, the victim child's sibling drew a bath for the sibling and victim child to bathe. A neighbor unsuccessfully attempted to contact the parents when water was heard running for a long period of time. The neighbor then contacted the grandfather, who went to the home and found the child in the bathtub and called emergency medical services. The child received cardiopulmonary resuscitation until being pronounced dead at the hospital. Based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted, the sibling was placed with relatives and had supervised visitation with the parents. The family received services. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending, and no criminal charges had been filed. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

### York

13.A 5-year-old male child died on August 20, 2019, as a result of a serious physical neglect. York County Office of Children Youth and Families (YCOCYF) indicated the report on October 18, 2019, naming the victim child's mother's paramour as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was shot and killed. The child and sibling were in the care of the paramour. The paramour placed the children in the paramour's car while the paramour returned to the home to retrieve a forgotten item. It is believed that the sibling

found the gun under the vehicle seat and shot the child. The child was pronounced dead at the scene. The victim child's sibling in addition to two other children in the home at the time of the incident were placed in the homes of their respective fathers and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the paramour had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare. In October 2016, YCOCYF received a general protective services (GPS) referral regarding lack of supervision, domestic violence, and substance use which was determined valid and services were not provided. In March 2017, YCOCYF received a GPS referral regarding domestic violence which was determined valid and services were not provided. In February 2019, YCOCYF received a GPS referral regarding lack of supervision which was determined valid and services were not provided.

## **Near Fatalities**

## Allegheny

- 1. A 1-month-old female child nearly died on September 9, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Allegheny County Children, Youth, and Families (ACOCYF) indicated the report on November 5, 2019, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. The father admitted during an interview with police and ACOCYF that on the date of the incident, he was frustrated with the victim child because she was upset and crying so, he picked the child up by one arm and admitted to giving the child one quick shake. The medical professionals stated that this action does not account for the extensive injuries to the child. The injuries sustained by the child included bruises, a frenulum injury, multiple fractures including skull, torso, and limb fractures, swelling to soft tissue and muscles, and a liver laceration. It was also determined by medical professionals that these injuries would have been evident, yet the parents did not seek medical treatment for at least two days. There was one other sibling in the home at the time of the incident who was placed in kinship care based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted; the victim child was also placed in the same kinship placement upon discharge from the hospital. The family received services. At the time the report was indicated, the father had been criminally charged. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.
- 2. An 11-month-old female child nearly died on September 17, 2019, as a result of serious physical neglect. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth, and Families (ACOCYF) indicated the report on November 7, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was taken to the hospital by emergency medical services due to continuous seizures; it was determined by the physician and through the investigation the mother had been diluting the child's milk with water resulting in a lack of nutrition. The mother diluting the milk resulted in seizure activity, poor growth, and a lack of brain cell development. Upon discharge from the hospital, the victim child was placed with a relative. Based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted, two other children in the home at the time of the incident were placed with the same relative and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending, and no charges had been filed. The family was previously known to

child welfare. In November 2018, a child protective services referral was received alleging causing bodily injury which was unfounded, and services were provided. In September 2018, ACOCYF received a general protective services (GPS) referral alleging inappropriate discipline which was screened out and services were not provided. In December 2018, ACOCYF received a GPS referral regarding inadequate food/clothing/hygiene which was determined invalid and services were provided.

### Armstrong

3. A 15-year-old male child nearly died on October 10, 2019, as a result of serious physical neglect. Armstrong County Children and Youth Services (ACCYS) indicated the report on November 27, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was hospitalized due to the child's mother failing to have lifesaving medical intervention and treatment for the child. The victim child was born with a cardiac medical condition. Medical personnel previously determined that it was medically necessary for the child to have heart surgery. The mother refused to allow the surgery to occur which lead to the hospitalization of the victim child on the date of the incident. The mother would not allow the admitting hospital to transfer the child to a hospital more equipped to handle the medical condition which prolonged intervention and subsequently caused more medical issues. The child was placed in the care of a relative. There were two other children in the home at the time of the incident who remained in the home based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted and services were not provided. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending, and no criminal charges had been filed. The family was previously known to child welfare. In November 2018, ACCYS received a child protective services referral regarding medical neglect which was unfounded, and services were not provided.

#### Beaver

4. A 4-year-old female child nearly died on August 25, 2019, as a result of serious physical neglect. Beaver County Children and Youth Services (BCCYS) indicated the report on October 22, 2019, naming the victim child's father as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was admitted to the intensive care unit at the local children's hospital due to seizure activity. It was suspected that the child had overdosed on an over-the-counter medication while in the care of the father. The father provided several accounts of the circumstances surrounding the incident and later admitted to medical personnel that he had been using over-the-counter medication to manage the child's behavioral health condition. The child was discharged from the hospital to the care of the mother. There were two other children in the household at the time of the incident who remained in the care of the mother based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family was previously known to child welfare. In March 2006, July 2009, May 2009, January 2010, and July 2012, BCCYS received general protective services (GPS) referrals regarding parental substance use, parental behavioral health concerns, lack of supervision, and inadequate shelter which were determined invalid and services were provided. In November 2011, BCCYS

received a GPS referral regarding inadequate health care which was determined valid and services were provided.

## Blair

5. A 15-month-old male child nearly died on August 10, 2019 as a result of physical and sexual abuse. Blair County Children, Youth, and Family (BCCYF) indicated the report on October 8, 2019, naming an unknown perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was reported missing from the home and later was discovered unconscious in an alley located close to the family's home. The child was found severely beaten which resulted in acute facial trauma and a periorbital hematoma. The child was first transported to a local medical center and then life flighted to a specialized hospital. Medical professionals also identified that the child had anal tears. The physicians treating the child assessed that the child was a victim of child abuse. The child was discharged from the hospital to the care of the mother. There were two other children in the home at the time of the incident who were placed with relatives based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the perpetrator was unknown therefore no criminal charges had been filed however, the criminal investigation was pending. The family was previously known to child welfare. In August 2017, BCCYF received a child protective services report alleging engaging in per se acts which was indicated, and services were provided. In January and February 2018, BCCYF received general protective services referrals regarding intellectual disabilities of a child, inadequate hygiene, and homelessness which were determined valid and services were provided.

#### Bucks

- 6. An 8-year-old male child nearly died on October 23, 2019, as a result of serious physical neglect. Bucks County Children and Youth indicated the report on December 20, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, it was determined the victim child sustained burns from a kerosene heater and was not medically treated. The mother was responsible for the care of the child at the time of the incident and did not seek medical attention. The child sustained second and third degree burns on the chest and abdomen and skin redness and pain to the right palm of the hand. The child was discharged from the hospital to the care of the father. There was one other child in the home at the time of the incident who remained in the care of the mother based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted and services were not provided. The family subsequently moved out of the county and the case was transferred to the appropriate agency. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.
- 7. A 6-month of female child nearly died on August 1, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Bucks County Children and Youth Social Service Agency indicated the report on November 4, 2019, naming an unknown perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was taken to a local children's hospital for a scheduled appointment with neurology due to increased head circumference observed by the primary care physician; the child received magnetic resonance

imaging of the brain which revealed bilateral subdural hemorrhages. In addition, the child was evaluated by ophthalmology which revealed retinal hemorrhages in the left eye. Due to the child not exhibiting any symptoms prior to the date of the incident, a timeline for when the child sustained the injuries could not be determined nor a perpetrator identified; however, through the investigation it was determined that the child suffered bodily injury as a result of inflicted trauma. Based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted, the seven other children in the home at the time of the incident remained in the care of their parents and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family was previously known to child welfare. In March 2018 and June 2019, Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth received two general protective services referrals regarding parental substance use and inappropriate discipline which were determined invalid and services were not provided.

### Chester

8. An 11-month-old male child nearly died on September 25, 2019, as a result of serious physical neglect. Chester County Department of Children, Youth, and Families indicated the report on October 29, 2019, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the grandparents found the victim child unresponsive in the parent's vehicle parked outside of the grandparent's home; the parents were also found unconscious in the car. Through the investigation, it was determined the parents had gone to the car during a family dinner and used an illegal substance; the child had also ingested the substance. The child was found blue in the face, unresponsive, and foaming from the mouth. Emergency medical services were contacted and Narcan was administered. There was one other child in the home at the time of the incident. The victim child and other child were placed in the care of relatives based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the mother and father had been criminally charged. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

### Clarion

9. A 2-year-old female child nearly died on October 31, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Clarion County Children and Youth Services (CCCYS) indicated the report on December 27, 2019, naming the victim child's mother and the mother's paramour as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child presented to the emergency room due the child seeming "out of it" and unable to focus. The hospital determined the child had hypotonia, decreased tone in the muscles and a seizure disorder. A computed tomography scan revealed a skull fracture and a brain bleed. Medical personnel determined the injuries sustained were indicative of trauma and there was no medical condition which could explain the injuries. The mother and paramour were the caretakers of the child during the time of the incident and could not provide an explanation of the injuries. The victim child was placed into a medical foster home upon discharge from the hospital. Based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted, the other child in the home at the time of the incident was initially placed with a relative and then returned to the mother. The victim child was not returned to the care of the mother due to the

complexity of medical care required. The family received services. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending, and no criminal charges had been filed. The family was previously known to child welfare. In May 2019, CCCYS received a general protective services referral regarding conduct by the parent, caregiver, or household member that places a child at risk or fails to protect the child from others which was determined invalid and services were not provided.

#### Delaware

10.A 1-month-old male child nearly died on August 24, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Delaware County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on October 7, 2019, naming the victim child's father as perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the mother and father were involved in a domestic dispute during which the victim child fell out of the mother's arms and hit his head on the wooden floor. The father had put the mother in a chokehold while she was holding the child which resulted in the mother starting to lose consciousness and dropping the child. The child was transported to the local hospital and received a computerized tomography scan which revealed a skull fracture. The child was subsequently transported to a local pediatric specialty hospital where further testing revealed a left parietal scalp hematoma. The child was discharged into the care of the mother and services were not provided. There were no other children in the home at the time of the incident. At the time the report was indicated, the father had been criminally charged. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

### Lancaster

11.A 12-month-old male child nearly died on October 22, 2019, as a result of serious physical neglect. Lancaster County Children and Youth Social Services Agency (LCCYSSA) indicated the report on December 16, 2019, naming the maternal grandfather as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was taken to the local hospital emergency room due to being unresponsive. Medical testing determined that the child overdosed on heroin. The maternal grandfather admitted to LCCYSSA to snorting heroin prior to going to the child's residence. At the child's residence, the maternal grandfather cuddled the child thereby exposing the child to the heroin residue that was on the maternal grandfather's clothing and beard. The victim child remained in the care of the parents. There was one other child in the home at the time of incident who also remained in the care of the parents. Based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted, a safety plan was established that required the child to have no contact with the maternal grandfather and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the maternal grandfather had been criminally charged. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

## Lehigh

12.A 2-month-old female child nearly died on July 29, 2019, as a result of serious physical neglect. Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services (LCOCYS) indicated the report on November 26, 2019, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, it was

determined during an investigation involving the victim child's sibling, that the victim child appeared emaciated with prominent cheekbones and ribs. The child's primary care physician (PCP) was contacted, and an appointment was made to have the child examined. The PCP weighed the victim child who was found to weigh 6 pounds, 11 ounces, which was considered severely underweight. The child was taken to a local hospital and was admitted due to weight loss, emesis, and was diagnosed with severe protein-calorie malnutrition. It was determined through the investigation the parents did not follow through with scheduled weight checks and had multiple missed appointments with the PCP, immunizations were not up to date, and growth parameters were not appropriate for the child's age which demonstrated moderate to severe malnutrition. The child was placed in foster care upon discharge from the hospital. Based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted, six children in the home at the time of the incident remained in the home and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family was previously known to child welfare. In September 2018, LCOCYS received a child protective services referral regarding causing serious physical neglect and repeated prolonged or egregious failure to supervise which was indicated, and services were provided.

13.A 2-year-old male child nearly died on August 12, 2019, as a result of serious physical neglect. Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services (LCOCYS) indicated the report on November 1, 2019, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the mother brought the victim child to a local hospital due to a cough, fever, and runny nose. The child was admitted to the hospital with severe malnutrition, pneumonia, and dangerously low blood sugar levels. Through the investigation it was determined the family neglected to take the child to appointments with neurosurgery, pediatrics, and endocrinology and the child was not given prescribed thyroid medication. The child was discharged to a rehabilitation facility and subsequently placed in foster care. There was one child in the home at the time of the incident who remained in the home based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family was previously known to child welfare. In June 2017, LCOCYS received a general protective service (GPS) referral regarding conduct by a parent or caregiver that puts the child at risk and parental substance use which was determined valid and services were not provided. In December 2017, LCOCYS received a GPS referral regarding behavioral health concerns which was determined invalid and services were provided. In December 2017, LCOCYS received a GPS referral regarding homelessness which was determined valid and services were provided. In November 2018, LCOCYS received a GPS referral regarding a child under 1-year-old who was born and identified as being affected by substance use or withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure which was determined invalid and services were not provided. In April 2019, LCOCYS received a GPS referral regarding inadequate basic needs which was determined invalid and services were provided. In April 2019, LCOCYS received a GPS referral regarding conduct by a parent or caregiver that puts the child at risk which was determined valid and services were provided. In April 2019, LCOCYS received a child protective services referral regarding causing bodily injury to a child which was indicated, and services were provided.

- 14.A 14-month-old male child nearly died on October 17, 2019, as a result of serious physical neglect. Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services (LCOCYS) indicated the report on December 3, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child's mother took the child and the child's sibling to the primary care physician for well check-ups and weight checks; the victim child and sibling were subsequently admitted to the pediatric unit of the hospital due to severe malnutrition and failure to thrive. It was determined through the investigation that the mother was not providing the victim child an adequate caloric intake and the child did not have a medical condition which would contribute or cause inadequate weight gain. Upon discharge from the hospital, the victim child was placed with the father based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted. There were two children in the home at the time of the incident. Based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted, one sibling was placed with the father along with the victim child and the other sibling remained in the care of mother and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family was previously known to child welfare. In April 2019, LCOCYS received a child protective services referral regarding serious physical neglect of a child which was unfounded, and services were not provided. In May 2019, LCOCYS received a general protective services referral regarding substance use and behavior by a parent or caregiver that places the child at risk which was screened out and services were not provided.
- 15.A 14-month-old male child nearly died on October 17, 2019, as a result of serious physical neglect. Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services (LCOCYS) indicated the report on December 3, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child's mother took the child and the child's sibling to the primary care physician for well check-ups and weight checks; the victim child and sibling were subsequently admitted to the pediatric unit of the hospital due to severe malnutrition and failure to thrive. It was determined through the investigation that the mother was not providing the victim child an adequate caloric intake and the child did not have a medical condition which would contribute or cause inadequate weight gain. Upon discharge from the hospital, the victim child was placed with the father based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted. There were two children in the home at the time of the incident. Based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted, one sibling was placed with the father along with the victim child and the other sibling remained in the care of mother and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family was previously known to child welfare. In April 2019, LCOCYS received a child protective services referral regarding serious physical neglect of a child which was unfounded, and services were not provided. In May 2019, LCOCYS received a general protective services referral regarding substance use, and behavior by a parent or caregiver that places the child at risk which was screened out and services were not provided.

## Luzerne

16.A 16-month-old female child nearly died on October 27, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Luzerne County Children and Youth Agency indicated the report on December 27, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was brought to the

babysitter's home and went directly to sleep; later the child woke up with several bouts of vomiting and diarrhea. The babysitter bathed the child in soap and warm water and contacted the mother to come pick up the child. The child was then transported to the emergency room by the mother. Upon arrival at the emergency room, the child presented as hypothermic with a rectal body temperature of 85 degrees, had mild tachycardia with a pulse of 110, and an altered mental state. The results of the toxicology came back positive for caffeine and prescription medication. Through the investigation, it was determined the mother was the primary caretaker during the time period when the prescription medication would have been ingested. There was one other child in the mother's home and two other children who were already residing with a relative at the time of the incident; all four children were placed or remained in the care of the relative based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted and services were provided. There were children in the babysitter's home at the time of the incident who were determined to be safe and remained in the care of the babysitter. At the time the report was indicated. the criminal investigation was pending, and no criminal charges had been filed. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

### Montgomery

17.A 2-month-old male child nearly died on August 23, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth (MCOCY) indicated the report on October 22, 2019, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the mother reported the victim child independently rolled out of the crib and was not breathing. The child was transported by private vehicle to a local hospital because the parents did not feel the ambulance would arrive on time. The child was subsequently medevacked to a specialized children's hospital. The child sustained a skull fracture, suffered multiple cardiac arrests, and was in a persistent vegetative state and not expected to improve. The mother was the primary caretaker of the child at the time of the incident and the mother's account of how the injuries were sustained was inconsistent with the mobility capabilities of a child at that age. There was one other child in the home at the time of the incident who was placed with a relative based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending, and no criminal charges had been filed. The family was previously known to child welfare. In June 2019, MCOCY received a general protective services referral regarding parental substance use and a child being born and identified as being affected by substance use or withdrawal symptoms resulting from pre-natal drug exposure which was screened out and services were not provided.

### Northampton

18.A 2-month-old female child nearly died on September 16, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Northampton County Children, Youth, and Families (NCCYFD) indicated the report on October 16, 2019, naming the victim child's father as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the father took the victim child to the emergency room after the father reportedly tripped and fell while holding the child. The father later admitted to law enforcement that he tripped on the child and was overwhelmed, then proceeded to hit the child on the head with

the baby bottle. The child sustained a left parietal skull fracture with multiple subdural and subarachnoid hemorrhages and hematomas. The child also had extensive pattern bruising to the entire head and abdomen. Upon discharge from the hospital, the child was placed in foster care. There were six other children in the home at the time of the incident whose safety was assured, and they remained in the care of their parents. The family received services. At the time the report was indicated, the father had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare. In July 2019, NCCYFD received a general protective services referral regarding domestic violence and intellectual disabilities of the parent or caregiver, and behavioral health concerns of the parent or caregiver which was determined valid and services were provided.

## Northumberland

19.A 3-year-old female child nearly died on October 10, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Northumberland County Children and Youth Services (NCCYS) indicated the report on November 4, 2019, naming the victim child's mother and mother's paramour as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child was transported to the hospital via ambulance for reported seizure activity. A medical evaluation revealed bruises and abrasions, in different stages of healing, all over the body, blood in the vaginal area, bruised lungs, an acute brain bleed, bilateral hematomas around both kidneys, internal bleeding of the abdomen, multiple rib fractures, and bilateral fractures to both clavicles. The mother's paramour admitted to NCCYS that he picked the child up, pinned her to a wall, and then put her on the floor; the paramour then picked the child up to throw her onto the couch, but the child landed on the floor and began seizing. The mother was present at the time of the incident and did not intervene. The victim child remained hospitalized and was placed in the care of the NCCYS with supervised contact with the mother. There were no other children in the home at the time of the incident and services were not provided. At the time the report was indicated, the mother and paramour had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare. In December 2018, NCCYS received a general protective services (GPS) referral with allegations of parental substance use which was determined valid and services were not provided. In April 2019, NCCYS received a GPS report regarding substance use which was determined valid and services were provided. In July 2019, NCCYS received a GPS referral regarding conduct by a parent or caregiver that places the child at risk which was screened out due to a child protective service (CPS) referral regarding the same incident. The CPS referral was received in July 2019 alleging causing bodily injury which was unfounded, and services were provided. In August 2019 and September 2019, NCCYS received three GPS referrals regarding domestic violence which were determined invalid and services were provided.

### Philadelphia

20.A 12-year-old female child nearly died on October 1, 2019, as a result of serious physical neglect. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on November 19, 2019, naming the victim child's father and mother as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child was hospitalized due to diabetic ketoacidosis. The child had vomited once each day the two days prior to the incident. The grandmother had been caring for the child at the time of the incident and when the parents arrived, they found the child to be pale,

lethargic, and barely able to walk. The child was taken to the hospital and presented with a blood glucose of 314 and positive for ketones. Through the investigation, it was determined the mother and father failed to take appropriate action to ensure the child's known medical needs were met; the grandmother was not responsible for providing adequate medical care to the child. The child was discharged into the care of the parents. There were four other children in the home at the time of incident who remained in the care of the parents based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted and services were not provided. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family was previously known to child welfare. In February 2019, Delaware County Children and Youth Services received a child protective service referral regarding failure to provide medical treatment and causing serious physical neglect of a child which was unfounded, and services were provided.

- 21.A 2-month-old male child nearly died on October 30, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (PDHS) indicated the report on December 26, 2019, naming an unknown perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was taken to the local hospital by a relative due to seizures and a temperature of 104 degrees. The child was immediately intubated and then transported to another local hospital by emergency medical services. The child presented with multiple subdural hematomas, a retinal hemorrhage, ligament sprains in the neck, and facial bruising around the left cheek and chin area. Medical professionals reported that the injuries sustained were consistent with non-accidental trauma. Through the investigation, it could not be determined the time frame in which the injuries were sustained therefore an unknown perpetrator was named. The victim child was discharged from the hospital to the care of a relative. There was one other child in the home at the time of the incident who was placed in the care of a relative based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted. The family received services. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family was previously known to child welfare. In March 2019, PDHS received a child protective services (CPS) referral regarding physical abuse which was unfounded, and services were not provided. In March 2019, PDHS received a CPS referral regarding bodily injury which was determined unfounded and services were not provided. In April 2019, PDHS received a general protective services referral regarding abandonment which was determined valid and services were provided.
- 22.A 2-year-old male child nearly died on October 30, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on November 29, 2019, naming the victim child's two babysitters as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the mother reported receiving a phone call from the babysitters stating the victim child fell down a flight of steps and sustained injuries. The mother left work to attend to the child and when the mother arrived, the child was not acting like himself, as he was not as alert as usual and not verbally responsive. The child was transported to the hospital and presented with a superficial laceration, a hemorrhage on the eye, left clavicle fracture, and older lesions throughout the body that appeared to be healed. The injuries sustained were indicative of non-accidental trauma. The babysitters were the only caretakers of the child when the injuries were sustained. The child remained in the mother's care upon discharge from the

- hospital. There was one other child in the home at the time of the incident who also remained in the mother's care based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted. The family received services. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending, and no criminal charges had been filed. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.
- 23.A 6-month-old male child nearly died on October 7, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report of October 28, 2019, naming the victim child's mother's ex-paramour as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the mother's ex-paramour transported the victim child to the local hospital; the child presented with multiple bruises to the neck, head, back, chest, and face. Further examination revealed that the child had a subdural hematoma and bilateral subconjunctival hemorrhages. The injuries sustained by the child were inconsistent with the explanation provided by the ex-paramour. The ex-paramour was the primary caretaker of the child during the time period when the injuries were sustained. The child was discharged from the hospital into the care of the mother. There was one other child in the home who was placed with a relative at the time of the incident based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, criminal charges had been filed. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.
- 24.A 2-year-old male child nearly died on October 19, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on December 3, 2019, naming the victim child's father as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the child was unresponsive and taken to the local hospital by the father. The child presented with three bruises on the face and received a computed tomography scan which revealed a subdural hematoma. The father was the caretaker of the child during the timeframe in which the injuries were sustained and was unable to explain how the child sustained the injuries. The child was discharged from the hospital to the care of the mother. There were no other children in the home at the time of the incident and services were not provided. At the time the report was indicated, criminal charges had been filed. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.
- 25.A 12-month-old male child nearly died on August 1, 2019, as a result of serious physical neglect. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (PDHS) indicated the report on November 8, 2019, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child presented at the local children's hospital with signs of malnutrition and weight loss. The mother and father neglected to take the child to multiple appointments with the primary physician, and other medical specialists. The child had previously been hospitalized for the same concerns. It was determined through the investigation that the child's complex medical needs were not being met by biological parents. The child remained hospitalized with plans to place the child in a medical foster home, upon discharge. There were two other children in the home at the time of the incident who remained in the care of the parents based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family was previously known to child welfare. In July 2018, PDHS received a general protective services (GPS) referral alleging abandonment which was determined invalid and services were not provided. In July 2019,

PDHS received GPS referral alleging failure to follow up with medical appointments which was determined valid. The family was receiving services at the time of this near fatality incident.

### Wayne

26.A 2-month-old female child nearly died on September 4, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Wayne County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on November 7, 2019, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child was admitted to the hospital due to poor weight gain and vomiting which led to a feeding tube being inserted; the feeding tube procedure required an X-Ray which revealed rib fractures. Subsequent imaging revealed several more fractures throughout the child's body and hemorrhages consistent with abusive head trauma. The mother and father were the only caretakers of the child. The child was transferred to a rehabilitation hospital with plans for the child to be placed with a relative upon discharge. There were no other children in the home at the time of the incident and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the mother and father had been criminally charged. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

## Westmoreland

27.A 3-month-old male child nearly died on September 7, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Westmoreland County Children's Bureau (WCCB) indicated the report on October 22, 2019, naming the victim child's mother's paramour as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was taken to the hospital by emergency medical services (EMS) due to a reported choking incident while the paramour was feeding the child. The child was subsequently life-flighted to the emergency department at a regional children's hospital. The child sustained fractured ribs, a retinal hemorrhage, and a brain bleed. It was later determined, through further testing, the child had old brain hemorrhages. It was reported that the paramour was feeding the child in the bedroom with a bottle propped up, the bottle fell, and the child began to choke, and EMS was contacted. Medical personnel reported the injuries sustained were inconsistent with the account provided. The child was placed with a relative upon discharge from the hospital. Based on the results of a safety assessment that was conducted, one other child in the household at the time of the incident was placed with the father and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the paramour had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare. In May 2016, December 2016, and September 2017, WCCB received general protective services (GPS) referrals regarding parental substance use, homelessness, and inadequate shelter which were determined valid and services were provided. In November 2018, WCCB received a GPS referral regarding parental behavioral health concerns which was determined valid and services were not provided. In January 2019, WCCB received a GPS referral regarding inadequate shelter which was determined invalid and services were not provided. In March 2019, WCCB received a child protective services (CPS) referral regarding causing bodily injury which was unfounded, and services were not provided. In May 2019, WCCB received a GPS referral regarding parental substance use which was screened out and services

were not provided. In September 2019, WCCB received a CPS referral regarding causing bodily injury which was unfounded, and services were provided.

# <u>York</u>

28.A 2-year-old male child nearly died on August 20, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. York County Office of Children, Youth, and Families indicated the report on October 10, 2019, naming the victim child's mother's paramour as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was brought to the hospital by the mother. The child had a broken clavicle, severe bruising on the head, a straight-line fracture on the right side of the skull, and bleeding on the brain. The child was transferred to a specialty hospital for continued treatment. The paramour initially reported to the mother that an entertainment center fell on the child; the explanation provided was inconsistent with the injuries sustained. The mother's paramour later admitted to law enforcement that he pulled the child upstairs by the arm, hit the child multiple times on the head. and threw the child across the room into a clothing hamper. The child was discharged from the hospital into the care of the father. There were two children in the home at the time of the incident who were placed with relatives based on the result of a safety assessment that was conducted and services were not provided. At the time the report was indicated, the paramour had been criminally charged. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.