# **Fatalities**

# <u>Allegheny</u>

1. A 3-year-old female child died on March 26, 2021, as a result of serious physical neglect. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth, and Families indicated the report on May 24, 2021, naming the victim child's father and mother as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child was shot by the child's sibling with a gun which was unsecured and loaded. The child was transported to the local hospital and pronounced dead. It was determined through the investigation there were several unsecured guns in the mother and the father's home at the time of the incident. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the sibling and one other child in the home at the time of the incident remained in the care of the mother and the father and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the mother and the father had been criminally charged. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

# Beaver

2. A 16-year-old female child died on February 22, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Beaver County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on April 23, 2021, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the mother shot and killed the victim child. It was determined through the investigation the mother admitted to the police that she had been planning to kill her child for at least two weeks prior to the incident. There were no other children in the home at the time of the incident. At the time the report was indicated, the mother had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare.

### Bucks

- 3. A 14-year-old female child died on July 9, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services Agency founded the report on June 3, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and mother's paramour as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child's mother and mother's paramour physically assaulted the victim child which led to the child's death. It was determined through the investigation the mother and the mother's paramour were responsible for the same factual circumstances as concluded in the criminal investigation and court proceedings. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the one other child in the home at the time of the incident was placed with a relative and services were provided. At the time the report was founded, the mother and the mother's paramour had dispositions of criminal charges. The family was previously known to child welfare.
- 4. A 2-month-old female child died on March 2, 2021, as a result of serious physical neglect. Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services Agency indicated the report on April 12, 2021, naming the victim child's mother, father, and paternal grandmother as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child was found unresponsive in bed with the mother and the father. Emergency medical services were contacted, and the child was

transported to the local hospital and pronounced dead. A toxicology screening revealed the mother and the father tested positive for illegal substances at the time of the incident. It was determined through the investigation that the paternal grandmother was responsible for supervising all contact between the mother, the father, and the child based on a safety plan which was previously put in place. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the two other children in the home at the time of the incident remained in the home with a relative supervising all contact between the mother, the father, and the children and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the mother had been criminally charged, the criminal investigation against the father was pending, and no criminal charges were filed against the maternal grandmother. The family was previously known to child welfare.

### Erie

5. A 14-month-old female child died on February 9, 2015, as a result of physical abuse. Erie County Office of Children and Youth indicated the report on May 4, 2021, naming an unknown perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was transported to the local hospital via ambulance after being found unresponsive in the family home. Upon arrival at the hospital, the child was pronounced dead. An autopsy and toxicology screening revealed the child tested positive for an illegal substance at the time of death. It was determined through the investigation on May 4, 2021, that it was unknown who provided the illegal substance. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the one other child in the home at the time of the incident was placed in foster care and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

#### Lawrence

6. A 3-year-old female child died on April 28, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Lawrence County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on June 3, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and mother's paramour as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the mother's paramour reported he left the victim child alone in the bathtub and when he returned the child was unresponsive; emergency services were contacted, and the child was transported to the regional pediatric hospital. The child presented at the hospital with a severe brain injury and healing patterned lesions on the skin. The child was subsequently pronounced dead. It was determined through the investigation the explanation provided by the mother's paramour was not plausible based on the injuries sustained by the child and the mother's paramour was the sole caregiver of the child at the time of the incident. It was also determined through the investigation that correspondence between the mother and the mother's paramour revealed the mother was aware of the abuse. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the one other child in the home at the time of the incident was placed with a relative and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the mother's paramour had been criminally charged and no criminal charges were filed against the mother. The family was previously known to child welfare.

### Lehigh

7. A 21-month-old male child died on April 6, 2021, as a result of serious physical neglect. Lehigh County Office Children and Youth Services indicated the report on June 2, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child was found unresponsive by the mother and the child was transported to the local hospital by a neighbor. Upon arrival at the hospital, the child was pronounced dead. The physician noted that the child presented to the hospital in rigor mortis and had been dead for several hours. It was determined through the investigation the child had been dead for several hours while the mother and the father were responsible for caring for the child while under the influence of substances. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the three other children in the home at the time of the incident were placed with a relative and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family was previously known to child welfare.

#### Monroe

- 8. A 2-month-old female child died on March 19, 2021, as a result of physical abuse and serious physical neglect. Monroe County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on May 13, 2021, naming the victim child's father and mother as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the mother and a household member contacted emergency services and reported the victim child was unresponsive. It was initially reported the father was cosleeping with the child on the couch while under the influence of substances. The child presented at the hospital and was pronounced dead. An autopsy was completed and revealed the child was found to have skull fractures and the cause of death was ruled a homicide by blunt force trauma. It was determined through the investigation that both the mother and the father were under the influence of an illegal substance at the time of the incident. It was also determined through the investigation, that the father admitted to becoming frustrated with the child and harming the child and the mother delayed contacting emergency services upon finding the child unresponsive. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the one other child in the home at the time of the incident was placed in foster care and no services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the mother and the father had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare.
- 9. An 11-year-old male child died on May 4, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Monroe County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on June 15, 2021, naming the victim child's 14-year-old sibling as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was in the care of the 14-year-old sibling and was shot in the head by the sibling. Police responded to the home and the child was pronounced dead. It was reported by the sibling the unloaded gun was retrieved from the gun safe in the home to show a friend; the gun was then loaded, cocked, and unloaded however; the chamber was not checked. The sibling reported accidentally pulling the trigger and shooting the child in the head with the bullet left in the chamber of the gun. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the 14-year-old sibling and one other child

in the home at the time of the incident remained in the care of the mother and the father and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

# Montgomery

10. A 12-year-old female child died on March 19, 2021, as a result of serious physical neglect. Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth indicated the report on April 30, 2021, naming the victim's child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, it was reported the mother told the victim child's sibling to obtain her gun; the sibling obtained the gun, pointed the gun at the child, and the gun was discharged. The child died as the result of the gunshot wound sustained. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the four other children in the home at the of the incident, were placed with relatives and the sibling was incarcerated. The family received services. At the time the report was indicated, the mother had been criminally charged. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

# Northumberland

11. A 4-year-old female child died on January 9, 2020, as a result of serious physical neglect. Northumberland County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on April 28, 2021, naming an unrelated household member as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was found by the mother aspirating on vomit; the unrelated household member performed cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the father contacted emergency services. The child was transported to the hospital and was pronounced dead. A toxicology screening revealed the child ingested a substance. It was determined through the investigation the unrelated household member was prescribed the substance ingested by the child and the criminal investigation concluded the unrelated household member caused the death of the child. There were no other children in the home at the time of the incident and no services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the unknown household member had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare.

#### Philadelphia

12. A 2-year-old male child died on March 16, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on April 15, 2021, naming the victim child's maternal grandfather as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, it was reported the victim child choked on a cookie, emergency services were contacted, and the child was transported to the local hospital. The child presented at the hospital with an abrasion to the middle of the back, dryness and possible healing abrasions around the mouth, scattered bruising in various stages of healing to the extremities, and ulcers in the oropharynx. The child died as a result of the injuries sustained. It was determined through the investigation the maternal grandfather was the primary caregiver of the child at the time of the incident and the explanation provided by the maternal grandfather was not a plausible explanation for the injuries sustained. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the two other children in the home at the time of the incident were

- placed with a relative and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the maternal grandfather had been criminally charged. The family had previous child welfare involvement.
- 13. A 2-year-old female child died on March 11, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on April 2, 2021, naming the victim child's two babysitters as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the one babysitter contacted emergency medical services (EMS) to report the victim child was choking; EMS arrived at the babysitter's home and found the child in respiratory distress. The child was transported to the hospital and upon arrival was pronounced dead. The child presented with several injuries including an enlarged rectum, vaginal bleeding, abrasions on both feet, scars on the abdomen, bruising behind the ears, healing wounds on the front and the back of the head, ulcers and cuts all over the body, and two circular wounds on the temple. The injuries sustained by the child were indicative of abuse over a period of time. It was determined through the investigation the babysitters were the sole caregivers of the child at the time of the incident. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the five other children in the home at the time of the incident were placed with a relative and no services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the babysitters had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare.

# **Near Fatalities**

# Allegheny

- 1. A 4-month-old female child nearly died on April 28, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth, and Families indicated the report on June 17, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and mother's paramour as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child became unresponsive while in the care of the mother's paramour and was transported to the regional pediatric hospital. The child presented at the hospital with a brain bleed and fluid on the liver. The injuries sustained by the child were indicative of abusive head trauma. It was determined through the investigation the mother's paramour was the sole caregiver of the child at the time of the incident and the mother allowed the paramour to be the sole caregiver despite knowing the paramour was an inappropriate caregiver. As a result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and two other children in the home at the time of the incident were placed in foster care and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the mother's paramour had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare.
- 2. A 6-year-old male child nearly died on October 16, 2020, as a result of physical abuse and serious physical neglect. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth, and Families indicated the report on April 16, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and mother's paramour as the perpetrators. On March 19, 2021, it was reported the victim child fell and became unconscious; the mother and the mother's paramour contacted emergency services. The child presented at the hospital with multiple compression fractures of the

spine, cerebellum distress, and burns and a laceration on the scrotum. It was determined through the investigation the mother and the mother's paramour had not sought medical treatment for the child since October 2020, and they were the sole caregivers of the child at the time of the incident when the child was brought to the hospital in March 2021 with injuries indicative of abuse. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child was placed in foster care and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the mother and the mother's paramour had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare.

- 3. A 2-year-old female child nearly died on April 5, 2021, as a result of serious physical neglect. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth, and Families indicated the report on May 28, 2021, naming the victim child's mother, father, and mother's paramour as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child was transported to the local children's hospital by the father after the child was not feeling well for several hours. Upon arrival at the hospital, the child was administered a toxicology screening for which the child tested positive for an illegal substance. It was determined through the investigation the mother, the mother's paramour, and the father were the caregivers of the child during the time when the child would have ingested the substance. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and the one other child in the home at the time of the incident were placed with relatives and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the mother, the mother's paramour, and the father had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare.
- 4. A 20-month-old male child nearly died on June 4, 2021, as a result of serious physical neglect. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth, and Families indicated the report on June 21, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child was found unresponsive by the mother after ingesting an illegal substance and emergency services were contacted. It was determined through the investigation the mother was the sole caregiver of the child at the time of the incident and the father allowed the mother to be the sole caregiver despite knowing the mother had a history of substance use and was suspicious of relapse. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child was placed in foster care and services were provided. There were no other children in the home at the time of the incident. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.
- 5. A 16-month-old male child nearly died on January 1, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families indicated the report on April 20, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and mother's paramour as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, it was reported the victim child fell down the stairs, lost consciousness, and was transported to the local children's hospital. The child presented at the hospital with abrasions to the head, face, and chest area and was determined to have a skull fracture and subdural hemorrhages. The explanation provided by the mother and the mother's paramour was not a plausible explanation for

injuries sustained. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and one other child in the home at the time of the incident were placed in foster care 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.

### Berks

6. A 4-month-old female child nearly died on February 24, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Berks County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on April 9, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child was transported by the family to the local hospital due to seizure activity. The child presented at the hospital with multiple brain bleeds which were indicative of non-accidental trauma. It was determined through the investigation that the mother and the father could not provide a plausible explanation for the injuries sustained, and the mother and the father were the sole caregivers of the child at the time of the incident. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and one other child in the home at the time of the incident were placed in kinship care and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

## Blair

7. 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 Families founded the report on June 9, 2021, naming an unrelated household member as the 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 transported to a local medical center and subsequently life flighted to a specialized hospital. Medical professionals also identified that the child had anal tears. It was determined through the investigation the unrelated household member caused the injuries sustained by the child. Upon the completion of the criminal investigation and court proceedings, the report was later founded on June 9, 2021, based on the findings. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and two other children in the home at the time of the incident were placed in foster care and services were provided. At the time the report was founded, the unrelated household member had a disposition of criminal charges. The family was previously known to child welfare.

#### Carbon

8. A 2-month-old male child nearly died on February 9, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Carbon County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on April 7, 2021, naming the victim child's father as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the mother brought the victim child to the emergency room after noticing a bulging fontanelle and the child was discharged home due to the hospital not noting a bulging fontanelle, the eyes were normal, and

the child was not in distress. The subsequent day the mother took the child to an urgent care facility due to a bulging fontanelle, vomiting, and a blown pupil and the child was subsequently transported to the local hospital. Upon arrival at the hospital, a computerized tomography scan revealed subdural hematomas and midline shift. The injuries sustained by the child were indicative of abuse. It was determined through the investigation the father was the sole caregiver of the child at the time of the incident. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and one other child in the home at the time of the incident were placed with relatives 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.

### Crawford

9. A 22-month-old male child nearly died on June 2, 2021, as a result of serious physical neglect and physical abuse. Crawford County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on June 30, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child fell out a window and was found by a neighbor who contacted emergency medical services (EMS). Upon EMS' arrival, the child was found face down behind the family residence and the mother and the father were unaware the child fell out of the window. The child was transported to the local medical center and presented with several injuries that were the result of the fall from the window. It was determined through the investigation the mother and the father were aware the window was a safety concern, and the child was left unsupervised with access to the window. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and one other child in the home at the time of the incident were placed on a safety plan with a relative and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the mother and the father had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare.

#### Delaware

10. A 1-month-old male child nearly died on July 9, 2019, as a result of physical abuse. Delaware County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on April 20, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, it was reported the mother and the father contacted emergency services due the victim child having blood in the mouth. The child was transported to the hospital and arrived with linear abrasions in the back of the mouth and a puncture to the esophagus which were indicative of abuse. An additional physician reviewed the photos and medical records and reported the child was the victim of ongoing abuse. It was determined through the investigation the injuries sustained were caused by putting a sharp object in the child's throat and the mother and the father were unable to provide a plausible explanation for the injuries. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child was placed in a foster home and services were provided. There were no other children in the home at the time of the incident. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family was previously known to child welfare.

11. A 22-month-old male child nearly died on April 15, 2021, as a result of serious physical neglect. Delaware County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on June 15, 2021, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child presented at the local hospital with an altered mental state and pinpoint pupils due to a reported ingestion of an over-the-counter substance. Upon arrival at the hospital, the child positively responded to Narcan, therefore a drug screening was administered which revealed the child was positive for illegal substances. It was determined through the investigation the mother was the sole caregiver of the child and the child had only been in the mother's home at the time of the incident. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and the two other children in the home at the time of the incident were placed in kinship care 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.

### Erie

12. A 4-month-old female child nearly died on March 20, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Erie County Office of Children and Youth indicated the report on June 8, 2021, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, emergency services were contacted by the mother after the victim child was found unresponsive and had blood coming from the mouth. Upon arrival to the hospital, a computerized tomography scan revealed old and new blood on the brain, which was indicative of the child being shaken. It was determined through the investigation the mother admitted becoming frustrated and rough with the child. As the result of the safety assessment completed the victim child and the one other child in the home at the time of the incident were placed in a foster care and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the mother had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare.

#### Fayette

13. A 2-year-old female child nearly died on May 5, 2021, as a result of serious physical neglect. Fayette County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on June 30, 2021, naming the victim child's father as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was transported to the local hospital by the father due to the child being lethargic and unresponsive. The child arrived at the hospital with an altered mental state. It was determined through the investigation that while the child was in the care of the father the child ingested an unknown substance, and the father delayed seeking medical treatment for the child upon the onset of symptoms from the ingestion. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child was placed with relatives and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family was previously known child welfare.

### Greene

14. A 15-year-old female child nearly died on February 25, 2021, as a result of serious physical neglect. Greene County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on April 1, 2021, naming the victim child's mother as the

perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was at the hospital for a follow-up appointment regarding the child's ongoing medical condition. During the follow-up appointment an ultra-sound of the heart revealed severe left ventricle systolic dysfunction, a life-threatening situation which required admittance to the hospital. The mother refused to admit the child to the hospital and returned home with the child. The agency became involved, and the child was transported from the home back to the hospital via ambulance. The child was placed in the pediatric intensive care unit and placed on intravenous medication and anticoagulants. The physician stated that had the child not been brought back to the hospital it would have led to a fatal heart rhythm. As the result of the safety assessment completed the victim child and the two other children in the home at the time of the incident were placed in foster care and the family received services. At the time the report was indicated, the mother had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare.

# Lehigh

- 15. A 1-month-old male child nearly died on February 21, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services indicated the report on April 21, 2021, naming the victim child's father as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was having difficulty breathing and was unresponsive, therefore emergency services were contacted by a household member. When police arrived, the child was found gasping for air and a bruise was observed on the child's head. The child was transported to the hospital via ambulance. Medical testing revealed multiple hemorrhages, cerebral edema, a frenulum tear, and a healing right rib fracture. The injuries sustained by the child were indicative of severe inflicted head trauma. It was determined through the investigation that the child sustained the injuries while in the care of the father. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child was placed in kinship care and services were provided. There were no other children in the home at the time of the incident. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.
- 16. A 12-month-old female child nearly died on February 16, 2021, as a result of serious physical neglect. Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services indicated the report on April 29, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, it was reported by the mother that the father found the victim child limp, not breathing, and the child was transported to the local hospital. A toxicology screening revealed the child tested positive for an illegal substance. It was determined through the investigation the mother and the father could not provide an explanation as to how the child ingested the substance and the mother and the father were aware of substance use in the home and did not take proper precautions. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child was placed in foster care and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. There were no other children in the home at the time of the incident. The family was previously known to child welfare.

- 17. A 14-month-old male child nearly died on February 24, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services indicated the report on April 27, 2021, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was hospitalized due to difficulty breathing. While the child was hospitalized, medical personnel observed the condition to worsen after periods of time alone with the mother and the mother was observed carrying an unknown object out of the child's crib, moving video equipment away from the child's bed and unnecessarily touching medical equipment. Medical personnel were concerned the mother was administering a substance to the child causing the condition. A toxicology screening was administered which revealed the child was positive for a substance which was causing the child to be symptomatic. It was determined through the investigation the mother gave the child the substance. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and the one other child in the home at the time of the incident remained with the father in a relative's home and did not have contact with the mother. The family received services. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family was previously known to child welfare.
- 18. A 1-month-old male child nearly died on April 4, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services indicated the report on June 15, 2021, naming an unknown perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was seen by a physician for a routine check-up at which point the physician observed distension of the abdomen and ordered imaging; the imaging revealed a skull fracture and healing rib fractures. A medical consultation determined the injuries may have been sustained up to two weeks prior to the date of the incident and it was unable to be determined if the injuries were sustained the same date as the incident. The injuries sustained were indicative of non-accidental trauma however, there was a plausible explanation provided for the skull fracture. It could not be determined through the investigation who caused the injuries to the child. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and the two other children in the home at the time of the incident remained in the home with the parents with relatives supervising all contact and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

### Luzerne

19. A 16-month-old male child nearly died on March 23, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Luzerne County Children and Youth Agency indicated the report on April 28, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and the mother's paramour as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, it was reported the victim child fell out of the bed and the child was transported to the local emergency room by the mother. The child presented at the hospital with bruising of the head and shoulders and bleeding from the ear. The injuries sustained by the child were indicative of non-accidental trauma. It was determined through the investigation the mother and the mother's paramour were the sole caregivers of the child at the time of the incident; the mother and the mother's paramour provided inconsistent timelines and could not provide a plausible explanation for the injuries sustained. As the result of the

- safety assessment completed, the victim child and the two other children in the home at the time of the incident were placed in foster care and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family was previously known to child welfare.
- 20. A 1-month-old male child nearly died on February 21, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Luzerne County Children and Youth Agency indicated the report on April 27, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child was choking, became unresponsive, and the father contacted emergency services. The child was transported to the local hospital and presented with bilateral retinal hemorrhages, hydrocephalus, an epidural hematoma, a shearing injury to the anterior frontal lobe, and bite marks. The injuries sustained revealed differing ages which indicated that there were multiple events and were determined to be non-accidental. It was determined through the investigation that the mother and the father were the sole caregivers of the child at the time the injuries were sustained. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child was placed in foster care and the three other children in the home were placed with relatives. The family received services. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.
- 21. A 20-month-old female child nearly died on April 19, 2021, as a result of serious physical neglect. Luzerne County Children and Youth Agency indicated the report on June 23, 2021, naming the victim child's maternal aunt as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, it was reported by the maternal aunt the victim child fell off the bed, emergency services were contacted by the mother, and the child was transported to the hospital. The child presented at the hospital with a bump on the back of the head, along with a black eye from a previous injury which was healing. Medical testing revealed a skull fracture, subdural bleed, brain contusion, bleeding on the spinal cord, and a toe fracture. It was determined through the investigation the maternal aunt was the sole caregiver of the child at the time of the incident and was not properly supervising the child which led to the child falling off of the bed causing injury. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child remained in the home with the mother and the father and the one other child in the home at the time of the incident and remained in the home with the maternal aunt. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.
- 22. A 2-year-old male child nearly died on February 27, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Luzerne County Children and Youth Agency indicated the report on April 16, 2021, naming the victim child's father as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, it was reported while in the care of the father the victim child fell from a standing position, began seizure like activity, and the father contacted emergency services. The child was transported to the local hospital emergency room and presented with a stroke, subdural hematoma, bilateral retinal hemorrhages, multiple ligament injuries, bone fragments, soft tissues injury, and bleeding of the spine. The injuries sustained by the child were indicative of non-accidental trauma. It was determined through the

investigation the father was the sole caregiver of the child at the time of the incident. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child was placed with relatives and the three other children in the home at the time of the incident were placed with their respective 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.

### Lycoming

23. An 11-month-old male child nearly died on February 28, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Lycoming County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on April 13, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, it was reported by the mother and the father that the victim child was climbing in the refrigerator and fell and emergency services were contacted by the parents when the child was found later unresponsive and having a seizure. Upon arrival at the hospital, the child presented with hemorrhaging in both eyes, several brain bleeds, and torn ligaments in the spine. The physician reported the injuries sustained by the child were caused by severe movement/injury and not the result of the reported fall described by the mother and the father. It was determined through the investigation the mother and the father were the sole caregivers of the child at the time of the incident. As the result of the safety completed, the victim child and three other children in the home at the time of the incident were placed with a relative and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

#### McKean

24. A 17-month-old female child nearly died on February 28, 2021, as a result of physical abuse and serious physical neglect. McKean County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on April 30, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and the mother's paramour as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, it was reported the mother's paramour was the caregiver of the child while the mother was at work and the victim child fell off the couch causing a red mark above the child's eye. Over the next several days the child was excessively sleeping, a purple bruise was found on top of the child's head, and the child's face was swollen. On March 04, 2021, the mother transported the child to the emergency room despite reported disagreement from the paramour. The child presented at the hospital with cigarette burns on the lower extremities in varying stages of healing, soft tissue swelling on scalp and neck area, bruising to eyes which caused the eyes to be swollen shut, bruising and scabbing to ears, head, and neck, a bruising pattern to the left ear consistent with a bite mark, a buckle fracture to right arm, skull fracture, and injuries consistent with strangulation. It was determined through the investigation the injuries sustained by the child were indicative of non-accidental trauma and the mother and the mother's paramour could not provide a plausible explanation for the injuries and delayed seeking medical care for the child. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and two other children in the home at the time of the incident were placed with relatives and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been

filed against the mother and the mother's paramour had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare.

# Mercer

- 25. A 4-year-old male child nearly died on April 21, 2021, due to serious physical neglect. Mercer County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on May 19, 2021, naming the victim child's father as the perpetrator. On the date of incident, the victim child ingested a prescription medication while in the care of the father; the mother returned home to find the child limp and the child was transported to the local hospital by the parents. The child presented at the hospital lethargic, with a low heart rate, and pale with pinpoint pupils. The child's sibling also ingested the prescribed medication and was also the victim of a near fatality report. It was determined through the investigation the father was aware the child ingested a prescription medication and delayed seeking medical attention for the child. As a result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and one other child in the home at the time of the incident were placed in foster care 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.
- 26. A 20-month-old female child nearly died on April 21, 2021, due to serious physical neglect. Mercer County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on May 19, 2021, naming the victim child's father as the perpetrator. On the date of incident, the victim child ingested a prescription medication while in the care of the father; the mother returned home to find the child limp and the child was transported to the local hospital by the parents. The child presented at the hospital lethargic, with a low heart rate, and pale with pinpoint pupils. The child's sibling also ingested the prescribed medication and was also the victim of a near fatality report. It was determined through the investigation the father was aware the child ingested a prescription medication and delayed seeking medical attention for the child. As a result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and one other child in the home at the time of the incident were placed in foster care 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.

#### Montgomery

27. A 5-month-old female child nearly died on April 11, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth indicated the report on June 15, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, it was reported the victim child became lethargic after falling off of the bed while co-sleeping with the mother and the father and was transported to the hospital by the parents. The child presented at the hospital with a small brain bleed and rib fracture which were indicative of non-accidental trauma. It was determined through the investigation the explanation provided by the mother and the father was not a plausible explanation for the injuries sustained by the child and the mother and the father were the sole caregivers of the child at the time of the incident. As a result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and one other child in the home at the time of the incident were placed with a relative

and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

### Philadelphia

- 28. A 10-month-old male child nearly died on March 16, 2021, as a result of serious physical neglect. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on April 15, 2021, naming the victim child's legal guardian's paramour as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, it was reported the victim child was left in the vehicle in the care of the legal quardian's paramour while the legal quardian was shopping; the legal guardian returned to the vehicle and found the child unresponsive with blue lips and the child was transported to the local hospital. When the child arrived at the local hospital, the hospital was not equipped with an emergency room therefore emergency medical services were contacted, and the child was transferred to a larger hospital. Upon arrival at the larger hospital, Narcan was administered, and the child tested positive for illegal substances. It was determined through the investigation the legal guardian's paramour admitted to illegal substance use and there was video surveillance that verified the legal guardian left the child in the vehicle in the care of the paramour and returned to find the child unresponsive. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and one other child in the home at the time of the incident were placed with a relative 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.
- 29. A 2-year-old female child nearly died on May 13, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on June 11, 2021, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the police were called to the home due to a disturbance; upon arrival of the police, the victim child was found unresponsive, wrapped in a blanket, and wedged between a mattress and a wall with a box fan on top of her. The child was transported to the local children's hospital, and presented with a subarachnoid hemorrhage, scalp swelling, orbital fracture, and right periorbital swelling and bruising. It was determined through the investigation, the injuries sustained by the child while in the care of the mother were indicative of blunt force trauma and non-accidental. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and the one other child in the home at the time of the incident were placed in foster homes and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.
- 30. A 15-month-old female child nearly died on April 26, 2021, as result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on June 7, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and mother's paramour as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child arrived at daycare not feeling well, and bruising was noted therefore, emergency services were contacted. The child presented at the hospital with several fractures and internal injuries which were indicative of non-accidental

trauma. It was determined through the investigation the mother and the mother's paramour could not provide a plausible explanation for the injuries sustained by the child and the mother and the mother's paramour were the sole caretakers of the child at the time of the incident. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child was placed in foster care and services were provided. There were no other children in the home at the time of the incident. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

- 31. A 5-year-old female nearly died on April 26, 2021, as a result of serious physical neglect and physical abuse. The Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth, and Families' Southeast Regional Office indicated the report on June 21, 2021, naming the victim child's mother's paramour as the perpetrator. On the date of this incident, it was reported the victim child drank from a water bottle containing an illegal substance while in the care of the mother's paramour and the child was subsequently transported to the local children's hospital by the mother due to the child exhibiting an altered mental state. The child presented at the hospital in an altered mental status, had pinpoint pupils, and slowed breathing and was administered Narcan. It was determined through the investigation the mother's paramour was the sole caregiver of the child at the time of the incident and the mother was unaware of the paramour's substance use. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and one other child in the home at the time of the incident remained in the care of the mother and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.
- 32. A 2-year-old female child nearly died on April 7, 2021, as a result of serious physical neglect. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on May 5, 2021, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child's mother contacted emergency services and initiated chest compressions due to the child not breathing and the child's lips were turning blue. Upon arrival at the local children's hospital, the child was administered a toxicology screening for which the child tested positive for an illegal substance therefore, Narcan was given. It was determined through the investigation the mother was the sole caregiver of the child at the time of the incident and could not provide a plausible explanation for the child ingesting the substance. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and one other child in the home at the time of the incident were placed with a relative and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.
- 33. A 21-month-old female child nearly died on May 25, 2021, as a result of serious physical neglect. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on June 29, 2021, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was found unresponsive by the mother and was transported by emergency medical services to the local children's hospital. Upon arrival at the hospital, the child was administered a toxicology screening and tested positive for an illegal substance therefore, Narcan was given. It was determined through the

investigation the mother used the illegal substance and allowed the child access to the substance paraphernalia. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child was placed in foster care and services were provided. There were no other children in the home at the time of the incident. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family was previously known to child welfare.

- 34. A 3-year-old male child nearly died on March 27, 2021, as a result of serious physical neglect. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on May 10, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the victim child was taken to the emergency room by a relative due to an asthma attack. It was determined through the investigation that the mother left the child in the care of the relative with no instruction on proper management of the child's asthma and the mother and the father had missed several medical appointments for the child regarding the ongoing asthma condition. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child was placed in kinship care and the three other children in the home at the time of the incident were placed in a different kinship placement and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, there were no criminal charges filed. The family was previously known to child welfare.
- 35. A less than 1-day-old female child nearly died on January 29, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on May 12, 2021, naming the victim child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On March 30, 2021, the victim child was transported to the local children's hospital by a relative as per the mother and the father's request due to a change in the child's behavior. The child presented at the hospital minimally responsive and in respiratory distress with bruising under the eye and near the ribs. Medical evidence revealed the child sustained injuries to the head, arm, clavicle, and ribs, dating back to the date of birth of for which the child never received medical attention. The mother and the father reported the child previously had seizure activity prior to the date of the incident and for which they did not seek medical attention. It was determined through the investigation the mother and the father did not provide a plausible explanation for the injuries sustained and the mother and the father were the sole caregivers of the child at the time the injuries were sustained. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child was placed with a relative and services were provided. There were no other children in the home at the time of the incident. At the time the report was indicated, the mother and the father had been criminally charged. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.
- 36. A 1-month-old male child nearly died on May 23, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on June 16, 2021, naming the victim child's father as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was transported to the emergency room by the mother and the father due to respiratory distress. The child presented at the hospital with multiple rib fractures. The injuries sustained by the child were indicative non-accidental trauma. It was determined through the

investigation the father was the sole caregiver for the child at the time of the incident. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and the one other child in the home at the time of the incident remained in the care of the mother with supervision from relatives and services were provided. At this time the report was indicated, the father had been criminally charged. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.

### York

- 37. A 5-year-old female child nearly died on April 14, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. York County Office of Children, Youth, and Families indicated the report on June 10, 2021, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the child was brought to the emergency room by the mother and a relative with multiple stab wounds. It was determined through the investigation the mother stabbed the child. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child was placed in kinship care and the one other child in the home at the time of the incident was placed with their father and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the mother had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare.
- 38. A 20-month-old male child nearly died on March 15, 2021, as a result of physical abuse. York County Office of Children, Youth, and Families indicated the report on May 13, 2021, naming the victim child's father as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, it was reported by the father that he fell down a flight of steps while holding the victim child. The child was taken to the hospital and presented with a skull fracture, bleeding on the brain, and a right clavicle fracture. It was determined through the investigation the child's father was under the influence of a substance when he fell down the stairs causing the injuries sustained by the child at the time of the incident. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the victim child and the two other children in the home at the time of the incident were placed in kinship care and no services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family was previously known to child welfare.