# **Fatalities**

## **Butler County**

1. A 4-year-old male child died on March 21, 2017, as a result of physical abuse. Butler County Children and Youth Services (BCCYS) substantiated the case on May 19, 2017, naming the child's mother's paramour as the perpetrator. On March 21, 2017, the mother left the child in the care of her paramour around 6:00 AM. Later that morning, the paramour contacted his own mother to transport the child to the child's father's residence. While driving, the child became unresponsive. At 9:36 AM, the paramour's mother contacted 911 to seek assistance for the child while pulled over in a parking lot. EMS performed cardiopulmonary resuscitation while transporting the child to the local hospital. The child was pronounced dead at 10:15 AM. The child had sustained multiple injuries including rectal bleeding, extensive bruising from blunt force trauma, and a second-degree burn. The mother reported the child appeared healthy when she left for work that morning. The paramour could not be located by local law enforcement until March 23, 2017, when he was found hiding in his mother's attic. The half-sibling was medically evaluated and determined to be healthy with no injuries and was placed in a foster home. The paramour was arrested on March 27, 2017, and incarcerated. He was charged with criminal homicide, involuntary deviate sexual intercourse with a child with serious bodily injury, rape of a child, rape of a child with serious bodily injury, aggravated indecent assault of a child, aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of children, and recklessly endangering another person. The mother was arrested and charged on March 27, 2017, with two counts of endangering the welfare of children. She was released on bond and is awaiting trial. The paramour's mother was arrested on March 24, 2017, and charged with two felony counts of hindering apprehension, endangering the welfare of children, and recklessly endangering another person. She remains incarcerated awaiting trial. BCCYS substantiated two additional child protective services (CPS) reports received on April 24, 2017. The first CPS report alleged the mother, maternal grandmother, and the mother's paramour's mother failed to provide medical treatment to the victim child when he sustained the second degree thermal burn to his left hand prior to the fatality incident. The second CPS report alleged the mother's paramour's mother failed to provide the victim child with timely medical services on March 21, 2017, when she first became knowledgeable of the victim child's injuries related to the fatality incident. She did not contact emergency medical services until the victim child became unresponsive. The mother is currently receiving drug and alcohol counseling, individual therapy, and supervised visitation with the child's half-sibling. The family had a prior history with BCCYS. Three general protective services reports were received between August 2014 to January 2017 due to concerns for drug and alcohol use and domestic violence. One CPS report was received due to an injury to the child that was unfounded.

## **Chester County**

2. A 10-month-old female died on April 27, 2017, as a result of serious physical neglect. On June 23, 2017, Chester County Children and Youth (CCCY) named the father as the perpetrator. The victim child was residing in the home of her father. The father stated that he laid the child down for a nap around 6:00 PM. He went to check on her around 8:00 PM and found her unconscious. The father called emergency medical services

(EMS) and the child was pronounced dead upon their arrival. An autopsy revealed no signs of trauma, however the toxicology report has not been received. It is suspected the child ingested the father's medication. The father told law enforcement that the child may have been ingesting the pills since December 2016. There are no other children in the home. The mother and father are separated due to domestic violence and she was not residing in the home at the time of the incident. The father has been arrested with charges pending toxicology results. The mother and father of the victim child were not known to Chester County. The mother was known to Berks County Children and Youth (BCCY). Two general protective services referrals were received in 2002 that the children were dirty, had poor housing conditions, and there was a lack of supervision. In-home services were provided and closed in 2004. In 2010, BCCY received another report of poor housing conditions and lack of supervision. BCCY did not open the case for services. In June 2016, BCCY was contacted when the victim child was born due to concerns about the mother's housing which was resolved when she and the child moved into the father's home.

### Clinton County

3. A 3-year-old male child died on May 24, 2017, as a result of serious physical neglect. Clinton County Children and Youth (CCYS) indicated the case on June 26, 2017, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator. On the day of the incident, the mother, father, victim child, and the victim child's 1-year-old sibling were staying at the paternal grandparent's home. On the morning of May 24, 2017, the mother fell asleep while being the sole caretaker of her two children. She woke up approximately 1 hour and 40 minutes later and noticed a stool by the door and the door unlocked. The mother reported looking outside the home for the child, then calling her sister, the paternal grandfather, and the paternal grandmother. A search of the neighborhood ensued by all parties. The grandmother found the victim child floating face up in a neighbor's pool. She removed the child from the pool and started cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Emergency medical services (EMS) transported the child to the hospital; however, the hospital physician reported the child died before EMS arrived at the home. There were no other signs of trauma. The 1-year-old sibling was placed in foster care to ensure safety. CCYS offered the family services however the family declined. The child currently resides in kinship foster care with supervised visits from both parents. Charges are pending with the mother with the next court hearing scheduled for November 6, 2017. The family was previously known to CCYS. Between August 2014 and September 2015 there were two referrals for substance use and lack of stable housing. CCYS assisted the family with housing, meeting the medical needs of the children, and drug and alcohol counseling. In October 2016, another referral was received for parental substance use that was invalidated and closed. In January 2017, there was a referral for substance use and inadequate hygiene that was invalidated in March 2017.

### Lancaster County

4. A 3-year-old female child died on April 28, 2017, as a result of serious physical neglect. Lancaster County Children and Youth Agency (LCCYA) indicated the case on June 27, 2017, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was on the couch in the living room with the mother. The father of the child and a 14-year-old female sibling were also in the home, but were on the second level of the house. The mother fell asleep and the child was able to open an unlocked door to the backyard, leave the home and fall into the pool. When the mother woke up after an

unknown amount of time, she found the child face down in the pool. The mother initially attempted to retrieve the child but was unable to swim and had to hold onto the side of the pool. The 14-year-old sibling heard the mother screaming and retrieved the child from the pool. The sibling attempted cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) but was unable to revive the child. Emergency medical services arrived at the home and also performed CPR, but were not able to revive the child. It was determined that neither the sibling nor father were in a caregiver role at the time of the incident and, therefore, did not have responsibility in ensuring that the victim child was supervised. It was determined the mother was responsible for the care of the child at the time of the incident. Both parents were however charged with endangering the welfare of children as it was determined that the mother was under the influence of cocaine and marijuana and the father admitted to using cocaine in the days leading up to the event. Both parents posted bail and are awaiting preliminary hearings. LCCYA aided the sibling in obtaining school-based counseling. The parents declined offered services. The family was previously known to LCCYA. A general protective services report was received in January 2016 for possible drug use in the home that was invalidated.

### Lawrence County

5. A 16-month-old male died on March 27, 2017, as a result of physical abuse. Lawrence County Children and Youth Services (LCCYS) indicated the case on May 4, 2017, naming the child's father as the perpetrator. The father reported that on the day of the incident he had gotten up and gone to the kitchen at approximately 4:00 AM. He heard a thud and found the child on the floor in the bedroom. He reported he thought the child fell out of bed bumping a table holding a television, causing the television to fall on him. He stated the child was limp but alert. The child was taken to the paternal grandmother's apartment next door and 911 was called. A computerized axial tomography (CAT) scan showed an acute subdural hematoma, multiple old bruises, as well as a round mark on his leg of undetermined nature. The child needed surgery for the subdural hematoma. While in surgery the child became unstable and cardiopulmonary resuscitation was administered for 45 minutes; the child was pronounced dead at 9:15 AM. According to physicians, the child's injuries were consistent with shaking and shearing effects of abusive head trauma, with indications that the injury occurred shortly prior to the victim becoming unresponsive. There were no other children in the home. The mother resides in another state. This incident occurred while the child was visiting his father. Criminal charges are pending the results of the coroner's report. The family was found to have no prior children and youth services involvement in the mother's state of residence or Pennsylvania.

### Lebanon County

6. A 15-month-old child died on April 25, 2017, as a result of serious physical neglect. Lebanon County Children and Youth Services (LCCYS) indicated the case on June 1, 2017, naming the child's mother and father as perpetrators. According to the mother, she found the child at 7:30 AM after coming home from work. The child was reportedly stiff and blue standing up in his crib while the father was asleep. The mother moved the child from the master bedroom to the living room to try and revive the child while the father called 911. Emergency medical services (EMS) were called and the child was pronounced dead at the home. An autopsy was performed, and the child was found to have bruising across his chest and back, along with bruises under his chin. During interviews with the four other siblings in the home, it was learned that both parents

would place a mattress and bags of rock salt on top of the crib and hold everything down with a bungee cord to keep the child from getting out of his crib. The bruises were thought to be a result of the child's struggle to get out from under the mattress. A safety plan is in place with two half-siblings living with their biological father and two siblings living with their paternal grandmother along with the parents. The parents are not to be alone with the children. Both have been referred for parenting skills training and mental health evaluations. The father was referred for a drug and alcohol evaluation. The parents have been charged with involuntary manslaughter and endangering the welfare of a child. The family was not known to LCCYS prior to this incident.

### Monroe County

7. A 9-year-old male child died on March 12, 2017, as a result of physical abuse. Monroe County Children and Youth Services (MCCYS) indicated the case on April 11, 2017, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the mother informed the father that she was going for a ride with the victim child. The father remained in the family residence with the 13- and 15-year-old sisters of the victim child. While sitting in the family vehicle in the driveway of the home, the mother shot the child in the head and then shot herself. Before the shooting, the mother called 911 from the vehicle. When emergency services arrived at the home, both the mother and child were deceased. There was no evidence that the father or siblings had any knowledge of the mother's plan. The child had been diagnosed with Asperger's and attended an emotional support classroom. The siblings remain in the care of the father. MCCYS offered supportive services to the family as well as referral services for grief counseling. The family had no prior involvement with the MCCYS.

### Philadelphia County

8. A 3-month-old male child died on March 23, 2017, as a result of physical abuse. The Philadelphia Department of Human Services (PDHS) indicated the case on April 21, 2017, naming the child's father as the perpetrator. On March 20, 2017, the mother left the house taking the child's sibling. At 10:00 AM the father called the mother and stated the victim child was not moving but was breathing. The child reportedly sounded congested and the father was advised to take the child to the bathroom and run hot water to make steam. The father and mother remained in contact until the father texted the mother and stated the child had stopped breathing. When emergency medical services arrived at approximately 11:30 AM the child had no pulse. The child was transported to a local hospital where a computerized axial tomography (CAT) scan revealed subdural and subarachnoid hemorrhages on the brain, a small laceration on his chin and bruising on his neck. The petechial eye and subdural injuries were determined to be due to lack of oxygen. The child died on March 23, 2017, due to cardiopulmonary arrest as a result of non-accidental injuries. The father was determined to be the sole caretaker at the time the injuries occurred. A 6-year-old sibling who also resided in the home was examined and found to have no injuries or concerns for abuse. The sibling was placed with a maternal aunt until a safety assessment was completed. On June 21, 2017, this child was returned to the legal and physical custody of her mother. The father was arrested on March 28, 2017, and charged with murder. PDHS provided case management services to the mother and sibling as well as trauma and grief counseling. PDHS did not know the family prior to the incident.

- 9. A 1-month-old male child died on May 26, 2017, as the result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (PDHS) indicated the case on June 27, 2017, naming the child's father and mother as perpetrators. The child was reported to be taken to a local hospital by his parents due to a nose bleed. The child had no pulse when he arrived at the hospital. A computerized axial tomography (CAT) scan of his brain revealed bilateral subdural hematoma, subarachnoid hemorrhage, cerebral edema, bilateral retinal hemorrhages with possible retinal detachment. The severe head trauma and internal injuries were consistent with child abuse. The parents had no explanation for the child's injuries stating he was fine until blood started coming from his nose. Later, the father reported that the child had fallen off an air mattress while in his care, and that he had "tossed" the child onto an air mattress and a bouncy chair. The father denied shaking or punching the child. He did state that the child was crying but then began to breathe heavily. When he picked the child up, the child was lifeless. There were no other children in the home. Law enforcement arrested the father on May 26, 2017, and he remains in custody charged with murder and endangering the welfare of a child. This family had recently moved and was known to Delaware County Children and Youth (DCCYS). DCCYS received a general protective services (GPS) report when the child and mother tested positive for opiates at his birth. The report was determined to be valid and the family was in need of services. As part of a safety plan the family agreed to move to Philadelphia to live with the maternal grandfather. On May 15, 2017, the case was referred to PDHS. At the time of the incident, PDHS was investigating this GPS report but the PDHS worker could not locate the family prior to the child's death. The mother and child had moved to the father's home in violation of the safety plan.
- 10. A 13-year-old female child died on February 28, 2017, as a result of serious physical neglect. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (PDHS) indicated the case on May 1, 2017, naming the child's mother as perpetrator. On February 28, 2017, the child was admitted to a local pediatric intensive care hospital after developing a fever of 104° F; she died later that day. The mother denied the child showed any symptoms of illness on February 27, 2017. She admitted to monitoring the child's temperature on February 28, 2017, but delayed seeking treatment until the child collapsed. The mother confirmed that she had received education about sickle cell disease and stated she was aware she needed to seek medical attention if the child's temperature was 101° F or greater due to risk of bacterial infections. The child had a history of medical issues and infections. There were no other children in the home. PDHS had no previous knowledge of this family.
- 11. A 2-year-old male child died on March 22, 2017, as a result of serious physical neglect. On May 2, 2017, the Philadelphia Department of Human Services (PDHS) indicated both the mother and the mother's paramour. On March 22, 2017, law enforcement responded to a report that the body of the child was at the mother's paramour's apartment. Law enforcement found the deceased child alone in the home, naked, and emaciated. The child was pronounced dead by the medical examiner's office on the scene. The mother admitted that she dropped the child off at the paramour's apartment on February 14, 2017, and did not visually check on the child from that date until the discovery of the child's body on March 22, 2017. She reported the paramour told her that the child was being cared for by other trusted individuals. Upon interview, the paramour reported that she left the child alone in her apartment on February 14, 2017. She returned later that day after smoking "K2" (marijuana laced with PCP) and saw the child slumped over a couch with white foam emanating from the child's mouth. The paramour admitted to

leaving the child in that position without checking for vital signs or informing the mother or authorities. The paramour was arrested and charged with endangering the welfare of a child, concealing the child's death, and abuse of corpse and other related crimes in the death of the child. Any charges related to homicide are pending the outcome of the medical examiner's report. The paramour is currently incarcerated and is awaiting trial. Charges have not been filed against the mother at this time. The child had a 5-year-old sister who was being cared for by a relative at the time of the incident. On April 19, 2017, a court hearing was held, and legal custody of the sibling was granted to the maternal grandfather. There was no prior PDHS intervention with the mother and her children, but the mother does have a history of involvement with PDHS as a child. The mother's paramour also has a history with PDHS as a child. The whereabouts of the father are unknown.

### York County

12. A 3-year-old female child died on April 23, 2017, as a result of physical abuse. On May 19, 2017, York County Office of Children, Youth and Families (YOCYF) indicated the father and paternal grandmother as the perpetrators. On April 22, 2017, law enforcement attempted to contact the father and paternal grandmother at their home for a child welfare check when the child did not arrive at a custody exchange site. Several attempts were made, however no one answered the door. On April 23, 2017, law enforcement entered the home to find the paternal grandmother deceased from a gunshot wound. They also discovered the deceased bodies of the father and victim child in the home with gunshot wounds. They found evidence in the home that the murder/suicide was pre-meditated by the father and paternal grandmother. Neither father nor mother have any other children. The family was known to YCCYF. In February 2017, the agency received four general protective services referrals for parental substance use and imminent risk due to domestic violence concerns. The agency invalidated and closed the report on February 14, 2017. No additional services were provided. Both the mother and father were known to children and youth agencies in other states as children.

## **Near Fatalities**

# Allegheny County

- 13. A 6-year-old female child nearly died on April 1, 2017, as a result of serious physical neglect. Allegheny County Children, Youth and Families (ACCYF) indicated the case on May 30, 2017, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator. The child was transported to the regional pediatric hospital on April 1, 2017, after a reported fall down the family stairs. While in the hospital, the child had a change in mental status, had pinpoint pupils, low heart rate and low blood pressure, all indicative of medication intoxication. On April 4, 2017, it was discovered the child had a near fatal level of Clonidine in her system upon admittance to the hospital. The child is prescribed Clonidine, but there were concerns that the caregiver had given the child an intentionally high level of the medication. The mother was known to the hospital for seeking extensive physical and behavioral health treatments for the child. The child has a half-sibling who has been living with the maternal grandmother since 2007. The child was placed in the home with her half-sibling and maternal grandmother on April 5, 2017, upon discharge from the hospital. Since discharge and placement with her grandmother, the child's medications have all been discontinued, and she was referred for outpatient therapy. The mother has been referred for intensive outpatient therapy, family behavior resources and medication management. The mother was charged with endangering the welfare of children on May 15, 2017. There is currently a no-contact order in place for the mother and child due to the criminal charges. The family was known to ACCYF prior to the incident. Twelve prior referrals were received from May 2007 to November 2016. In 2007 and 2008 the agency was involved with the mother and the older half-sibling due to reports of medical concerns resulting in the older half-sibling being placed with the maternal grandmother. Beginning in November 2010, the agency began receiving referrals on the victim child. From November 2010 to November 2016, the agency received seven general protective services (GPS) referrals with concerns that included inadequate food, inadequate physical care and medical concerns. The case was accepted for services in September 2013 and in February 2014. The child was placed in foster care and then with her maternal grandmother in March 2014. The child was placed back with her mother in June 2015, and the case was closed in September 2016 as the child was assessed to be safe in her mother's care and community support services were in place for the mother and the child. The last GPS report prior to this incident was in November 2016 regarding concerns of inadequate clothing and food. The report was assessed and closed as invalid.
- 14. A 7-week-old male child nearly died on May 23, 2017, as a result of physical abuse. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families (ACOCYF) substantiated the case on June 30, 2017, naming the mother and the father as the perpetrators. On May 23, 2017, the mother visited the father at the paternal great grandmother's home. While there, she dropped the child onto the floor. The subsequent medical evaluation revealed two distinct skull fractures, brain hemorrhaging, and healing rib fractures. The treating physician determined that these injuries were caused by more than one impact, and the height of the fall was not sufficient enough to cause either skull fracture. The mother and father were the sole caretakers at the time of the injuries and both were determined responsible for causing the child's injuries. The child was discharged from the hospital on May 25, 2017. Upon discharge, ACOCYF obtained emergency custody and the child was placed into foster care. The child is the only child of both parents. The mother and the child were residing with maternal relatives, therefore ACOCYF

ensured the safety of the maternal relatives' children, and no identified safety concerns were observed. The child was adjudicated dependent on July 5, 2017, and placed with the maternal grandmother. No charges were filed on either parent; however, the father is currently incarcerated on unrelated charges. The mother is permitted supervised visitation with her son in the home of the maternal grandmother and is receiving services for parenting and transportation. The parents were not known to ACOCYF as parents, but referrals were received regarding concerns for them as children. These referrals were not accepted for services.

## **Bucks County**

15. A 17-year-old male child nearly died on April 7, 2017, as a result of serious physical neglect. Bucks County Children & Youth (BCCY) indicated the case on May 11, 2017, naming the mother as the perpetrator. The mother failed to access appropriate medical care for the victim child over an extended period of time. The victim child, who has hereditary pancreatitis and is an insulin-dependent diabetic, was not feeling well for a few days. On April 7, 2017, the victim child had episodes of vomiting and had not been able to speak coherently since the previous evening. The mother reportedly did not respond to his needs as she did not have medical cards for the children. On the evening of April 7, 2017, the victim child was found with his eyes rolling back in his head and was very cold. The child was taken to a local hospital and then transferred to a children's hospital. The victim child had not been seen by an endocrinologist since July 2015; the last prescription given to him was in November 2015. There was concern regarding the victim child's ability to administer his own insulin as well as the mother's ability to monitor his insulin. Prior to discharge, the victim child and foster parents completed training on administering insulin and properly monitoring his sugar levels. The child was discharged from the children's hospital to the care of a foster family known to the child. The child has been referred to supportive services. The victim child's siblings are residing with other family members. The mother has not been criminally charged. The family was known to BCCYS prior to this incident. Three general protective services (GPS) reports were received in October 2016 regarding the overall care of the children, medical care of the children, parental substance use, and domestic violence. All referrals were closed as concerns were resolved by the end of November 2016. A GPS referral was made in December 2016 regarding the well-being of a sibling. It was deemed invalid. In February 2017, a GPS referral was received regarding domestic violence. substance use, and unclean home conditions. On April 4, 2017, a GPS referral was received regarding the middle and youngest siblings and alleged drug use. BCCY was investigating this GPS when the current incident occurred. On April 9, 2017, a child protective services report was received regarding the victim child's need for dental care. This report was unfounded.

# Cambria County

16. A 3-month-old male child nearly died on April 15, 2017, due to serious physical neglect. Cambria County Children and Youth Services (CCCYS) indicated the case on May 24, 2017, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator as she failed to provide her child with adequate food and medical care. On April 15, 2017, the child's mother called 911 due to the child being unresponsive and having difficulty breathing. The child was transported via emergency medical services to a local hospital. The child was found to be severely malnourished. The child was dehydrated, requiring intubation and fluid hydration. The child was transferred to a pediatric specialty hospital via helicopter due

to his critical condition. There were no physical signs of abuse. There were four other children in the home who appeared well. A safety plan was put in place for a 2-year-old sibling due to the child's age and being non-verbal. A maternal uncle ensured that this child would be fed and would not be left unsupervised with the mother. Three older siblings reported how they were fed and no concerns were identified related to them receiving adequate food. Upon discharge from the hospital on May 8, 2017, the victim child was placed in the care and custody of his father. Since the father lives in another state, the case was referred to the children and youth agency of that state. Due to concerns regarding the mother's inability to provide appropriate medical care, CCCYS has initiated services for the mother and her other children. There is an on-going investigation. At this time, no criminal charges have been filed against the mother. The family did not have prior involvement with CCCYS. The child's mother did have involvement with child welfare in another state. Three referrals were received in October 2010, June 2011, and January 2012, each involving marijuana use by the mother. All the reports were closed after referrals were made for substance use treatment.

### Crawford County

- 17. A 3-year-old female child nearly died on February 8, 2017, as a result of physical abuse and serious physical neglect. Crawford County Children and Youth Services (CCCYS) indicated the case on April 7, 2017, naming the child's father as the perpetrator. On February 8, 2017, the father, who was responsible for the care of the children, fell asleep at approximately 3:00 AM. The mother came home from work around 6:00 AM and fed the children breakfast. The children appeared sleepy, so the mother fell asleep with the child's sibling on the couch while the victim child went to sleep with her father. Around 8:30 AM, the father woke up and found his pill boxes, each of which had a week's worth of medication in it, on the bedroom floor. One of the boxes was completely empty, another had half eaten/melted pills around it. The father realized the children were still sleeping which was uncharacteristic of them. The mother tried to wake up the children and found the victim child very drowsy and the sibling was unresponsive. Both children were taken to a local hospital. The victim child was observed for several hours. It was reported by the medical staff that the child and her sibling were at risk of seizures and excessive bleeding due to the ingestion of this medication. There are no other children in the home. The victim child was released to her mother's care upon discharge from the hospital on February 9, 2017. A safety plan was established whereby the maternal grandmother cares for the children while the mother works and all of the father's medications will be placed in either a safe or a lock box. The father is supervised by the paternal grandmother when the children are in his care. The family had no prior involvement with CCCYS, however, per the local hospital this was reportedly the second incident where the child's sibling ingested the father's medication. Criminal charges are pending on the father. The case was not accepted for services due to the mother's protective capacities. The family was recommended to continue to utilize community resources. The agency closed the case on April 7, 2017.
- 18. A 1-year-old male child nearly died on February 8, 2017, as a result of physical abuse and serious physical neglect. Crawford County Children and Youth Services (CCCYS) indicated the case on April 7, 2017, naming the child's father as the perpetrator. On February 8, 2017, the father, who was responsible for the care of the children, fell asleep at approximately 3:00 AM. The mother came home from work around 6:00 AM. The mother changed the child's diaper and the children ate breakfast. The children appeared sleepy, so the mother fell asleep with the victim child on the couch and the child's

sibling went to sleep with the father. Around 8:30 AM, the father woke up and found his pill boxes, each of which had a week's worth of medication in it, on the bedroom floor. One of the boxes was completely empty, another had half eaten/melted pills around it. The father realized the children were still sleeping which was uncharacteristic of them. The mother tried to wake up the children and found the child's sibling was very drowsy and the victim child was unresponsive. Both children were taken to a local hospital. The victim child was transferred via medical helicopter to a specialized pediatric hospital. The child was unresponsive upon arrival. He was revived and observed for several hours. It was reported by the medical staff that the child and his sibling were at risk of seizures and excessive bleeding due to the ingestion of the father's medications. There are no other children in the home. The victim child was released to his mother's care upon discharge from the hospital on February 9, 2017. A safety plan was established whereby the maternal grandmother cares for the children while the mother works and all of the father's medications will be placed in either a safe or a lock box. The father is supervised by the paternal grandmother when the children are in his care. The family had no prior involvement with CCCYS, however, per the local hospital, this was reportedly the second incident where the child ingested the father's medication. Criminal charges are pending on the father. The case was not accepted for services due to mother's protective capacities. The family was recommended to continue to utilize community resources. The agency closed the case on April 7, 2017.

### Delaware County

19. A 3-year-old male nearly died on February 18, 2017, as a result of serious physical neglect. Delaware County Children and Youth Services (DCCYS) indicated the case on April 19, 2017, naming the father as perpetrator. The mother was working and was not home at the time of the incident. The father called emergency medical services after the child woke up with an episode of emesis at 2:00 AM on February 18, 2017. He suspected the child had ingested a Suboxone tablet on the evening of February 17, 2017. The child was transported to the local hospital. The child was under observation for a 24-hour period due to his altered mental status. He became increasingly less responsive with a decreased respiratory rate. Narcan was administered. He was then transferred and admitted to a specialized children's hospital and was stabilized. The child tested positive for cocaine. Both parents also tested positive for cocaine, however, the father was the sole caretaker of the child at the time of the incident. DCCYS placed the child with a family member during the investigation. No other children resided in the home. Criminal charges were brought against the father for endangering the welfare of a child. He is awaiting a trial date. The child was adjudicated dependent on March 13, 2017, and the family was accepted for ongoing services. The family had no prior history with DCCYS.

# Erie County

20. A 4-month-old female child nearly died on March 13, 2017, as a result of serious physical neglect. Erie County Office of Children and Youth (ECOCY) indicated this report on April 17, 2017, naming the mother and her paramour as the perpetrators. On March 13, 2017, the child was brought to a local hospital with a significant full body rash that had turned into cellulitis. The child was found to be dehydrated and was administered IV fluids and IV antibiotic. She was then transported to the regional children's hospital. The treating physician diagnosed the child with severe uncontrolled eczema with seborrheic dermatitis that was infected with staph aureus, which was the cause of the child's sepsis. The victim child spent several weeks in the intensive care unit. The

physicians determined the child had contracted cellulitis and sepsis due to not receiving timely medical treatment for her uncontrolled eczema and seborrheic dermatitis with impetigo. The mother and her paramour were determined to be the sole caretakers of the child. Both stated they were unable to provide medical care due to lack of transportation. The child's treating physician stated that this level of infection would have been manifesting for a long time, and that the child was near death when she was brought to the local hospital. ECOCY obtained legal custody of the child on March 14, 2017. A hearing was held on March 16, 2017, and the child was declared dependent on March 23, 2017. The child was discharged to foster care on March 29, 2017. ECOCY is providing reunification services to the mother and her paramour. The criminal investigation is ongoing. ECOCY had no prior involvement with this family.

# **Fayette County**

21. A 2-year-old female child nearly died on February 5, 2017, as a result of serious physical neglect. Fayette County Children and Youth Services (FCCYS) indicated the report on April 5, 2017, naming the mother as the perpetrator. On the date of incident, the child reportedly ingested Subutex. The mother observed her prescription bottle had been opened and the child had a pill in her mouth. The medication was stored on the back of the kitchen sink in close proximity to the child's candy jar, which she had access to using a kitchen chair. It was unclear at the time how much of the Subutex the child had ingested. The mother transported the child to the hospital due to the child appearing drowsy. The physicians gave the child a small amount of Narcan to stimulate her and she was transferred to a children's hospital where she was found to be in critical condition. FCCYS assessed the safety of the four siblings. The mother voluntarily placed the four siblings with the maternal grandmother. When the child was released from the hospital on February 7, 2017, she was voluntarily placed with her siblings. The plan remained in effect until the conclusion of the investigation and a dependency hearing was held. The hearing was held on April 21, 2017, granting dependency of the children with their return to their mother's care. The case remains open with FCCYS. At this time law enforcement has an ongoing investigation. The mother was referred for a substance use assessment and intensive in-home services were initiated. FCCYS had prior involvement with the family. There were seven prior general protective services referrals beginning in 2013 that involved allegations of substance use by the parents. Three of these reports were screened out, three were assessed and closed at the intake level, and one was accepted for services from September 2015 to March 2016.

### Forest County

22. An 11-month-old male child nearly died on June 7, 2017, as a result of serious physical neglect. Forest County Children and Youth Services (FCCYS) substantiated the case on June 30, 2017, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator. On June 7, 2017, at approximately 1:10 PM, the mother and father transported the child to the local hospital due to him being lethargic. While at the hospital, the child was non-responsive and had pinpoint pupils. The parents initially reported the child had fallen off the bed around 7:00 AM. The victim child received a computerized axial tomography (CAT) scan, which was negative. Given the child's condition he was provided a dose of Narcan. The child responded but could not stay awake. The child was transferred via medical helicopter to the regional pediatric hospital. Upon arrival, the victim child was blue in the face, had a low heart rate, and shallow breathing. He was able to be resuscitated with three doses of Narcan. The child was placed on a Narcan drip and he regained full consciousness. The

mother later admitted that she had found her purse on the living room floor and approximately six to eight of her Clonidine pills were lying on the floor. It was determined the child had ingested at least one of these pills. The child remained hospitalized until June 8, 2017. Due to concerns with both the mother and father, a safety plan was developed. Upon discharge from the hospital, the parents voluntarily agreed to place the child with the maternal grandmother in Crawford County with his sibling who had been placed there at the time of the incident. The family was accepted for services by Crawford County Children and Youth Services (CCCYS) and referrals for early childhood programs and substance use assessments were scheduled. The mother has not been criminally charged for this incident. Both Forest and Crawford Counties had involvement with this family prior to this incident. From 2012 to 2015, FCCYS received four general protective services (GPS) reports regarding alleged domestic violence, drug use by the parents and inadequate housing. As a result, the mother and sibling went to the maternal grandmother's in Crawford County. In June 2016, CCCYS received a GPS report when the victim child was born due to the child testing positive for benzodiazepines. At the time, the mother and the sibling were living with the maternal grandmother in Crawford County. The agency determined that the mother was adequately meeting the children's needs and closed the case in August 2016.

## Greene County

23. An 11-year-old female child nearly died on March 23, 2017, as a result of serious physical neglect. Greene County Children and Youth Services (GCCYS) indicated the case on May 17, 2017, naming the child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On March 23, 2017, the child contacted her mother, who lives in another residence, stressing she felt ill. The child has a history of unstable glucose readings due to Type I Diabetes. The mother transported the child to a local hospital for treatment. Due to the severity of her symptoms, the child was transferred to the local regional pediatric hospital. The child was diagnosed with diabetic ketoacidosis and remained hospitalized until March 28, 2017. The physicians felt the child's condition occurred over a long period of time, and both parents share responsibility in caring for the child. Upon discharge, the child was placed into foster care. The mother explained she had knowledge the child was ill for three days prior to seeking medical treatment. The father was the caretaker for the child during these three days and had knowledge the child was not feeling well. The child has two siblings who were determined to be safe in the father's care and remained in his residence. During the adjudication hearing on April 12, 2017, the victim child was declared dependent and returned to her father's care. The family is receiving ongoing services from GCCYS regarding diabetes education. No law enforcement involvement occurred. GCCYS has a history with the family from August 2011 to present, with seven general protective services referrals due to truancy, housing conditions and mother's substance use. The case was opened for truancy and drug and alcohol services on two separate occasions. The children were in agency custody from February 11, 2016, to June 9, 2017, due to the children's truancy issues, and the mother's drug and alcohol issues. The children were returned to the father's care once housing was secured.

# Lackawanna County

24. A 7-month-old male child nearly died on February 26, 2017, as a result of serious physical neglect. Lackawanna County Office of Youth and Family Services (LCOYFS) indicated the case on April 5, 2017, naming the child's parents as the perpetrators. The

child was admitted to a local hospital on February 26, 2017, and then transferred to a specialized hospital for further evaluation. Upon admission, the child was found to be severely malnourished and suffering from severe metabolic derangements. In addition, there were multiple abrasions on his face, arm and leg, and raw/denuded skin in his genital region. Medical records indicated that the child had only two doctor appointments since his discharge from the hospital after birth. At the time of the incident there was a 2-year-old male sibling residing in the home. Due to the condition of the victim child, LCOYFS obtained custody of both children. The child's sibling was placed in the kinship home of the paternal grandfather on February 27, 2017, and the child was discharged from a pediatric rehabilitation facility to the kinship home on May 10, 2017. The family was opened for services to assist with parenting, residential stability, employment, medical oversight, and behavioral health and substance use treatment. The victim child currently receives occupational therapy, physical therapy, and therapy for possible speech delays. Both parents were charged with endangering the welfare of a child and recklessly endangering another person. The father was arrested on March 25, 2017, and released on his own recognizance. The mother was arrested on March 24, 2017, and remained incarcerated until she was able to make bail. The father's bail restrictions require him to have no contact with his children. The mother is able to participate in supervised visitation. LCOYFS had prior involvement with this family, including six reports from 2005 to 2016. In 2005, the family was referred due to concerns regarding the parents' ability to provide care for a child who was born with birth defects and declared "brain dead" shortly after birth. The sibling was placed in a medical group home and the child's father obtained custody of him. In 2008, a referral was received regarding substance use by the parents. The case was closed at intake after ensuring protective capacities. In 2008, the mother was indicated for abuse due to a sibling suffering a bone fracture. The sibling was placed with the paternal grandparents. In November 2015, a referral was received regarding a sibling being born exhibiting withdrawal symptoms. The mother had been prescribed Subutex, and the case was closed at intake. A referral was received in 2015 regarding the sibling residing with the paternal grandparents displaying inappropriate sexual behaviors. The grandparents were able to provide appropriate safety and supervision of the sibling, and the case was closed at intake. In August 2016, a referral was received when the victim child was born with withdrawal symptoms due to the mother's prescribed use of Subutex. The child remained in the hospital for a month and was then discharged to the parents as no safety concerns were identified and the physicians had no concerns regarding the child. The case was closed at intake.

### Lancaster County

25. A 2-week-old male nearly died on March 29, 2017, as a result of a physical abuse. Lancaster County Children and Youth Services indicated the case on May 26, 2017, naming the child's father as the perpetrator. On March 28, 2017, the father reported changing his son's diaper. While holding his leg down, he heard a pop. The child was seen at a nearby hospital and was admitted and treated for a broken femur. A doctor certified the child to be in serious or critical condition. According to medical staff, a broken femur can only occur when extreme force is applied. The father stated that he may have applied too much force while holding down the child's leg. There are no other children residing in the home. The family was accepted and referred for services. A safety plan remains in place; the father continues to reside outside the home and his visits with the child are supervised. The family was not known to the agency prior to this incident.

## Lehigh County

26. A 10-year-old female child nearly died on February 21, 2017, as a result of serious physical neglect. Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services (LCOCYS) indicated the case on April 21, 2017, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator. On February 19, 2017, the child was taken to the hospital by her father. She was found to have symptoms of nausea, vomiting, and hyperglycemia. The child was also diagnosed with sleep apnea/tonsillar hypertrophy, vitamin D deficiency, premature adrenarche, hypertrophic and atrophic condition of the skin. During this hospitalization, the mother provided inconsistent information to the medical staff and was insistent that the child should be handling her own diabetic regimen. The child reported to hospital staff that she usually misses one dose of insulin per week; however, her laboratory values indicated she was missing doses more frequently. It was found that the child had missed seventeen appointments for endocrinology and intensive management since July 2015, missed ten pediatric clinic appointments since November 2015, and had been admitted to the intensive care unit six times in less than a year. The child reported that she primarily resided with her mother and had visits with her father. During the investigation, the mother admitted she had not supervised the child's administration of insulin. She also admitted that the child figured out her own carbohydrate intake and measure of insulin. The mother stated she did not check the child's blood sugar at bedtime as recommended medically. The father admitted that he did not have a plan of care for the child during his overnight work schedule and he did not make himself available to the education provided by the hospital regarding diabetic care for his daughter. The child was adjudicated dependent and discharged to her godmother's home on February 25, 2017. The godmother has experience in diabetic care. The child's three siblings remained with the mother as there were no safety concerns regarding their care. No charges have been filed. LCOCYS had had prior involvement with this family. One general protective services (GPS) referral in December 2013 and one GPS in October 2014 were received for substance use, domestic violence, and lack of medical insurance. The family was opened for ongoing services from October 2014 through May 2015 for issues related to the child's diabetes. From September 2015 to January 2017, four GPS referrals were received for domestic violence issues and concerns of substandard housing. The family was referred to services between November 2016 and January 2017 with focus on housing assistance.

# Luzerne County

27. A 5-year-old female child nearly died on April 17, 2017, as a result of serious physical neglect. Luzerne County Children and Youth Services (LCCYS) indicated the case on May 15, 2017, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator for failing to provide the child with proper medical care. The child had been seen by her primary care physician on April 14, 2017, when the mother was instructed to take the child to the emergency room for treatment. The mother waited until three days later to take the child to the local hospital due to flu-like symptoms and the child being "out of it." The child was transferred to a pediatric specialty hospital for further treatment of diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA). The mother denied noncompliance with the child's diabetes management stating that the child was sick and not keeping anything down, including insulin. The two treating physicians stated that the spike in the child's blood sugar level occurred because the mother was not giving the child the proper amounts of insulin. The child entered foster care upon discharge from the hospital. The child's 3-year-old sibling

remains in the home as there are no concerns for his safety in the care of his mother. LCCYS continues to provide ongoing support and services to the family including visitation, substance use treatment, parenting and diabetes education. The child attends a pediatric day health center. Mother's visitation with the child occurs at the health center where she receives diabetes education for the care of her daughter. There were no criminal charges filed as a result of this incident. The family has a history of involvement with LCCYS. There were four prior referrals received by LCCYS between 2012 and 2017. At the time of the incident, the case was open with LCCYS after two 2017 referrals were received regarding concerns with the child's diabetic care. The case had been opened since March 30, 2017.

# McKean County

28. A 4-month-old female child nearly died on April 3, 2017, as a result of physical abuse. McKean County Children and Youth Services (MCCYS) indicated the case on June 1, 2017, naming the child's babysitter as the perpetrator. On April 3, 2017, the mother arrived home from work at 9:30 PM, and discovered the child was not responding to stimuli. She transported the child to the local hospital. A computerized axial tomography scan determined the child had sustained an acute subdural hematoma and retinal hemorrhages along with evidence of an older subdural hematoma. The child was transported via ambulance to a larger regional hospital. Medical testing confirmed the child had injuries consistent with Shaken Baby Syndrome. The mother had left for work at 2:00 PM on April 3, 2017, leaving the child in the care of the babysitter. The child did not exhibit any abnormalities prior to the mother leaving for work. The babysitter was inconsistent in his interviews, and some of the claims he made were refuted by photographic evidence. The child's 3-year-old sister who was also cared for by the babysitter did not have any injuries. A safety plan was put in place that resulted in the maternal grandmother caring for the sibling while the victim child was hospitalized. The mother and the children now live with the maternal grandmother. No charges had been filed. The child currently receives early intervention services, home health care as well as physical, occupational, and speech therapies. MCCYS closed the case at the conclusion of the investigation. No charges have been filed on the babysitter. MCCYS had no prior involvement with this family.

# Monroe County

29. A 1-month-old male child nearly died on April 13, 2017, as a result of physical abuse. Monroe County Children and Youth Services (MCCYS) indicated the case on May 30, 2017, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator. On April 13, 2017, the victim child was taken to a local hospital by his mother with symptoms of lethargy and refusing to eat. The examination revealed that the child had multiple bruises, a bruised eye, and brain hematomas, a skull fracture, and had new and healed fractures. The victim child was certified to be in critical condition and transferred to a regional hospital. The mother reported that the victim child was dropped on the floor by his 6-year-old sibling that morning and slept through the day while the family was on a shopping trip for seven to eight hours. The physician confirmed that the victim child's injuries could not have been sustained as reported by the perpetrator. The mother later admitted to striking the child. The child has three siblings that were also residing in the home. The siblings were medically evaluated, and it was determined that they had no prior or current injuries. Due to the severity of the victim child's injuries, all four children were placed in the custody of MCCYS via emergency shelter care order on April 13, 2017. The mother was

arrested on thirteen different charges, nine of which are felonies, related to the injuries of the victim child and is currently incarcerated. The father was incarcerated at the time of the incident on unrelated charges and remains incarcerated. The victim child was discharged from the hospital and placed in a foster home for medically fragile children. He is receiving early intervention services. The siblings are placed together in a different foster home and are receiving case management services. The oldest sibling is being evaluated for behavioral health services. The agency has made referrals through the Interstate Office for the children to be placed with either the maternal or paternal grandparents. MCCYS had prior involvement with this family from April 2015 through September 2016. Two siblings were placed in the custody of the agency from April 2015 to February 2016 due to parental drug use and criminal drug activity in the home. The mother was charged with child endangerment. The mother was residing in another state at the time, and the children were returned home to the mother through the Interstate Office after the mother's child endangerment charges were dismissed in February 2016. The father of the children was arrested and charged with drug-related criminal offenses and was incarcerated. In March 2016, MCCYS learned that the family moved back to Monroe County. In September 2016, the case was closed after the parents demonstrated a substantial period of sobriety and were able to maintain employment and housing.

### Perry County

30. A 5-month-old male child nearly died on February 18, 2017, as a result of physical abuse. Perry County Children and Youth (PCCYS) indicated the case on April 14, 2017, naming the child's father as the perpetrator. On February 18, 2017, the victim child was reportedly fussy between 1:00 AM and 6:00 AM, at which time the mother fed the victim child and then the mother went back to bed. The father took the victim child downstairs and put him in a baby seat and the father fell asleep. The father woke up to hear the baby gasping and appearing limp. The father woke the mother and they called 911 at 7:26 AM. The victim child was transported by ambulance to the regional hospital. The victim child was admitted to the intensive care unit with a skull fracture and subdural hematoma. Law enforcement officials were notified. When interviewed, the father stated that the victim child rolled off the couch on the afternoon of February 16, 2017, onto a hardwood floor but was fine afterwards. The mother was at work at that time as well as the next day. On February 20, 2017, the father reported that he had thrown the victim child onto the couch and the victim child had hit the wooden bar across the back of the couch. The father stated that he was agitated and frustrated when dealing with the victim child. Law enforcement officials arrested and charged the father with aggravated assault, aggravated assault on victim less than 13, aggravated assault on victim less than 6, simple assault, endangering the welfare of children, and recklessly endangering another person. The father was released on bail. Three siblings in the home went to stay with a maternal aunt to ensure safety on February 20, 2017. During the investigation, the parents separated. The father moved out of the home and the victim child's siblings returned to the mother on April 13, 2017. Family preservation services were instituted. The victim child was adjudicated dependent, and upon release from the hospital was placed into foster care. The father was court-ordered to have no contact with the victim child and supervised visits with the victim child's siblings. PCCYS had prior involvement with this family. In June 2011, a general protective services (GPS) referral was received regarding inappropriate care of the children and unstable housing. After assessment and supportive services were received, the referral was closed in August 2011. From November 2011 to February 2013, three GPS reports were screened out.

# Philadelphia County

- 31. A 13-year-old male nearly died on May 22, 2017, as a result of serious physical neglect. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (PDHS) indicated the case on June 22, 2017, naming the child's mother and father as the perpetrators. The mother and father failed to recognize the child's deteriorating condition, failed to intervene knowing the child did not check his blood levels, and failed to seek medical care. The victim child was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes in September 2015. He has a history of suicidal ideation and depression and poorly controlled insulin management. The parents do not reside in the same household, but co-parent and expect the child to monitor his own insulin needs without parental supervision. On May 22, 2017, the child's mother found the victim child unresponsive and incontinent. The mother transported the child to the local children's hospital where he was found to have severe diabetic ketoacidosis and an altered mental status. Physicians found him to be at imminent risk for neurological deterioration, respiratory deterioration, and life-threatening electrolyte abnormalities. The parents were aware that the child was not himself for three to four days prior to the incident, however, they did not seek medical attention for the child. On May 23, 2017, the mother removed the child from the hospital against medical advice, returning the next day. A safety plan was implemented which restricted the parent's visitation. The child was discharged and placed into kinship care with his adult half-sister and her husband due to concerns of the parent's unrealistic developmental expectations for the victim child as well as their minimalizing the seriousness of his disease. The child and his caregivers are compliant with his medical regime and treatment. The parents have liberal visitation supervised by the kinship caregiver. Two siblings in the home were medically evaluated and cleared. The family is receiving in-home services. Law enforcement was not involved in this incident. The family was known to PDHS. On January 15, 2003, a report was received when an older sibling was physically abused by the mother. The report was indicated naming mother as the perpetrator. The family received in-home services from March 2003 until August 2004.
- 32. An 8-year-old female child nearly died on March 13, 2017, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (PDHS) indicated the case on April 7, 2017, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator. On March 13, 2017, the family members took a nap around 4:00 or 4:30 PM. The mother and victim child's sister woke up around 7:00 PM but the victim child did not wake up. The mother stated that when she attempted to wake the child she observed empty medication bottles lying near the bed. She placed the victim in the tub, began running cold water, and then called emergency medical services. The child arrived at the hospital in an unconscious state. The mother could not give a reliable explanation as to why the child was unconscious. Narcan was administered and the child was revived. According to the toxicology report, the child tested positive for cocaine, opiates, Trilipix and Tylenol. The mother stated that she keeps medication in a medicine cabinet and believes the child may have taken something for stress. The mother denied using any illegal drugs and stated she was in recovery. Her most recent drug screen in February 2017 was negative for substances. She could give no explanation as to how the child obtained the illegal substance. The child's sibling was placed in kinship care while the victim child was transferred to a rehabilitation center. On April 5, 2017, the victim child was placed in the same kinship home. On June 16, 2017, the mother was arrested and charged with endangering the welfare of a child. The trial was scheduled for July 24, 2017. The family was opened for case management services, counseling services, parenting education, and substance use services. The family has prior involvement with PDHS. In May 2007, mother was

indicated for injuring the child's sibling while intoxicated. The family received in-home services. In March 2009, a general protective services report was received alleging the victim child was not receiving appropriate care and the mother was using substances in the presence of the baby. The report was investigated and determined invalid and the case was not accepted for services.

- 33. A 4-year-old male child nearly died on May 3, 2017, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (PDHS) indicated the case on June 29, 2017, naming the child's mother and paramour as the perpetrators. On May 3, 2017, the child was taken to the babysitter's house at 6:00 AM. Approximately 15 minutes later the babysitter observed the child to wobble and fall to the ground and begin to have a seizure. The babysitter contacted 9-1-1. The child was taken to a local hospital where a computed axial tomography (CAT) scan revealed a skull fracture on the right side of his head including a hematoma and a midline shift. A medical evaluation revealed the child also suffered a rib fracture and multiple bruises. The child was then transferred to a specialized pediatric hospital. The mother and her paramour, who were responsible for the care and well-being of the child, could not give a reliable explanation as to how the child sustained the injuries. The mother reported the child had hurt his head on April 4, 2017, and was taken to a pediatric hospital; however, a CAT scan was performed, and no fracture was reported. The child was unable to reliably articulate details as to how the injuries occurred. The half-sibling was placed in foster care to ensure her safety. The victim child transitioned to a rehabilitation center and then to a medical foster home in July 2017. A criminal investigation is ongoing, and charges have not been filed. The mother and paramour were referred to parenting services as well as case management services. Both the mother and her paramour are not to visit the child until he is medically cleared. The mother and her paramour are participating in weekly supervised visits with the child's half-sibling. The family was known to PDHS prior to this incident. The mother was known as a child. The father, mother and paramour were investigated in the 2011 death of a 6-month-old child of the mother and father. The cause of death was determined to be accidental.
- 34. A 4-year-old male child nearly died on February 14, 2017, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (PDHS) indicated the case on April 4, 2017, naming the maternal uncle as the perpetrator. The child resided in the home of his father. The father reported that either on February 13 or 14, 2017, he took the child to the maternal uncle's home for child care while he went to work. The father stated that he received a telephone call from the maternal uncle on February 14, 2017, reporting that the child had a little burn due to bath water being hot, but the father did not need to rush to get the child and the child did not need to go to the hospital. When the father returned on February 17, 2017, he saw the child had socks on his hands covering the burns. The father called emergency services. The child was taken to a children's hospital and then transferred to a specialized hospital. The father stated he had not known the burns were severe. The maternal uncle stated that he left the child in the tub not knowing that the water was extremely hot. Medical reports indicate that the child sustained second degree burns covering 24 percent of his body. There were no splash patterns to the burns, which indicated that someone held the child down in the water. On March 17, 2017, the child's father, his maternal uncle, and the paramour of the maternal uncle were arrested and charged with aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of a child, simple assault, and recklessly endangering another person. On April 21, 2017, the child's father was released on bail. The maternal uncle and the paramour of the maternal uncle remain incarcerated. They were scheduled for a pre-trial hearing

in August 2017. The victim child was discharged from the rehabilitation center on April 24, 2017, and placed into medical kinship care. The child has three siblings that are also in kinship care. The PDHS had prior involvement with this family since 2011. Most recently, a child protective services (CPS) report was received in October 2016, however, no safety threats were identified, and the child was determined to be safe. The case was closed in November 2016. In January 2017, a CPS report alleged that the father had cut the victim child on his face with scissors. It was alleged that the father was using drugs, had a criminal history, and had taken the victim child away from the mother. A custody hearing concerning the victim child was scheduled for April 2017 where it was determined that there were no safety threats in the home of the victim child's mother. At the time of the incident PDHS had been attempting to locate the victim child and his father since January 2017 to no avail until the report of the child's hospitalization was received.

### Schuylkill County

35. A 23-day-old female child nearly died on April 29, 2017, as a result of physical abuse. Schuylkill County Children and Youth Services (SCCYS) indicated the case on June 6, 2017, naming an unknown person as the perpetrator. On April 27, 2017, the mother expressed concern to the child's primary care physician (PCP) that the child was "sleeping with her eyes open." The PCP suggested an overnight admittance to the hospital for observation, but the mother declined. On April 28, 2017, the child was again seen by the PCP with no specified concerns. On April 29, 2017, the child began displaying some seizure-like activity. The PCP again recommended admission to the hospital and the mother agreed. Prior to admission, a computerized axial tomography (CAT) scan was conducted revealing a mildly depressed fracture of the left frontal bone, suggestive of trauma, and swelling of the brain. At that time, the child was certified in critical condition and was flown by helicopter to a medical center. The child remained in the hospital until May 2, 2017. During the investigation, the parents were unable to explain how the injury had occurred. On April 29, 2017, a safety plan was implemented for the three siblings in the home to reside with relatives until the investigation was concluded. During the investigation, it was learned that there had been an incident during which the child had been strapped in a car seat that was placed on a coffee table. One of the siblings accidentally knocked the seat off the table. The parents and the siblings reported that the child did not appear hurt following that incident, but it did occur a week or so prior to the child exhibiting the head injury symptoms. Both parents took a polygraph test and passed. As a result, the children were returned to them. The agency opened the case for intensive case management services. The parents have both recently tested positive for methamphetamines, and have now been referred for drug and alcohol evaluations. The child has been doing well and the parents have been able to meet all the children's medical needs. SCCYS has prior involvement with this family. From September 2006 until February 2011, six child protective services referrals were received regarding alleged drug use by the parents, domestic violence, and supervision issues. All were closed at intake. In December 2011, the oldest sibling was placed with the father due to the mother's paramour's drug use and domestic violence issues. From February 2013 to August 2014, four general protective services referrals were received and closed for custody issues related to the oldest child. In January 2015 and again in June 2016, there were allegations of domestic violence and unsuitable home conditions with the father and the mother of the victim child. These were unsubstantiated and closed. In March 2017, concerns were reported regarding allegations of substance use, verbal abuse of the children, and the victim child withdrawing from Suboxone at birth.

The family was being assessed for services when this incident occurred. The family is currently open for services to monitor the victim child's medical care, weight gain, and further assessment of parental drug use. No criminal charges have been filed at this time.

36. A 22-month-old female child nearly died on April 9, 2017, as a result of serious physical neglect. Schuylkill County Children and Youth Services (SCCCYS) indicated the case on May 9, 2017, naming the child's mother, father, and caregiver as the perpetrators. On April 9, 2017, the child was found chewing a methamphetamine bag in the home where the family resided. The child was monitored by the mother and the father for some time until she started to display seizure-like behavior, resulting in the parents calling 9-1-1. The child was flown via air-ambulance to a regional hospital and was listed in critical condition with an unknown prognosis. The child tested positive for methamphetamine, amphetamine and methylenedioxy-methamphetamine (MDMA). When she arrived at the hospital she was in tachycardia, with a very high heart rate. The child was sedated to control her heart rate and was on a ventilator to control her breathing. The child was listed in critical condition. The parents reportedly appeared to be under the influence at the time of the incident. At the time of the incident the caregiver was not present in the home. There was a court ordered safety plan in place for the family stating that the caregiver would not allow any unsupervised contact between the father and the child, and would not allow the father to reside in the home. During the investigation, it was found that the father was residing in the home. Both parents denied using methamphetamine, but later the mother did admit she had used on April 8 to April 9, 2017. Both parents stated they had no knowledge as to how the child accessed the drugs. The caregiver reported that prior to leaving the home on the date of the incident, she saw the parents and the child sleeping on the first floor of the home. The parents were charged with aggravated assault, simple assault, possession of drugs, endangering the welfare of a child and reckless endangerment, and were incarcerated. The child's mother and caregiver also failed to follow through with a court-ordered safety plan by allowing the father in the home and unsupervised access to the victim child. The mother was incarcerated and released in May 2017 and immediately entered a psychiatric facility. The child was placed in foster care upon her discharge from the hospital. An Interstate Compact referral has been made for the maternal grandfather to become a kinship home for the victim child. SCCYS has had prior involvement with this family. In July 2013, a referral was made regarding concerns of the parent's drug use, unstable housing, and the basic needs of the sibling not being met. The case was open from September 2013 until July 2014 when it was closed after custody of the sibling was transferred to the maternal grandfather. The second referral was received on June 12, 2015, when the victim child was born due to concerns of domestic violence and the parents' lack of coping skills. The case was opened for services on August 10, 2015, and continued to be open at the time of the incident. The family was receiving parenting, drug and alcohol, and mental health counseling services, however, participation and compliance was sporadic. The victim child's basic and medical needs were being met. A safety plan was in place indicating the father would reside outside the home and all contact with the child would be supervised.

### York County

37. A 2-month-old male child nearly died on March 31, 2017, as a result of physical abuse. On May 16, 2017, York County Children, Youth and Families (YCCYF) indicated the father as the perpetrator. On March 31, 2017, the father stated he heard the child

crying around 4:00 AM and called the paternal grandparents and the child's mother for assistance. The paternal grandfather went to the home to help, but the child continued to cry. The child's mother arrived home from work at about 6:00 AM and the mother and father took the child to the local hospital. A computerized axial tomography (CAT) scan determined the child had a brain bleed and severe bruising to the left side of his head. On May 30, 2017, the child was transferred to a medical center. Neither parent could provide an explanation for the injuries. On April 3, 2017, the child was released from the medical center and YCCYF placed him with a family friend on a safety plan. A few days later the family friend stated she was not comfortable supervising contact between the child and father. The child was then placed in the care of his paternal grandparents. During the investigation, the father had stated he dropped the child, however, a hospital physician stated the injuries were not consistent with a fall. A few weeks later the father informed law enforcement that he had slapped the child in the face because the child would not stop crying. He also admitted to being intoxicated the night of the incident. The father was charged with aggravated assault and endangering the welfare of a child. He is currently incarcerated and awaiting his hearing. Neither parent has any other children. The victim child remains in the care of his paternal grandparents who have been approved as formal kinship caregivers. The child has been assessed and has been found to be on track developmentally, however, due to his injuries he may be monitored to ensure that no concerns develop. The mother is participating in a parenting program. The goal is for the victim child to return to his mother's care and custody. He has supervised visitation with his mother several times per week. While incarcerated, the father is to be participating in parenting, substance use treatment, and anger management courses. The family was not known to YCCYF prior to this near fatality.