

## Fatalities

### Allegheny County

1. A 3-week-old male child died on September 3, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families (Allegheny OCYF) indicated the report on November 22, 2016, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator. A general protective services (GPS) report was received by Allegheny OCYF on September 3, 2016, and a child protective services (CPS) report was not filed until October 24, 2016, after determining the mother was under the influence of alcohol and drugs at the time of the child's death. The mother claimed she drank six beers and multiple shots of vodka along with taking two puffs of cannabis between the hours of 5:30 PM and 12:30 AM on September 3, 2016. The mother explained she had fallen asleep with her child lying on her chest. When she awoke around 6:00 AM, the child was lying to her side and was pale in coloring with blue lips. The child's skin was cold to the touch. The mother yelled for the father, who began cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and then phoned Emergency Medical Services (EMS). EMS took over CPR efforts upon their arrival at the family's residence. CPR was performed for approximately 35 minutes in the residence and another 15 minutes during the transport to the local pediatric hospital. The child was pronounced deceased at the hospital. The child has two older siblings, a 3 year old and a 5 year old, along with an 11-year-old half-sibling. The child's father remained in the residence with the older siblings while the child was transported to the hospital with the mother. Allegheny OCYF ensured the safety of the remaining children in the home. The father admitted to drinking six beers and four shots of vodka along with taking a couple puffs of cannabis on the night prior to the child's death. He acknowledged a pattern of unsafe sleep practices, stating that the infant slept either between him and the mother or on the mother's side of the bed. The maternal grandmother became the caretaker for the older siblings. The mother was criminally charged with involuntary manslaughter, recklessly endangering another person and endangering the welfare of children. She was arrested and incarcerated on September 30, 2016, and released on November 7, 2016 under the condition that she not have any unsupervised contact with the children. On December 14, 2016, she violated this condition and the three older siblings were placed into agency custody on this date. At the December 16, 2016 Shelter Hearing, the children were court ordered back home to the father. The mother returned to jail on December 19, 2016 and remains incarcerated until her next court proceeding scheduled for April 17, 2017. The children were adjudicated dependent on January 18, 2017 and their next permanency review hearing is scheduled for April 2017. The family's case was opened for ongoing services on October 24, 2016. Grief and loss counseling was offered for all family members and the father is receiving behavioral health services along with parenting and budgeting services. The 3-year-old sibling receives early intervention services and the 5-year-old sibling receives speech therapy services. The mother has liberal supervised visitation with her children while incarcerated through the jail's visitation service.

The family has a history with Allegheny OCYF from 2006 to 2015 with four general protective services reports received concerning parental substance abuse and intimate partner violence. The two oldest children were placed into agency custody two times prior to this incident as a result of these concerns. Allegheny OCYF provided the family with behavioral health services, parenting services, and drug and alcohol treatment throughout this time. In addition, there was one child protective services report during this time for physical maltreatment but it was unsubstantiated.

2. A 17-month-old male child died on November 1, 2016 as a result of physical abuse. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families (Allegheny OCYF) indicated the case on December 28, 2016, naming the child's father and mother as the perpetrators. On November 1, 2016, the mother smothered the child resulting in the child's death after sending threats to the child's father related to her harming the child and his 2-year-old sibling. The mother notified Emergency Medical Services who arrived at the home with law enforcement. The child was transported to the local pediatric hospital. The child was pronounced deceased upon arrival at the hospital. An autopsy report stated the child died as a result of asphyxia due to smothering. The child had sustained other injuries. The sibling was initially placed with the father prior to Allegheny OCYF being informed of the father's failure to intervene. On November 4, 2016, emergency custody of the sibling was assumed and the sibling was placed in the care of a relative, where she remains. The sibling receives Early Intervention services and supervised visitation with the father. The mother was arrested and incarcerated on November 1, 2016. She was charged with criminal homicide, criminal attempt-criminal homicide, aggravated assault, and endangering the welfare of children. She remains incarcerated awaiting trial. The father was arrested on November 4, 2016, and charged with endangering the welfare of children but was released on bond on November 7, 2016. He is scheduled to have non-jury trial on April 21, 2017.

The family was previously known to Allegheny OCYF. From 2014 to 2015, two general protective service reports were received and a case was opened briefly for the mother to receive a drug and alcohol assessment but no further interventions were deemed necessary.

#### Dauphin County

3. A 1-year-old male child died on September 3, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. Dauphin County Social Services for Children and Youth (Dauphin SSCY) indicated the case on October 28, 2016, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator. The child was brought to the local hospital on August 31, 2016, after being found unresponsive in his home. He was then flown to a specialized children's hospital. The child was found to have excessive swelling on his brain; therefore, the hospital significantly dropped his body temperature to reduce the amount of oxygen that his body would require. During attempts to re-warm the child's core temperature, he died on September 3, 2016. The mother provided an explanation for the child's injuries that the child had fallen in the tub while she was bathing his 2-year-old sibling but it was later learned that the mother had left the children in

the bathtub while she made a 23 minute phone call on another level of the home. When she discovered the child under water she took him to a neighbor's home to call paramedics, leaving the sibling in the bathtub. The neighbor called 911 and ran back to the mother's home to retrieve the sibling. The father of the children was not home at the time. The mother admitted to using marijuana and alcohol on the morning of the incident. On January 4, 2017, the mother was arrested and remains incarcerated. She was charged with criminal homicide and two counts of endangering the welfare of children. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for January 13, 2017.

The family had moved from Adams County to Dauphin County in August 2016. Following the incident, the mother, father, and surviving sibling moved back to Adams County where they reside with the maternal grandmother. To ensure the sibling's safety, the sibling's contact with the mother is supervised by the maternal grandmother. A referral has been made to Adams County Children and Youth Services (Adams CYS) regarding the family. Adams CYS provided the family with services including family support therapies and possible Early Intervention services for the sibling. The family was not known to Dauphin SSCY or Adams CYS prior to this incident.

#### Indiana County

4. A 3-year-old male child died on November 10, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. Indiana County Children and Youth Services (Indiana CYS) indicated the case on November 29, 2016, naming the father as the perpetrator. Indiana CYS received a general protective services (GPS) referral on November 10, 2016 due to concerns that the father and his two children were residing in an unsafe residence due to exposed wiring. The county caseworker attempted to assist the father in locating a temporary residence to ensure the children's safety; however, the father was not responding to the caseworker. Later that evening, the father drove under the influence of alcohol and marijuana with the child and his 2-year-old sibling in the vehicle. At approximately 11:00 PM, the father lost control of his vehicle, hitting a berm causing the vehicle to go across the lane into oncoming traffic. This resulted in a sport utility vehicle striking the father's vehicle, instantly killing the father and the child. The child's sibling survived but sustained life threatening injuries. The sibling was transported to the local pediatric hospital where she was treated for her injuries. Indiana CYS obtained custody of the sibling on November 15, 2016, and the sibling was adjudicated dependent on December 1, 2016. The sibling was placed with her paternal grandmother and her husband. The sibling continues to receive ongoing medical treatment. There were no other children in the home. The father's blood alcohol level was determined to be 0.161, twice the legal limit, and his tetrahydrocannabinol level was determined to 4.5ng/ml which indicates he smoked marijuana within a half hour to four hours prior to the vehicle accident. No criminal charges were filed against the father due to his death.

The family had been involved with Indiana CYS in 2015 due to the mother testing positive for marijuana at the birth of the sibling. The case was closed at the

conclusion of the investigative phase of the case. The mother resides in Nevada and is currently homeless.

#### Lawrence County

5. A 2-month-old female child died on September 22, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Lawrence County Children and Youth Services (Lawrence CYS) indicated the case on October 21, 2016, naming the mother's paramour as the perpetrator. On the morning of September 22, 2016, the child was in the care of the paramour while the mother attended work. At 1:41 PM, the mother telephoned her paramour to check on the child and he reported the child would not wake up. The mother questioned if the child was still breathing, which he could not ascertain. She instructed him to take the child to the hospital, while calling 911 for assistance. The ambulance transported the child to the local hospital and the child was in full cardiac arrest. The physicians were unable to revive the child and she was pronounced dead. An autopsy determined the child died from blunt force trauma to the skull. The paramour did not provide an accounting of events prior to the child's death. A 6-year-old half-sibling also resides in the home but was at his maternal aunt's home on the day of the incident. Lawrence CYS ensured his safety at his aunt's residence and the mother assured Lawrence CYS the paramour would not have any access to the child. The half-sibling remains in the home with his mother as the paramour moved out of the mother's house. On September 23, 2016, the paramour was arrested and incarcerated. He was charged with criminal homicide, aggravated assault, simple assault and recklessly endangering another person. He is currently awaiting trial. The mother and the half-sibling are receiving grief counseling as a result of the incident.

The family has a history of involvement with Lawrence CYS ranging from 2010 to 2016. One child protective services report and three separate general protective services reports were received during this time period with concerns that included: inappropriate discipline being used in the home, substance abuse and deplorable housing conditions. The child protective services report concerning physical abuse to the half-sibling was substantiated, listing the mother's paramour as the perpetrator. The family was opened for services as a result of the report and provided with parenting instruction and mental health evaluations. The other two general protective services reports were not able to be validated and were closed after an initial assessment period.

#### Luzerne County

6. A 3-year old male child died on November 19, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Luzerne County Children and Youth Services (Luzerne CYS) indicated the report on December 20, 2016, naming the child's father as the perpetrator. The father was driving on the interstate in an erratic manner when he pulled into the median and stopped the car. The father then shot the child in the head and proceeded to shoot himself in the head. The father was deceased at the scene and the child was transported to the local hospital where he was pronounced dead. Law enforcement then went to check on the child's mother at her residence where she

resided with the father and the child. She was found deceased in her car outside of the home. Investigators determined that the father had shot the mother earlier in the morning of November 19, 2016, prior to the incident. There were no other children in the home. No charges were filed as the perpetrator is deceased. The family was not previously known to Luzerne CYS.

#### Philadelphia County

7. A 2-year-old male child died on November 7, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (Philadelphia DHS) indicated the case on December 13, 2016, naming the child's father as the perpetrator. The determination was based on medical evidence. It was reported that the child and his half-sibling were left home alone around 8:00 PM on November 3, 2016. While the children were alone, a fire broke out in the home. The father admitted to leaving the children home alone while he went to pick up the half-sibling's mother from work. He said her work was only approximately 5 minutes away, however, it took him and the half-sibling's mother approximately 20 minutes to return home. When they arrived, the home was on fire and the fire department had found the child and his half-sibling unconscious. The child was transported to a local hospital and admitted to the Intensive Care Unit. The child did not have any signs of physical abuse but suffered from smoke inhalation due to the fire. He was put on life support but then taken off. The child passed away on November 8, 2016, after he showed no signs of brain activity. The half-sibling also passed as a result of the incident. There are no other children in the home. No charges have been filed against the father as the criminal investigation is currently pending. The family is not receiving any services as a result of the incident and the family had no prior involvement with Philadelphia DHS.

8. A 6-year-old male child died on November 6, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (Philadelphia DHS) indicated the case on December 5, 2016, naming the child's father as the perpetrator. The determination was based on medical evidence. It was reported that the child and his half-sibling were left home alone around 8:00 PM on November 3, 2016. While the children were alone, a fire broke out in the home. The father admitted to leaving the children home alone while he went to pick up the child's mother from work. He said her work was only approximately 5 minutes away, however, it took him and the mother approximately 20 minutes to return home. When they arrived, the home was on fire and the fire department had found the child and his half-sibling unconscious. There were no other children or adults in the home at the time of the incident. The child was transported to a pediatric hospital. He was in critical condition and was admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU). The child did not have any signs of physical abuse but suffered from smoke inhalation due to the fire. He was put on life support but then taken off. The child passed away on November 6, 2016 after he showed no signs of brain activity. The half-sibling also passed as a result of the incident. No charges have been filed against the father as the criminal investigation is currently pending. The family is not receiving any services as a result of the incident and the family had no prior involvement with Philadelphia DHS.

## Perry County

9. A 2-year-old male child died on September 24, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. The Central Region Office of Children Youth and Families (CRO) indicated the case on November 7, 2016, naming the child's babysitter as the perpetrator. On the day of the incident, the victim child arrived at the babysitter's home. He did not enter the house, but instead ran directly from his mother's car to the swing set in the babysitter's backyard. In addition to the victim child, the babysitter was watching a 1 year old. When the 1 year old saw the victim child on the swing set, he ran outside from the babysitter's house to play with him. After the victim child's mother left the babysitter's home, the babysitter went to the bathroom to change clothes leaving the two children outside to play. The babysitter reported it took her less than 5 minutes to change clothes and that she then looked out of the kitchen window to the swing set but didn't see the children. The babysitter went outside to look for the children and found the 1 year old standing on a wooden bridge looking into the water on the dirt lane that leads to the main road. The babysitter ran to see what the 1 year old was looking at and found the victim child floating face down in the water, not moving. The babysitter immediately performed cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) but the victim child did not respond. She then ran with both children to the house and called 911. The babysitter performed CPR on the victim child again, until the ambulance arrived. The victim child was taken to Hershey Medical Center by ambulance and was put on life support. Over the next four days, the hospital conducted two brain tests which showed the victim child had little brain activity. The victim child's parents decided to take him off life support and the child passed away on September 24, 2016. There were six other children living with the babysitter and her husband at the time of the incident. Two of them were the babysitter's biological children, three of them were the babysitter's adoptive children, and one of them was a foster child. Due to the investigation, the foster child was removed from the home and placed in a respite home. The rest of the children were determined to be safe and were left in the home and no services were provided.

The babysitter's family was previously known to Perry CYS due to a child protective services report received in April 2011. The report alleged physical abuse towards one of the babysitter's children but was unfounded after investigation. The victim child had a 6-year-old sibling and an 8-year-old sibling. They were not watched by the babysitter and did not have any contact with her. The victim child's family had no prior involvement with Perry CYS. The Pennsylvania State Police conducted an investigation and determined the incident was an accidental drowning. As a result, no charges were pressed against the babysitter and the case was closed.

## Near Fatalities

### Allegheny County

10. A 2-month-old male child nearly died on October 11, 2016 as a result of physical abuse. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families (Allegheny

OCYF) indicated the case on December 7, 2016, naming the mother and the father as the perpetrators. At approximately 4:00 AM, the mother heard the child making chirping noises, checked on him, and discerned he was nonresponsive. The mother noticed the child's breathing was shallow. The mother contacted emergency medical services, who transported the child to the local hospital. Narcan was administered after determining the child had ingested methadone. Both parents are prescribed methadone and the mother admitted to having "take home" privileges. The day prior, the parents had taken the child to the methadone clinic. Later that evening, the child became fussy. The child was breastfed and given a bath by the mother. After feeding the child, he was placed into a swing. The child continued to be fussy, began to sweat and arched his back. After several hours of the child being fussy, he fell asleep. The mother claimed she stayed up all night long, but noticed something different with the child at 4:00 AM. Both parents explained the mother had not breastfed or pumped for at least two weeks resulting in a buildup of the methadone in her breastmilk. They denied giving the child methadone. However, in the physician's medical opinion the level of methadone passed from the mother to the child through breastmilk would not have resulted in the need for Narcan to be administered. The child remained hospitalized until October 13, 2016, when he was placed into agency custody in a nonrelative foster home. The child was then moved to the paternal grandmother's care at the Shelter Hearing on October 17, 2016. The case remains open. The parents do not have any other children. Both parents were arrested and incarcerated on December 7, 2016. Both were charged with endangering the welfare of a child and recklessly endangering another person. Both parents were released on December 8, 2016 and their formal arraignment is scheduled for April 13, 2017. The child is currently receiving early intervention services and the parents are continuing to receive drug and alcohol treatment and housing services. The paternal grandmother is supervising visits between the parents and the child.

This family did not have any past history with the agency; however, the father has an older child to a different mother who has one prior agency involvement, but the father had no involvement with this family or the agency.

11. A 5-month-old female child nearly died on September 26, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families (Allegheny OCYF) indicated the case on November 21, 2016, naming the male babysitter as the perpetrator. The child was left in the care of two babysitters while the mother attended work. Approximately two hours after dropping the child off, the mother received a phone call from the female babysitter stating the child demonstrated seizure-like activity and was being transported via ambulance to the local pediatric hospital. Prior to the child becoming unresponsive, the babysitters reported the child appeared fine. The child awoke from her nap crying which was unusual for her. The female babysitter picked up the child and handed her to the male babysitter who claimed he attempted to feed her. The child refused the bottle, so he began to walk her up and down the hallway, bouncing and singing to her. During this activity, the male babysitter reported the child became stiff and stopped making any noise. The child then roused herself. Emergency medical services were called and transported the child to the local pediatric hospital. The child was

admitted to the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, where it was determined she had sustained an acute subdural hemorrhage, subacute hemorrhages, bruising to her chest, and retinal hemorrhages in both eyes. Initially in the investigation, there were allegations that the child had broken blood vessels in her eyes before this incident, in which the mother was a potential suspect. The child was released from the hospital on October 3, 2016 and placed into agency custody in a non-relative home given the mother has no familial supports. The child does not have contact with her father due to an active Protection from Abuse Order. However, after speaking with the physicians, Allegheny OCYF were able to determine that the child's condition was acute which means only the babysitters were suspected of causing the injuries. The child was adjudicated dependent on October 24, 2016 and returned to the mother's care on November 8, 2016. The family was opened for services and the mother received family preservation services. The child's 6-year-old half-sibling's safety was assured due to her residing with her father. Allegheny OCYF did not indicate the female babysitter as she died in November 2016 before the conclusion of the investigation. On October 28, 2016, the male babysitter was arrested and incarcerated at the county jail as a result of the incident. He was charged with aggravated assault with a victim less than 13, recklessly endangering another person and endangering welfare of children. He was released from jail on October 31, 2016. A preliminary hearing was held on January 24, 2017 and all charges were waived for court. His formal arraignment is scheduled for April 13, 2017. The family is receiving family preservation services as a result of the incident.

The family was previously known to Allegheny OCYF. Five general protective services (GPS) referrals were received from 2013 to 2016 due to concerns for intimate partner violence between the mother and the two children's fathers, and one report regarding the half-sibling being grabbed by her father. None of these referrals were accepted for services.

12. A 2-year-old female child nearly died on October 25, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families (Allegheny OCYF) indicated the case on December 9, 2016, naming the mother as the perpetrator. The mother is prescribed Subutex and stored the medication in a cloth bag along with a lighter, Excedrin Migraine, Dramamine, and sinus medication. On the morning of the incident, the mother removed the cloth bag from the cabinet and placed it on the kitchen counter. The mother left the room to assist the child's 4-year-old sibling with getting dressed for school. When the mother returned to the kitchen, the cloth bag along with tiny pieces of the medication was lying across the floor. The mother immediately examined the child's mouth to locate any pills she may have ingested. The child instantly became flushed and lethargic. The mother called emergency medical services (EMS) and carried the child outside to meet the EMS as the child was going in and out of consciousness. EMS transported the child to a local hospital emergency room (ER). The child was administered Narcan while in the ER then was transported via medical helicopter to the local pediatric hospital. In route, the child was administered more Narcan. The child was admitted to the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit upon arrival. The child's toxicology report indicated she was positive for caffeine, Chlopheniramine, which is



found in cold/allergy medication and Buprenorphine, which is also known as Subutex. On October 27, 2016, the child was discharged from the hospital back into her mother's care due to an agreed upon safety plan implemented by Allegheny OCYF. The safety plan required that she continue with family services, mental health services, early intervention services, and that she receive crisis in-home services to monitor her ability to store her medication in a lock box. The child's 4-year-old sibling's safety was assured given the maternal grandmother also resided in the family home. However, the mother failed to comply with the agreed upon safety plan and both children were placed into agency custody on November 17, 2016, at their paternal aunt's residence. The children were adjudicated dependent on December 13, 2016, and placed with their father. The father was referred to in-home family services to assist with parenting skills, as well as to a batterer's treatment program. The father had a prior Protection from Abuse (PFA) Order. The PFA order allowed him to have visits with his children prior to him receiving custody of both children. Both parents were court-ordered to have interactional psychological assessments as well. The mother has supervised visits three times a week with both children. On October 25, 2016, the mother was arrested and charged with endangering the welfare of children as a result of the incident. She is still awaiting a hearing date.

The family had prior involvement with Allegheny OCYF. There were three general protective service referrals in 2015 due to concerns for physical maltreatment and housing. All three reports were assessed as invalid and closed at the conclusion of the assessments.

#### Beaver County

13. A 3-month-old female child nearly died on September 25, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Beaver County Children and Youth Services (Beaver CYS) indicated the case on October 18, 2016; the case was later founded on November 8, 2016, naming the child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On September 25, 2016, at approximately 3:30 PM, the mother contacted the pediatrician to report the child was unable to move her left side. The mother was instructed to transport the child to the local pediatric hospital. However, due to the lack of funds to pay for gas, the child was taken to another hospital at 5:35 PM to later be transported via medical helicopter to the local pediatric hospital. The treating physician determined the child had sustained a complex right skull fracture, a subdural hemorrhage, cerebral edema, acute and healing rib fractures, fractures to both legs, and retinal hemorrhages in both eyes. Emergency surgery was performed to alleviate swelling and a breathing tube was administered. The child also endured seizures and a deep vein thrombosis in her leg while hospitalized. She was discharged on October 18, 2016, to the care of her parental grandmother. She attends follow-up medical appointments with the Hematologist, Neurologist, and Ophthalmologist and receives Early Intervention services. The mother admitted to shaking the child while being upset with the father, causing the injuries. The father was present at the time of the incident and failed to intervene to protect the child. No other children reside in the home. The mother has a 6-year-old daughter that is the half-sibling to the victim child. She resides with her father and paternal grandfather. The mother only

had supervised visitation with the 6 year old prior to this incident. She is now to have no contact with the 6-year-old half-sibling or the child. The father also has no contact with the children. On October 26, 2016, the mother was arrested and charged with attempted homicide, aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of a child and recklessly endangering another person. She was incarcerated and remains in jail awaiting trial. No charges were filed against the father. The mother and the father are receiving mental health, anger management, and parenting services as a result of the incident.

Beaver CYS was active with this family at the time of the incident. In August 2014, the mother and the victim child's father were indicated for physical abuse against the 6-year-old half-sibling. As a result, the father was criminally convicted and the mother completed a parenting course and was participating in mental health services.

#### Bradford County

14. A 23-month-old male child nearly died on August 27, 2016, due to serious physical neglect and physical abuse. Bradford County Children and Youth Services (Bradford CYS) indicated the case on October 20, 2016, naming the child's father as the perpetrator. On the day of the incident, the father was found by law enforcement wandering in an isolated rural area of Bradford County with the unresponsive child draped over his shoulders. It was observed that both the child and the father were naked at the time of law enforcement's arrival. Law enforcement was responding to an emergency call placed by a resident of the area who was approached by the child's 6-year-old sibling who was wandering after being left alone in the car by the father earlier that day. The child was life flighted to a medical facility and was found to have a skull fracture and orbital fracture. He was treated for his injuries and subsequently recovered. Medical personnel concluded that the injuries were not the result of a fall. Neither the 6-year-old sibling nor the father was able to provide any explanation regarding the circumstances surrounding the child's injuries or the father's behaviors that day. Despite numerous efforts by Bradford CYS and the police, the child's father has declined to comment on the incident. Multiple interviews with the child's mother and extended family members were completed during the investigation. None of the parties could clearly identify any definitive issues relating to the emotional health of the father, but several individuals noted that the father was "acting strange" a few days prior to the incident. Bradford CYS conducted a safety assessment of the child and his sibling. They were returned to the care and custody of the mother after determining they were safe. The father was placed into custody on August 27, 2016, and remains incarcerated. He has been charged with endangering the welfare of a minor and physical assault. He is awaiting trial at this time. Bradford CYS is providing ongoing protective services and in-home parenting services to the family as a result of the incident. The child is also receiving Early Intervention services.

The family was previously known to Bradford CYS. In 2011, a referral was received with concerns of alcohol use. The family was provided short term services to address this concern and the case was closed. In 2014, a referral was received concerning possible sexual abuse of the child's sibling that occurred in another state. The case was unsubstantiated and closed with no services being provided. In 2015, another referral was received following a home study request made by another state's department of human services due to an open sexual abuse investigation regarding the child's sibling. Bradford CYS completed a home assessment and determined that the family was not in need of ongoing protective services and closed the case after referring them to community social services.

#### Dauphin County

15. A 2-year-old male child nearly died on August 18, 2016, due to physical abuse and serious physical neglect. Dauphin County Social Services for Children and Youth (Dauphin SSCY) indicated the case on October 17, 2016, naming the maternal aunt's paramour as the perpetrator. On the day of the incident, the child and one of his siblings were in the care of the maternal aunt's paramour. The mother of the child was homeless at the time so her children were staying in the home of the maternal aunt and her paramour. At 8:00 AM, the maternal aunt's paramour called the child's maternal aunt at her job and told her the child had a "rash like" pattern on his legs. He reported that she instructed him to put Vaseline on the rash. He called her several more times to report that the rash appeared to be getting worse and at 2:00 PM, he advised her that the child was refusing to walk. The maternal aunt arrived home at approximately 3:30 PM. She took him to the local hospital emergency room at approximately 4:00 PM when she observed how bad the child's skin looked. The child was examined at the local hospital, which then transferred him by ambulance to a specialized pediatric hospital. He was taken to a burn center for treatment and was diagnosed with second degree burns to over 35 percent of his body. According to the Child Protection Team at the burn center, the burns were consistent with the child being submerged in scalding hot water. The child was discharged on September 19, 2016, to his mother who is now residing with her mother. The child completed rehabilitation services and was discharged with no medication needed. Dauphin SSCY determined the mother's home was safe and was satisfied with the mother's follow up with the child. The child has two siblings who also live in the home. None of the children have contact with the maternal aunt's paramour. Because the maternal aunt's paramour failed to get medical attention from 8:00 AM until when the maternal aunt came home, the report was indicated for both physical abuse, and also serious physical neglect. The maternal aunt's paramour has been charged with aggravated assault and endangering the welfare of a child and is currently incarcerated.

The family was previously known to Dauphin SSCY. From October 2013 to July 2015, two general protective services reports were received with concerns of domestic violence, drug usage, and the basic needs of the children not being met. To address these concerns, the family was open for in-home services until July 2015 when the case closed.

## Indiana County

16. A 1-year-old female child nearly died on November 10, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Indiana County Children and Youth Services (Indiana CYS) indicated the case on December 6, 2016, naming the child's father as the perpetrator. Indiana CYS received a general protective services (GPS) report on November 10, 2016 due to concerns the father and his two children were residing in an unsafe residence with exposed wiring. The county caseworker attempted to assist the father with locating a temporary residence to ensure the children's safety; however, the father was not responding to the caseworker. Later that evening, the father drove under the influence of alcohol and marijuana with the child and her 3-year-old sibling in the vehicle. At approximately 11:00 PM, the father lost control of his vehicle and hit a berm, causing the vehicle to go across the lane into oncoming traffic. This resulted in a sport utility vehicle striking the father's vehicle, killing the father and the child's 3-year-old sibling instantly. The father's blood alcohol level was determined to be 0.161, twice the legal limit, and his tetrahydrocannabinol level was determined to be 4.5ng/ml, which indicates he smoked marijuana within a half hour to four hours prior to the vehicle accident. The child sustained life threatening injuries including a skull fracture that extended to six different parts of the brain, a small brain bleed, and a right tibia fibular fracture. The child was transported to the local pediatric hospital where she was treated for her injuries. The child was in a coma from the time of the incident until November 21, 2016 and was fed through a nasogastric intubation tube. The child was discharged from the local pediatric hospital on November 25, 2016, and was sent to a rehabilitative services facility for children until her release on December 19, 2016. The child was placed with her paternal grandmother upon discharge from the rehabilitative service facility. The child continues to receive occupational therapy services. Indiana CYS obtained custody of the child on November 15, 2016, and the child was adjudicated dependent on December 1, 2016. No criminal charges were filed against the father due to his death.

The family had previously been involved with Indiana CYS in 2015 due to the mother testing positive for marijuana at the birth of the child. The case was closed at the conclusion of the investigative phase. The mother resides in Nevada and is currently homeless.

## Lackawanna County

17. A 3-month-old male child nearly died on October 31, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Lackawanna County Office of Youth and Family Services (Lackawanna OYFS) indicated the case on December 16, 2016, naming the mother's paramour as the perpetrator. On October 31, 2016 the child was taken to the local hospital presenting with seizure-like symptoms. The child was life flighted to a pediatric hospital that same evening and it was determined he was exhibiting symptoms of shaken baby syndrome. The child was found to have 6 healing rib fractures, brain trauma, signs of previous brain trauma, a broken leg, edema of the liver, and hemorrhaging behind both eyes. During an interview the mother's paramour admitted to shaking and slapping the child two days prior to the child's

hospitalization while the mother was at work. The mother claimed to have no knowledge of the paramour's assault on the child. The child was discharged from the hospital on November 22, 2016, and placed in a kinship foster home. He was referred to Early Intervention services as a result of the incident. On November 1, 2016, Lackawanna OYFS assessed the safety of the child's two older siblings who also resided in the home and found bruising on both of their bodies. Lackawanna OYFS took custody of the siblings and they were placed in the same kinship foster home in which the child was placed. The mother and her paramour were both named as perpetrators. Reports on the siblings were indicated for the injuries found on the siblings. The mother's paramour has been charged with aggravated assault, simple assault, recklessly endangering another person, and endangering the welfare of children as a result of the near fatality incident. He is currently incarcerated awaiting trial. The family has been opened for ongoing services. The mother is receiving mental health and parenting services. She has supervised visitation with the children.

The family was previously known to Lackawanna OYFS. In 2013, a referral was made alleging physical abuse to one of the child's siblings. The case was unable to be substantiated and closed out after an initial assessment period. In September 2016, a referral was received concerning lack of supervision while the children were being supervised by their maternal uncle. The case was closed at intake after the mother and her paramour indicated they would no longer utilize the uncle as a caretaker. In October 2016, another referral was received concerning lack of supervision, alleging that the children unlocked the door while the mother and her paramour were sleeping. Better locks were put on the doors and the case was closed at intake.

#### Lawrence County

18. A 2-year-old female child nearly died on October 12, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Lawrence County Children and Youth Services (Lawrence CYS) indicated the case on November 16, 2016, naming the child's father as the perpetrator. On the day of the incident, the father was the sole caretaker of the child. At approximately 7:30 PM, he attempted to contact the mother to report the child had fallen down the stairs. She did not answer so he reached the maternal aunt who then contacted the maternal grandmother for help. The grandmother arrived at the home and found the child unconscious on the couch, so she called 911. The child was transported via ambulance to the local hospital and then to the regional pediatric hospital via helicopter. The child sustained a subdural hematoma, an adrenal hematoma, inflammation of the colon, abnormal elevated liver enzymes, bilateral retinal hemorrhages, and a fracture to the left arm. The child was intubated and required emergency surgery to alleviate the pressure building from the head trauma. The treating physicians reported the father's depiction of events would not have caused the injuries. The injuries suggested a violent shaking event. The child remained in the hospital until November 17, 2016, when she was released to kinship foster care with her maternal grandmother and sibling. She attends speech, occupational and physical therapy along with Early Intervention services. The child's 4-year-old sibling was placed into foster care due to the mother

supporting the father's account of how the child sustained the injuries. The father has a no contact order prohibiting him from seeing the children but the mother has supervised visitation with the children. No charges have yet been filed against the father as the criminal investigation is still ongoing. The family was referred to Family Reunification Services which includes parenting instruction as a result of the incident.

The family was previously known to Lawrence CYS. In 2015, a general protective service report was received with concerns that included: parental substance abuse, poor home conditions, lack of supervision and inadequate food. None of these concerns could be validated and the report was closed out after an initial assessment period.

#### Lehigh County

19. A 19-month-old female child nearly died on September, 6, 2016 as a result of physical abuse. Lehigh County Children and Youth Services (Lehigh CYS) indicated the case on November 4, 2016, naming the child's mother and father as the perpetrators. The child was admitted to a local medical facility on September 6, 2016, after ingesting Clonidine under the sole care of the mother and father. The Clonidine stopped the child's breathing and she required intubation and mechanical ventilation support. The child was stabilized while in the pediatric care unit and discharged on September 7, 2016. At the time of the initial referral, the child's parents alleged that the child had accidentally consumed the Clonidine prescription. However, subsequent information secured through the joint investigation by Lehigh CYS and law enforcement determined that the father had provided the child with Clonidine which was prescribed to the child's older sibling. It was also determined that both the father and mother frequently provided unapproved and varying amounts of Clonidine to the child and the child's 2-year-old and 3-year-old siblings for the purpose of getting them to sleep. At the time of the incident, Lehigh CYS conducted a safety assessment of the child's 2-year-old and 3-year-old siblings who also lived in the home. Lehigh CYS implemented a safety plan which placed the siblings in the care and custody of the paternal grandmother. Upon discharge from the hospital, the child was also placed in the paternal grandmother's home. All three children currently remain in her care. Lehigh CYS has filed for custody of the children. The mother and father currently have supervised visitation with all three children. Criminal charges were filed against the father regarding the incident and he is currently awaiting trial. No charges have been filed against the mother. Both parents are receiving ongoing case management services and parenting services as a result of the incident. The child is receiving early intervention services.

This family was previously known to Lehigh CYS. A report was received in 2011 with concerns of domestic violence and substance abuse but the report was assessed as invalid and closed after an initial assessment period. Another report was also received in 2011 regarding allegations of child sexual abuse. This report was unsubstantiated and in-home diversion services were provided to the family. In 2014, a report alleging medical neglect of one of the siblings was received and the family received in-home health care services and the case was closed. In 2016, a

report was received concerning bed bugs in the home. Lehigh CYC secured payment for an exterminator and the case was closed at intake level.

#### Montgomery County

20. A 1-month-old male child nearly died on September 18, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth (Montgomery OCY) indicated the case on November 15, 2016, naming the child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On September 18, 2016, the parents drove the child to the local hospital's emergency room. The parent's reported that the child's 6-year-old brother was holding the child when the family pet jumped onto the couch and its head or paw hit the child's head. The child immediately began to cry and the right side of his head started to swell. Medical professionals found that the child had a traumatic brain injury. He was placed on a feeding tube, was critically ill, and a computerized axial tomography scan (CT scan) revealed that he had two skull fractures, subarachnoid and subdural hemorrhages, and bleeding within the brain. He was transferred to a specialized pediatric hospital and medical evidence indicated that the child's injuries were non-accidental and not consistent with the explanation the parents provided. Both parents were in the house at the time of the incident and were the child's sole caretakers. The parent's action and/or failure to act resulted in the child sustaining the severe brain injuries. The child was discharged from the hospital on October 16, 2016. He received outpatient therapeutic services and vision services through the early intervention services program. Montgomery OCY placed the child's three siblings who lived in the home with their paternal grandparents to ensure their safety. The victim child was placed in a different treatment foster home because the grandparents could not meet the needs of the entire sibling group and the medical needs of the victim child. The mother and the father currently have no contact with any of the children.

The family was previously known to Montgomery OCY. A general protective services referral was received in May 2016 concerning lack of supervision. The referral was validated and the family began receiving intensive in-home services as a result. Criminal charges are pending on the parents related to both the May 2016 incident and the near fatality incident with the victim child.

#### Philadelphia County

21. A 13-year-old male child nearly died on September 28, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (Philadelphia DHS) indicated the case on November 8, 2016, naming the child's sister's ex-paramour as the perpetrator. On the day of the incident, the child, his 8-year-old nephew, and his 12-year-old niece were in the care of his sister's ex-paramour. The child's sister had permanent legal custody of the child and he lived in her home. The sister's ex-paramour was the father of the 8 year old and 12 year old and came to visit. He offered to watch the child and his children while the sister went to a doctor's appointment. It was reported that the sister's ex-paramour was seen outside talking to someone in a car before the incident. He then re-entered the

home and began arguing with the 12 year old and choked her because she had clothing on the floor. She blacked out for an unknown period of time and when she awoke, went to her room with the child and the 8 year old. The sister's ex-paramour then called the 8 year old downstairs and a few minutes later screaming was heard. The child and 12 year old ran downstairs and witnessed the sister's ex-paramour stabbing the 8 year old. The child intervened to defend the 8 year old and was also stabbed multiple times. The child managed to run to the neighbor's house and the police were called. The child was taken to the hospital due to multiple stab wounds and was in critical condition. He stabilized and was discharged from the hospital on October 5, 2016. He does not require medical follow-up treatment. No criminal charges were filed against the sister's ex-paramour as he was shot and killed during his apprehension by the police on that day. The 12 year old and 8 year old survived and remain in the home with their mother. They are currently receiving therapeutic services. Philadelphia DHS placed the victim child into foster care as part of a safety plan pending the investigation. The goal is for the child to return with the sister and for her to adopt him. He currently has visitation with the sister and is receiving Focus Trauma Therapy.

The sister's family has no previous involvement with Philadelphia DHS. However, the child was previously known to Philadelphia DHS due to ongoing truancy issues and his mother's behavioral health. The child's mother failed to comply with the services put in place to address these concerns as well as reunification goals so Philadelphia DHS terminated her parental rights. He was then placed in foster care from March 2014 to May 2016 until he moved to his sister's home.

22. A 2-year-old male child nearly died on November 7, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (Philadelphia DHS) indicated the case on December 14, 2016, naming the child's maternal grandmother's paramour as the perpetrator. On November 7, 2016, the child presented at the local hospital's emergency room with injuries to the back of his head which included a large posterior hematoma to the right skull base, a puncture wound that was actively bleeding, and a fracture that caused the presence of air or gas within the skull cavity. He was discharged from the hospital on November 14, 2016, and is doing well. He receives physical and occupational follow up care as a result of the incident. The child's mother reported that on the date of the incident, the child, the child's 9-month-old sibling, the grandmother, and the grandmother's paramour were finishing dinner when she made a comment that they should have brought dessert. In response, the grandmother's paramour made an inappropriate comment and the mother reported this to the grandmother who said she would handle it and went upstairs to the bedroom with her paramour. The mother was holding the child's 9-month-old sibling and the child was in the living room when the mother heard the grandmother call for her but then said "never mind." The grandmother's paramour came out of the bedroom first and began to play with the 9-month-old sibling and then the grandmother came out of the bedroom with a knife in her back covered with blood. The mother and the grandmother went outside with the child's sibling and the mother called the police and the children's father. The grandmother's paramour came out of the house but heard the mother



calling the police so he went back inside. The mother realized the child was still inside the house so she tried to go back in but the grandmother's paramour had locked the door. The mother heard the child crying from inside the house and when the father arrived, he tried to enter but could not. The police arrived and broke down the door to gain entry at which point the father picked the child up and saw blood coming from his head. The child was then transported to the hospital along with the grandmother. The grandmother's paramour was arrested and charged with two counts of attempted murder. He is currently incarcerated awaiting trial. An Order of Protective Custody was obtained and the child and his sibling were placed in the legal custody of Philadelphia DHS. Both children are currently in kinship placement with their maternal aunt. The family is receiving family stabilization services. The services focus on housing, domestic violence, parenting skills, mental health and drug and alcohol treatment.

The family was previously known to Philadelphia DHS. In April 2014, the mother and child were residing at a drug and alcohol rehabilitation shelter. A referral was received due to concerns the mother was not being compliant with the program services she was required to complete. As a result, Philadelphia DHS opened the family for in-home services. However, in July 2014, the child was placed in foster care due to the mother's continued non-compliance in the shelter program. The family received case management services and parenting skills services and the child was eventually returned to the parents.

23. A 12-year-old male child nearly died on October 1, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (Philadelphia DHS) indicated the report on December 5, 2016, naming the child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On October 1, 2016, the child was taken to the local pediatric hospital with a fever and severe dehydration. He was found to be underweight and had protein malnutrition. He had severe vitamin deficiencies, including a vitamin A deficiency which may have damaged his vision. The child was admitted to the hospital. He had supervised visits with the parents during his hospitalization but they were discontinued when he was discharged on February 1, 2017 to a treatment foster care home. Visits are to resume once a parenting capacity evaluation is completed. His condition was found to be caused by improper nutrition due to the parents' neglect. The child was previously diagnosed with an eating disorder and suffered from food intake problems so he was put on a feeding plan in 2014. However, the parents were neglectful in their follow up care with the specialist appointments and failed to continue with the feeding plan that required the child take Vitamin A prescriptions and PediaSure supplements. No charges have been filed against the parents as the police investigation is ongoing at this time. There are no other children in the home. The family is receiving case management, counseling, educational and training, family support, placement, mental health, and parenting education services.

The victim child was not previously known to Philadelphia DHS. However, the child's half-siblings were receiving services while under the care of their father at the time of the incident. The mother of the half-siblings is also the mother of the victim

child. Her whereabouts were unknown to Philadelphia DHS until this incident. The half-siblings are currently in kinship care placement.

24. A 6-month-old male child nearly died on September 15, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. The Philadelphia Department of Human Services (Philadelphia DHS) indicated the case on October 27, 2016, naming the child's mother and father as the perpetrators. On September 15, 2016, the child was taken to St. Christopher's Hospital with unexplained injuries. The child had an acute subdural hematoma, a frenulum tear between his gum and lips, and multi-layered retinal hemorrhages. The child's injuries were believed to be a result of traumatic head trauma. On September 15, 2016, the child was in the care and home of the maternal uncle's paramour, who was watching the child while both parents were working. The uncle's paramour's mother reported that she was at the home when the uncle's paramour was caring for the child. She stated the child had been crying a lot and she thought something was wrong with him. She also said that when the uncle's paramour went upstairs to feed the child, the child was discovered to be unresponsive. The uncle's paramour stated that when the mother dropped the child off, the mother remained upstairs in the room with the child for approximately 15 minutes. The uncle's paramour said she then changed the child's diaper around 9:30 AM, after checking on him periodically. She said she tried to feed him but he would not eat. When she tried to give him a bottle, she noticed what appeared to be blood in the child's mouth. At approximately 9:50 AM, the paramour picked the child up and found him to look pale and limp. She called 911 and the child was taken to the hospital. When the mother and father were interviewed, it was determined that their testimony was inconsistent. The child was discharged from the hospital on September 26, 2016, and an Order of Protective Custody was obtained. The child was placed in foster care where he currently remains. He has no medical concerns at this time. There were no other children in the home as the mother's parental rights for her three other children were previously terminated by the court. The mother and the father currently have supervised visitation with the child. No charges have been filed yet as the police investigation is ongoing at this time. A referral was made for developmental supports and both parents have been referred for parenting capacity evaluations and parenting classes as a result of the incident.

The family was not previously known to Philadelphia DHS but the mother was known to Berks CYS. Her involvement with Berks CYS was unknown until information was disclosed after the incident. Berks CYS was involved with the mother from 2009-2013 and the court terminated her parental rights for three children due to continued concerns of failure to meet the children's basic needs, failure to maintain housing, mental health issues, cognitive limitations, and domestic violence. The mother moved to Philadelphia, and referred to the victim child as her only child.

25. A 1-year-old female child nearly died on October 14, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (Philadelphia DHS) indicated the case on December 15, 2016, naming the child's mother's paramour as the perpetrator. On October 14, 2016, the mother's paramour was

babysitting the child while the mother was not home. He was giving the child a bath and placed the child in the water without adequately testing the temperature. The mother's paramour admitted to leaving the bathing area to take a cell phone call. He reported that he returned to the bathroom after hearing a scream from the child. The water was too hot and had burned the child. The mother's paramour called an ambulance and the child was taken to a pediatric hospital. It was determined the child suffered 2nd degree burns to over 40% of her body as a result of the incident. She needed to be sedated to change bandages and treat affected areas. The child also had to be connected to a breathing tube and had to be fed intravenously. She will need ongoing medical care after hospitalization. On November 7, 2016, the child was discharged from the hospital. Philadelphia DHS obtained temporary legal custody of the child and placed her in a kinship foster home. The child receives ongoing medical care and physical and occupational therapy to treat her burns. The mother has weekly supervised visits with the child. When interviewed, the mother's paramour admitted to causing the child's injuries as a result of a lapse in judgment when he stepped away from the tub to answer his cell phone. There are no other children in the home. Criminal charges have not been filed against the mother's paramour as the police investigation is continuing. However, he was arrested for violating his probation on another matter and is currently incarcerated and has no contact with the child.

The mother was receiving services at the time of the incident including supervised independent living services. She currently receives placement services in an effort to reunite her with the child and is expected to participate in a psychological examination and parenting skills training. The family was previously known to Philadelphia DHS due to a report received in November 2015 with concerns of unsanitary home conditions. The report was not able to be validated and closed after an initial assessment period.

26. An 8-year-old male child nearly died on September 28, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (Philadelphia DHS) indicated the case on November 8, 2016, naming the child's father as the perpetrator. On the day of the incident, the child was taken to the hospital via ambulance due to multiple stab wounds to his chest and a throat laceration. He was immediately taken into emergency surgery for his injuries. He was discharged on October 4, 2016, and does not require medical follow-up treatment. The father does not live in the home but came to visit his children on the day of the incident. He offered to watch the children while the mother went to her scheduled doctor's appointment. The mother felt comfortable leaving the father home with the children as she had no concern regarding his behavior or his affect. It was reported that the father was seen outside talking to someone in a car before the incident. The father then re-entered the home and began arguing with the 12 year old and choked her because she had clothing on the floor. She blacked out for an unknown period of time and when she awoke, went to her room with the child and 13-year-old uncle who also lived in the home. The father then called the child downstairs and asked him if he wanted something to drink. When the child went to the refrigerator, the father tied a belt around his neck and began to stab him multiple times. The 13-year-old uncle heard the child scream and came from upstairs to intervene and was

also stabbed multiple times. The 13 year old managed to run to the neighbor's house and the police were called. At the time of the incident, there was also another child who was a friend of the family in the home. She was able to exit the home without any harm or injuries. No criminal charges were filed against the father as he was shot and killed during his apprehension by the police on that day. The victim child and his 12-year-old sister remain in the home with their mother and are currently receiving therapeutic services as a result of the incident. The 13-year-old uncle survived and was placed in kinship foster care as part of a safety plan with the goal of adoption by his sister (the victim child's mother). He receives Focus Trauma Therapy as a result of the incident. The family was not previously known to Philadelphia DHS.

27. A 1-year-old female child nearly died on October 2, 2016, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services (Philadelphia DHS) indicated the case on November 21, 2016, naming the child's father and his paramour as the perpetrators. The child was transported by emergency medical services (EMS) to a local hospital on October 1, 2016, for multiple facial bruises on her forehead, nose, and eyes. She was unstable and unresponsive. She was having breathing difficulties which resulted in her being placed on a breathing machine. After several tests, it was determined that the child had suffered from a brain bleed and there was evidence of her brain shifting. The child was experiencing seizures and it was discovered that she had multiple healing rib fractures, bruising of the torso in different stages of healing, and a fractured right arm. All of these injuries occurred while she was in the care of her father and his paramour. The paramour stated that the child had a fever the previous day, and had also fallen from their bed. She stated she administered Tylenol for the child's fever. The doctors reported that the injuries were inconsistent with the explanation of her falling from a bed; her injuries were suspicious for child abuse and/or neglect. The child was transported to a pediatric hospital for a neurosurgery evaluation where the medical evidence indicated that non-accidental injuries occurred which were purposely caused to the child. The child has two paternal half-siblings and three maternal half-siblings. All of the siblings were previously placed in foster care and were not in the home at the time of the incident. On October 2, 2016, the father was arrested and charged with aggravated assault, conspiracy, endangering the welfare of children, simple assault, and recklessly endangering another person. He was released on bail on December 22, 2016, and his whereabouts are currently unknown. The father's paramour was arrested and charged with aggravated assault, conspiracy, endangering the welfare of children, simple assault, and recklessly endangering another person; she is incarcerated awaiting trial. The child has no contact with either perpetrator. The family was previously known to Philadelphia DHS. A report was received in 2012 concerning physical abuse to one of the child's maternal half-siblings. The report was substantiated, naming the half-sibling's father as the perpetrator. In 2013, a report concerning unsafe shelter was received; this report was assessed as invalid and closed after an initial assessment. From 2013 to 2015, two more reports alleging unsafe shelter conditions, inappropriate discipline, and failure to provide supervision were received. The reports were assessed as valid and in-home services were provided, but all of the child's half-siblings were eventually placed in foster care where they remain.

## Schuylkill County

28. A 17-year-old female nearly died on August 17, 2016, as a result of serious physical neglect. Schuylkill County Children and Youth Services (Schuylkill CYS) indicated the case on October 11, 2016, naming the child's mother as the perpetrator. The mother failed to provide the child with proper medical care and treatment for her diabetes. She failed to fill the child's insulin prescription since October 2015 and also failed to make medical appointments for the child. The child had not been seen by an Endocrinologist since November 2015. As a result, the child developed an on-going liver injury that was caused by the non-compliance of her diabetes treatment. She was in severe Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA) and was admitted to the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit on August 17, 2016. The child stabilized and was discharged on August 19, 2016 to the care of her mother. There are no other children in the home. Schuylkill CYS opened the family's case for services. The family is working on monitoring medical appointments and the child's insulin intake. No charges were filed against the mother and there is no pending criminal investigation.

This family was known to Schuylkill CYS prior to this incident. From December 2006 to August 2009, three separate referrals were received with concerns that included: the child's tardiness from school, use of inappropriate discipline, unstable housing, and inadequate health care of the child's diabetes. All three referrals were determined to be invalid and closed out after an initial assessment period. From October 2012 to November 2013, three more referrals were received with concerns of the use of inappropriate discipline. The family was opened at that time and parenting services were provided. In May 2015, another referral was received with concerns of inadequate health care of the child's diabetes. The referral was determined to be valid and the family was again opened for services until June 2016.

## York County

29. A 3-year-old female child nearly died on September 27, 2016 due to physical abuse. York County Office of Children, Youth, and Families (York OCYF) indicated the case on November 7, 2016, naming the child's father's ex-paramour and her roommate as the perpetrators. On the day of the incident, the child and her half-sibling were in the care of the father's ex-paramour. The father's ex-paramour reported that she woke the child up between 12:00 and 1:00 AM and noticed the child had bruising to the front of her head. She called the child's mother around 1:00 AM and told her that the child was acting out and not behaving. The mother then went to the father's ex-paramour's house and noticed the bruises on the child's neck and back of the head. The father's ex-paramour told the mother that the child fell down the stairs. The mother instructed the father's ex-paramour to take the child to the hospital while she went to work. The father's ex-paramour took the child to a local hospital where the child was examined before being transferred to a specialized pediatric hospital and admitted in the intensive care

unit. The child had extensive hematomas to her neck and the front, side, and back of her head. She also had various bruises on her body. The doctor reported that the child's injuries were not consistent with a fall down the stairs. The father's ex-paramour then admitted to severely beating the child, and her roommate admitted to observing the incident and not intervening to protect the child. The child remained hospitalized until September 30, 2016. She was discharged to the mother with an approved safety plan completed by York OCYF. The child has a 2-year-old maternal half-sibling and a 1-year-old paternal half-sibling. The 2 year old resides in the home with the child and the 1 year old was placed into foster care. The 1 year old is the father's ex-paramour's child. The children have no contact with either perpetrator. The father's ex-paramour has been charged with aggravated assault, aggravated assault victim less than 6 defendant over 18, endangering welfare, and obstruction. She was arrested but released on bond on December 3, 2016 and is awaiting trial. The roommate has not been criminally charged. The family is currently receiving services to assist the mother with parenting decisions and to assist the child to deal with the trauma.

The family was previously involved with York OCYF. In April 2016 and September 2016, two referrals were received regarding the victim child with concerns of inappropriate discipline. These referrals were unable to be substantiated and were closed following an investigation.