

Critical Incident Review Team Final Report



A Critical Incident Review Team is convened by the Department Director when the Department becomes aware of a critical incident resulting in a child fatality that was reasonably believed to be the result of abuse and the child, child's sibling or another child living in the household with the child has had contact with the Department (ODHS). The reviews are called by the Department Director to quickly analyze ODHS actions in relation to the critical incident and to ensure the safety and well-being of all children within the custody of ODHS or during a child protective services assessment. The CIRT must complete a final report which serves to provide an overview of the critical incident, relevant Department history, and may include recommendations regarding actions that should be implemented to increase child safety. Reports must not contain any confidential information or records that may not be disclosed to members of the public. *The CIRT report is created at a specific time as required by statute and does not account for events occurring after the posting of the report.* Versions of all final reports are posted on the ODHS website.

CIRT ID: 44P6A1SW28		
Date of critical incident: May 3, 2023	Date Department became aware of the fatality: May 3, 2023	
Date Department caused an investigation to be made: May 3, 2023	Date of child protective services (CPS) assessment disposition: July 25, 2023	
Date CIRT assigned: May 8, 2023	Date Final Report submitted: Due August 16, 2023	
Date of CIRT meetings: May 30, 2023 July 11, 2023	Number of participants: 23 26	Members of the public? No No

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Description of the critical incident and Department contacts regarding the critical incident:

Date of report: May 3, 2023	Allegation(s): Physical Abuse by maternal grandmother	Disposition(s): Unfounded
Assignment decision: Within 24 Hours	Physical abuse by mother	Unfounded
	Physical Abuse by unknown perpetrator	Opened in Error
	Physical Abuse by father	Founded
	Physical Abuse by uncle	Unable to Determine
	Physical Abuse by paternal grandmother	Unable to Determine
	Neglect the father	Founded
	Neglect by uncle	Opened in Error
	Neglect by paternal grandmother	Founded

On May 3, 2023, ODHS received a report alleging physical abuse to the 4-year-old child by the mother and maternal grandmother. The maternal grandmother was prescribed narcotic medication, and the mother was reported to be taking the medication to make her feel good. The child was reported to flinch a lot, would scream, and act as if abused. The reporter stated the child was being hit with items including shoes and cords on his bare body and that marks were seen on him about 10 days prior. The mother was smoking marijuana around the child. The child was spending most of the time at the maternal grandmother's home and it was reported the maternal grandmother would also hit the child. If the child did not listen, the maternal grandmother would threaten to tell the mother, which would cause the child to scream out as if terrified. This report was called in at 12:42 p.m. on May 3, 2023, and was assigned as a 24-hour response.

On May 3, 2023, at 2:13 p.m., ODHS received another report alleging physical abuse to the 4-year-old child by an unknown perpetrator. First responders arrived at the home where the child and the father were living. When first responders arrived, the child was not responsive and was

unconscious. The child was reported to have been experiencing seizures, and blood was found throughout the home, specifically in the toilet and bathroom area, believed to be because the child was vomiting blood. Medical responders called law enforcement as there was concern the child had injuries that were non-accidental. On April 23, 2023, the mother filed for a restraining order to protect her and the child from the father, but the order was denied. At the time of this report to ODHS, there were no arrests made. This report was assigned as a 24-hour response.

On May 3, 2023, at 5:02 p.m., ODHS received a third report that alleged physical abuse to the 4-year-old child by the father. The child was transported to the hospital by emergency services after initial reports the child was seizing and not breathing. When medical responders arrived at the father's home, they noted a significant amount of blood around the home and the child was not responsive. The child was taken to the hospital and died while in the operating room. The child was observed with patterned bruising on various parts of the body and was described as having injuries from head to toe. The child appeared to have suffered a liver laceration and showed evidence of strangulation. The child had multiple scars including patterned scarring and was severely malnourished. The child abuse pediatrician indicated the death was the result of child abuse. The father was subsequently arrested.

On May 11, 2023, ODHS received another report related to the critical incident and the child's death. This report included physical abuse allegations to the 4-year-old child by the paternal grandmother and 15-year-old paternal uncle. The paternal grandmother's 4-year-old child was also in the home when the child died. The paternal grandmother's child disclosed the child who died was hit by the paternal grandmother and paternal uncle and also disclosed being physically abused by the same two individuals. The paternal grandmother's child did not describe the manner of physical abuse and did not indicate if this resulted in injuries. The paternal grandmother denied knowing that the 15-year-old uncle or the father was hitting either her child or the child who died. This report was assigned as a 10-day response.

Between May 3, 2023, and May 11, 2023, four reports were received, and all were assessed together in one CPS assessment and are summarized below.

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On May 3, 2023, at 3:30 p.m., the CPS caseworker was enroute to the hospital to see the child when they were notified that the child had passed away. The CPS caseworker spoke with a detective and learned the father would be arrested. The CPS caseworker spoke with the child abuse pediatric doctor and learned that the cause of death was blunt force trauma to the abdomen causing a lacerated liver and a chest wall fracture with a secondary contributing factor being manual strangulation. Medical professionals believed all the child's injuries were sustained while in the care of the father, who lived with his mother and two younger brothers.

On May 4, 2023, the CPS caseworker spoke with the hospital social worker and learned the mother's reactions and presentation at the hospital were appropriate for the situation. The CPS caseworker spoke with the detective, who confirmed the father was arrested for murder and mistreatment. Law enforcement had concerns for the paternal grandmother as well as another adult in the home. A home visit to the mother's home was completed, also in the home at the time of this home visit were family members and friends who provided support to the mother. The mother reported the father had raped her on a number of occasions and had made recent threats to take something from her if she did not provide him with gas money.

Also on May 4, 2023, the CPS caseworker contacted the maternal grandmother at her home along with some relatives and friends who were present to support her. All the adults present denied any concerns that the mother or maternal grandmother had physically abused the child. A cousin shared on the day the father picked up the child, things seemed fine. When he returned without the child, the father demanded the mother give him gas money. He told the mother that she either give him gas money or he would take something else from her. The maternal grandmother shared that on the day the child died, the paternal grandmother called her and told her the child was being taken to the hospital. The first thing the paternal grandmother stated was, "We didn't do this." The maternal grandmother then asked, "What didn't you do?" and the paternal grandmother hung up the phone. The maternal grandmother said that when she and the mother were on their way to the hospital, the paternal grandmother called again and stated she and the father just spoke with the doctors. They said the child was stable and going to be fine. The maternal grandmother suspected the child had died by then.

The maternal grandmother and the mother both reported they were trying to get the child back from the father prior to this incident. The mother was allowed to facetime the child after two weeks of being in the father's care and he appeared to have bruising on his face. While facetimeing, the child asked if he could come home to the mother. Before the mother could respond, the father took the tablet from the child and heard him deny the child could go home because the mother and maternal grandmother no longer loved him and didn't want him. The call then disconnected.

The CPS caseworker made several more weekly in-person and/or phone contacts with the mother and maternal grandmother throughout the CPS assessment, offering support and connecting the mother to supportive services.

On May 12, 2023, the CPS caseworker observed an interview of another same-aged child who lived in the home and witnessed the abuse to the child who died. The same-aged child made clear and descriptive disclosures of seeing the father engage in physical abuse with the use of various objects to the child. The same-aged child described graphic details of the injuries that occurred as a result of the abuse and demonstrated how the child was non-responsive.

On May 12, 2023, the CPS caseworker attended the father's second court arraignment.

At the conclusion of the CPS assessment, it was determined the allegations of physical abuse to the child by the paternal grandmother and uncle would be unable to determine. Another child in the home had disclosed that the child was hit by the paternal grandmother and uncle, however, the extent was not known. Additionally, it was not known if the hitting resulted in injuries.

The allegation of physical abuse to the child by the father was determined to be founded. The child died as a result of blunt force trauma and had multiple injuries at the time of the death. Another child in the home gave clear and detailed reports of seeing the father hit the child with various objects, he was able to describe details of injuries the child sustained and demonstrated the child dying.

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The allegation of physical abuse to the child by the mother and maternal grandmother was unfounded. There was no evidence that any of the injuries sustained by the child were historic or were the result of abuse prior to the child's time in the father's care.

The allegation of neglect to the child by the father and paternal grandmother was founded. The medical examiner noted that no adult in the home would have been unaware of the abuse occurring to the child as the injuries were beyond noticeable. The paternal grandmother resided in the home with the father and the child and asserted herself as the main adult in the home. At the time of the child's death, it was noted the child was underweight, to the point of malnourishment and dehydration. The father did not provide adequate nurturing or nutrition to the child.

Description of relevant prior Department reports:

Department contacts regarding the mother:

Date of report: December 28, 2017	Allegation(s): Neglect by the mother	Disposition(s): Not Applicable
Assignment decision: Closed at Screening		

On December 28, 2017, the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) received a report alleging neglect to the unborn child of the mother and the father. It was noted that the mother and father were residing in the same apartment complex with their respective families. The mother was alleging paternity, but the father was denying paternity. At the time of this report, the two were not having contact with each other. There was concern the mother was using marijuana during her pregnancy. The maternal grandmother took the mother to the doctor and told the doctor the father perpetrated domestic violence toward the mother.

It was determined this report did not meet criteria for a CPS assessment and was closed at screening.

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Date of report: August 23, 2019	Allegation(s): Neglect by the mother	Disposition(s): Unfounded
Assignment decision: Within 72 Hours		

On August 23, 2019, ODHS received a report alleging neglect to the 1-year-old child by the mother. It was reported on August 10 or 11, the mother attempted suicide by taking anti-depressants prescribed to the maternal grandmother. The maternal grandmother heard the mother gasping for air in the middle of the night and took the mother to the hospital for treatment. It was reported the child was not present when this happened and was at a maternal aunt's home. The mother was in the hospital for a few days and after discharge, engaged in supportive services. The child was returned to the mother's care, but the maternal grandmother was providing much oversight of the child due to the mother's mental health concerns. It was noted this was not the first time the mother had attempted suicide. Due to housing instability experienced by the maternal grandmother, the family was staying in a motel.

On August 23, 2019, the CPS caseworker spoke with the reporting party and subsequently contacted the mother, the maternal grandmother and the child at the motel room. It was noted the family had plenty of food in the kitchenette and all medications were in a lock box stored in a relative's car far away from the motel. The mother signed a release of information for the services she had accessed. She disclosed she attempted suicide due to bullying behaviors from neighbors at a previous residence. The bullying that was once in person had taken to social media and others online were encouraging the mother to commit suicide. She reported she became so hopeless over this situation and already suffered from depression. She took the maternal grandmother's medication to put an end to her suffering. The mother reported she arranged for the child to be with an aunt at the time of this attempt. The mother confirmed her participation in supportive services and denied actively feeling suicidal.

The maternal grandmother reported the family was previously living in the home of a relative and it was at this location the mother was being bullied by

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four different people, one of which was a past boyfriend who was threatening the mother and telling her to commit suicide. The night of the incident, the maternal grandmother was in a separate room from the mother but heard loud rasping noises. She checked on the mother and found her struggling for air. The maternal grandmother called an ambulance, and the mother was taken to the hospital where she was treated for an overdose. It was believed the mother retrieved the medication from maternal grandmother's purse. Upon discharge from the hospital, there was a safety plan in place and the maternal grandmother was providing most of the caretaking of the child.

The child was observed on three occasions during this CPS assessment and each time appeared clean, happy and playing with toys. Interviews of the child did not take place due to his age. The child's pediatrician was contacted, and no concerns were reported.

The CPS caseworker spoke with a case manager who had been working with the family around housing stability. During this CPS assessment, funds were approved to pay for a motel room for the family for six days. By the conclusion of this assessment, the family obtained an apartment, which was observed to be clean with food available.

It was noted during this CPS assessment the child did not have a legal father and the alleged biological father was unavailable to parent the child. Documentation does not reflect that the father was contacted as part of this CPS assessment.

At the conclusion of this CPS assessment, the allegation of neglect to the 1-year-old child by the mother was determined to be unfounded. The mother made a safe plan for the child prior to her suicide attempt. The mother engaged in supportive services following this attempt and did not report any further suicidal ideation.

Date of report: December 9, 2019	Allegation(s): Threat of Harm by the mother	Disposition(s): Unfounded
Assignment decision: Within 24 Hours		

On December 9, 2019, ODHS received a report alleging threat of harm to the 1-year-old child by the mother. It was reported law enforcement responded to the family home due to a domestic disturbance involving a knife between the mother and the maternal grandmother. When the officers arrived, they observed the mother and maternal grandmother outside screaming at each other, and the mother had the child in a stroller. The maternal grandmother stated the two had been fighting all morning, the mother was packing to leave and picked up a shoe as if to she was going to hit the maternal grandmother. The maternal grandmother reported she went to the kitchen and retrieved a knife. The mother then picked up a pizza cutter. The maternal grandmother claimed she grabbed the knife for self-defense as the mother was coming at her with the pizza cutter. The maternal grandmother claimed the child was in the bedroom when this occurred. There was other fighting that occurred including yelling and spitting. After the officers spoke with the maternal grandmother's youngest daughter as well as the mother, law enforcement determined the maternal grandmother to be the aggressor and arrested her for assault. This report was received by the Oregon Child Abuse Hotline on December 9, 2019, and assigned for CPS for assessment on December 12, 2019.

On December 18, 2019, ODHS received an additional report alleging threat of harm by the maternal grandmother and neglect by the mother to the 1-year-old child. This report was assigned and assessed together with the report from December 12, 2019. The new report indicated the maternal grandmother had been the primary caregiver to the child for about 6 months, after the mother had attempted suicide. The maternal grandmother was no longer providing care due to being incarcerated because of physically fighting with the mother. There was concern that since the maternal grandmother was incarcerated, the mother would struggle to provide adequate care to the child. It was reported that the mother did not feed the child when needed, ignored the child when heard crying and would not change the child's diapers. There was also concern that due to the maternal grandmother being incarcerated, the mother would struggle to provide food for the child.

The CPS caseworker contacted the mother and the child on December 12, 2019. The mother reported the day of the incident, the mother was in the car with the maternal grandmother, the mother's younger sister and the child

when the argument began. The argument carried over into the home and the maternal grandmother would not stop screaming at the mother. The mother threw a shoe at the maternal grandmother who then picked up a paring knife. The mother then picked up a pizza cutter. The two were waving the weapons at one another and the mother was cut on the finger by the maternal grandmother. The child was mostly in his room during this time and came into kitchen on one occasion. The mother's younger sister took the child from the kitchen to the living room. The mother reported she planned to stay with an aunt, who had been helping her with the child's care while the mother worked.

The CPS caseworker interviewed the mother's younger sister, who was present for the altercation and said the argument started in the car and continued once home. The mother's younger sister witnessed the maternal grandmother waving a knife at the mother and the mother was waving an unidentified object back. When the child walked into the kitchen, the mother's younger sister carried him into the living room away from the fighting. The mother's younger sister reported the maternal grandmother provided much care to the child; however, the mother would feed, clothe and change the child's diapers.

The CPS caseworker contacted the mother and the child on December 18, 2019, to address the neglect allegations. The CPS caseworker noted ample amounts of food in the home and an adequate sleeping area. The child had just been bathed, was in a clean diaper and dressed appropriately. The child was in a good mood and appeared bonded with the mother. The child was observed smiling, reaching for the mother and sitting on her lap.

On February 28, 2020, the CPS caseworker contacted the maternal grandmother while she was incarcerated and discussed the reported incidents. The maternal grandmother denied she stabbed or cut the mother with the knife but was rather defending herself as the mother was holding a pizza cutter. The maternal grandmother said the argument started when the mother did not put a coat on the child before going outside. They argued in the car and continued at the home. The maternal grandmother called 911 and was surprised when she was arrested. The maternal grandmother reported she provided most of the care to the child.

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Although it is unclear when this occurred, documentation reflects the CPS caseworker met with the father of the mother's younger sister. He did not report any concern for the mother's care of the child. The CPS caseworker also met with the aunt who reported she helped with the care of the child and did not report any safety concerns for the maternal grandmother or the mother.

It was learned there was a no-contact order in place between the maternal grandmother and the mother. The CPS caseworker spoke with a service provider for the maternal grandmother who reported the no-contact order would remain in place until she completed parenting classes and potentially other services.

Documentation does not reflect that the child's father was contacted during this CPS assessment.

At the conclusion of this report, it was determined the allegations of threat of harm and neglect to the child by the mother were unfounded. The mother had adequate food and clean diapers for the child, and she was able to make plans for support in caring for the child while she worked. Additionally, the mother did not appear to be the aggressor of the altercation. The mother sustained an injury caused by the maternal grandmother. The allegation of threat of harm by the maternal grandmother to the child was founded. The maternal grandmother engaged in violence resulting in an injury to the mother while the child was in proximity to the fight. The maternal grandmother was arrested as a result.

Date of report: December 18, 2019	Allegation(s): Neglect by the mother	Disposition(s): Unfounded
Assignment decision: Within 72 Hours	Threat of harm by the grandmother	Founded

On December 18, 2019, ODHS received a report alleging threat of harm by the maternal grandmother and neglect by the mother to the 1-year-old child. The report from December 18, 2019, indicated maternal grandmother had

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been the primary caregiver to the child for about six months, after the mother had attempted suicide. The maternal grandmother was no longer providing care due to being incarcerated as a result of physically fighting with the mother. There was concern that since the maternal grandmother was incarcerated, the mother would struggle to provide adequate care to the child. The mother was reported not to feed the child when needed, ignore the child when heard crying and would not change diapers. There was also concern that due to the maternal grandmother being incarcerated, the mother would struggle to provide food for the child.

This report was assigned to CPS and assessed together with the report from December 8, 2019. The CPS activities and disposition are summarized under the December 12, 2019 report.

Date of report: August 28, 2020 Assignment decision: Closed at Screening	Allegation(s): Physical Abuse by the mother	Disposition(s): Not Applicable
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On August 28, 2020, ODHS received a report alleging physical abuse to the 2-year-old child by the mother. The child could be heard screaming for help from within the residence. The maternal grandmother was observed stepping out of the home and when she did, the child was heard screaming. The maternal grandmother went inside, and the child calmed down. It was noted the maternal grandmother had a no-contact order with the mother and noted the mother was going through a tough time as her significant other had been murdered the previous week. Despite the no-contact order, the mother was at the maternal grandmother's home for the weekend to seek comfort. This report had conflicting information, stating that the child had a black eye and also stated they did not have a black eye or other injuries. Police conducted a welfare check; however, the family did not cooperate.

It was determined this report did not meet criteria for CPS assessment and was closed at screening.

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Date of report: January 29, 2021 Assignment decision: Within 24 Hours	Allegation(s): Threat of Harm by the father	Disposition(s): Unfounded
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On January 29, 2021, ODHS received a report alleging threat of harm to the 2-year-old by the father. A week prior to January 22, 2021, the father made a statement illuding to having possession of a firearm, but he had not been seen with a firearm. The father was also alleged to have gang involvement and was also involved in the criminal justice system. The father had been blocked on the mother's phone so instead called the maternal grandmother and the mother's younger sister. The reporter stated when he called the mother's younger sister, he made threats of shooting up the family home. The reporting party believed if the father was angry enough, he would follow through on this threat. It was reported the father had been physical with the mother in the past, although no details were provided. The mother reported being fearful for her family and child.

On February 1, 2021, the CPS caseworker was assigned to the case and made some phone calls to the family but was not able to reach anyone. The CPS caseworker went to the family home on February 1, 2021. The mother was not home, but the maternal grandmother and the child were present. The child was not interviewed due to age, however, the child was observed without any marks or bruising and appeared happy and well-nourished. The maternal grandmother reported the mother, her younger sister and the child live with her full time. The maternal grandmother was not sure if the father knew the family's address and did not report concern that the father would come to the house. The maternal grandmother intended on installing a security camera outside her home and intended on filing for a restraining order, just in case. The mother's younger sister's father was reported to also be protective of the family. The maternal grandmother confirmed the father called the mother's younger sister about two weeks prior and made threats to her. The maternal grandmother also mentioned the paternal grandmother, also made threats about harming the family. The father and paternal grandmother's phone numbers were blocked from the family's phones.

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The CPS caseworker spoke to the mother's younger sister who presented as worried and scared. She reported the father called her cell because the mother would not answer his phone calls. The mother's younger sister told the father that the mother was not home, he believed she was lying and became upset with her. He began cussing at her and threatened to shoot up her home stating she was messing with the wrong guy because he was part of a dangerous street gang. She then hung up the phone and informed the maternal grandmother of the situation, who blocked his number and informed the mother of the threats.

On March 19, 2021, the CPS caseworker mailed a letter to the father in attempts to engage him in the CPS assessment.

On April 22, 2021, it was learned through a collateral contact the father was residing with his mother and did not have ongoing contact with the child.

On May 17, 2021, the CPS caseworker called the paternal grandmother's phone but was unsuccessful in reaching anyone. Documentation does not reflect when the CPS caseworker called the father's phone, however it does reflect that attempts were made to call him, and it appeared the line was disconnected.

Documentation does not clearly reflect the mother was contacted as part of this CPS assessment but does reflect the mother was not in a romantic relationship with the father and the two had minimal contact with one another.

It was determined the allegation of threat of harm to the child by his father was unfounded. The father had no parenting time or contact with the child and did not know the family's current address. Additionally, the family worked to install cameras and intended to file a restraining order.

Date of report: August 19, 2021 Assignment decision: Closed at Screening	Allegation(s): Threat of Harm by maternal grandmother	Disposition(s): Not Applicable
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On August 19, 2021, ODHS received a report alleging threat of harm to the 3-year-old by the maternal grandmother. On August 16, 2021, the child's mother believed the maternal grandmother was suicidal while she had the child in her care. She knocked at the door of the family home and there was no answer. Law enforcement was requested at the family home for a welfare check. The maternal grandmother would not come to the door and mentioned taking a bottle of pills. The maternal grandmother eventually answered the door once law enforcement arrived. The mother began cussing at her and accusing her of hurting the mother's younger sister earlier in the week. Law enforcement checked on the child, who was sleeping upstairs.

The maternal grandmother explained she was going through a tough time and sent some vaguely depressed messages to the mother. The maternal grandmother described she and the mother have relational problems and described the mother's younger sister as having behavioral issues. There was previously a misunderstanding between she and the mother's younger sister and began yelling at her. The mother's younger sister raised her arm as if to strike the maternal grandmother, who responded by giving the mother's younger sister a quick jab to the shoulder. The mother's younger sister attempted to leave when the maternal grandmother grabbed her from behind and pulled her in the home. The maternal grandmother said there were no injuries. The maternal grandmother was described as exhibiting forward-thinking and appeared able to care for the child.

It was determined this report did not meet criteria for CPS assessment and was closed at screening.

Date of report: October 8, 2021	Allegation(s): Threat of Harm by the mother	Disposition(s): Not Applicable
Assignment decision: Closed at Screening		

On October 8, 2021, ODHS received a report alleging threat of harm to the 3-year-old by the mother. On October 7, 2021, law enforcement arrived at the family home and found two women, the maternal grandmother and

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another woman, in the street crying. The maternal grandmother pointed to the home and made a statement that someone had thrown a chair at them. The mother was at the front door and when asked by law enforcement about the chair, she denied knowing what they were talking about. Law enforcement asked to speak with another woman inside the home. Inside they observed the child who showed them to the room of the other person identified as the mother's younger sister, who would not answer questions and claimed to not know what was going on.

The mother reported to law enforcement that she and the maternal grandmother got into a verbal argument about the child's welfare. The maternal grandmother wanted the child to wear a coat outside and the mother didn't think it was necessary. It was noted to be about 55-60 degrees Fahrenheit at the time. The maternal grandmother reported she was taking care of the child and asked the mother to take over. The mother left with the child to get some marijuana and was told to put a coat on the child. This was when they began to argue. The mother then held up a chair and threatened to hit the maternal grandmother with it. The father of the mother's younger sister arrived and noted to police his frustration with the mother, her disruptive behaviors in the home and her refusal to contribute financially to the cost of rent.

It was determined this report did not meet criteria for CPS assessment and was closed at screening.

Date of report: May 4, 2022	Allegation(s): Physical Abuse by the mother	Disposition(s): Not Applicable
Assignment decision: Closed at Screening	Threat of Harm by the mother	Not Applicable

On May 4, 2022, ODHS received a report alleging threat of harm and physical abuse to the 3-year-old child by the mother. On May 2, 2022, the mother was alleged to have picked up the child, threw the child in the bedroom and slapped the child around (assumingly on the bottom). No injuries were reported. The mother was not often involved in providing care

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for the child, and when around, she was often spanking, yelling and cussing at the child. The maternal grandmother was the child's primary caregiver who stated she was in fear of the mother due to her aggressive behaviors. The reporting party stated the mother's younger sister witnessed the chaos and fighting. The maternal grandmother reported needing assistance in caring for the child due to her limited mobility and noted the child had some challenging behaviors. The mother was impacted by mental health concerns and was using marijuana.

It was determined this report did not meet criteria for a CPS assessment and was closed at screening.

Date of report: November 08, 2022	Allegation(s): Physical Abuse by the mother	Disposition(s): Unfounded
Assignment decision: Within 24 Hours	Neglect by the mother	Unfounded
	Mental Injury by the mother	Unfounded
	Threat of Harm by the mother	Unfounded
	Threat of Harm by the grandmother	Unfounded

On November 8, 2022, ODHS received a report alleging physical abuse, neglect, threat of harm and mental injury to the 4-year-old child by the mother. The report also alleged threat of harm to the child by the maternal grandmother. The reporter stated at the time this report was made the child had a black eye from being hit with a belt by the mother. The report stated that she engages in physical discipline nearly daily, which often results in marks to the child's face. The child is hit with a belt 10-15 times each occasion of physical discipline. The child was reported to be frequently threatened by physical harm such as being punched in the gut or socked in the mouth; the child would cower if believed to be disciplined.

The maternal grandmother would reportedly engage in physical altercations with the child present and that this had happened three times in the previous

week. There were concerns that the mother was using marijuana and had smoked near the child in an area with sealed windows and doors, otherwise known as hotboxing. The child reportedly had access to unattended nicotine vapes as well as alcohol.

The report indicated the child did not have a regular schedule, did not know the ABCs and could not count over 10. The child was described as rambunctious but was not necessarily disciplined for being rambunctious. The reporting party provided an example that the child was once physically disciplined for crying after the family dog took a toy from him.

The maternal grandmother was reported to struggle with misuse of opiates, and that she would take suboxone and oxytocin, but was only prescribed Vicodin. The maternal grandmother had threatened suicide by overdosing on fentanyl, although the reporter did not believe there was fentanyl in the home. The family reportedly housed two people who were hiding from law enforcement and those individuals were wanted for a shooting. They brought and cleaned the firearms in the home while the child was present. It was believed there was an active restraining order between the mother and the maternal grandmother due to an incident that occurred on January 26, 2022. They were living together at the time of this report and had been engaging in physical altercations. There was concern about the maternal grandmother being physically disabled and having a heart condition, which has made employment difficult. The reporting party stated the family has pets that they do not regularly feed and that the home was covered in feces about a month prior. One of the pets had a litter of babies and none of them survived; the babies were alleged to be in a plastic bag outside the home.

The CPS caseworker made contact with the maternal grandmother and the child on November 9, 2022 with law enforcement. The maternal grandmother appeared aware that there was a report made to the hotline and inquired about why it took so long for a response. She was on the phone with a community provider at the arrival of the CPS caseworker and law enforcement. The maternal grandmother had the child in her arms. The CPS caseworker did not notice any injuries to the child's face, except for a healing scrape on his head. The maternal grandmother reported the scrape had been there for months because the child would slide on the carpet using the forehead. She handed the phone to the CPS caseworker, who spoke with

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the community provider. This collateral contact reported they are in the home regularly and did not report any concerns. The maternal grandmother talked about her strained relationship with the mother, who had not been in the home for months and was not permitted to have contact with the maternal grandmother (due to previous altercations).

The home condition appeared lived in but was free of animal feces. There was only one animal in the home that appeared well cared for.

The maternal grandmother stated her sister was living with her briefly, and she found out her sister was wanted by out of state law enforcement and was using the maternal grandmother's home to hide. The maternal grandmother was asked for money by her sister, and when denied her sister made threats to call the child abuse hotline.

Contact with the mother or the father was not documented as part of this CPS assessment. On February 1, 2023, while this assessment was open, ODHS received a report that was closed at screening that is summarized below. Documentation does not reflect this report was addressed while this current assessment as still open.

It was determined the allegations of physical abuse, neglect, mental injury and threat of harm by the mother were all coded as unfounded. The allegation of threat of harm by the grandmother was also coded as unfounded.

Date of report: February 1, 2023	Allegation(s): Not Applicable	Disposition(s): Not Applicable
Assignment decision: Closed at Screening		

On February 1, 2023, ODHS received a report alleging the 4-year-old child had experienced a trauma that led the child to flinch each time the reporter approached. It was described that the child would withdraw their whole body and pull back. The child did not answer when asked about why they were flinching, but the reporter suspected the child was afraid of the mother. For

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discipline, the mother would reportedly hit the child with her hand or with a belt, although the reporter has not noticed any marks or bruising. The family is reported to be living in a hotel and the mother would not hit him while living there because the child would scream. The family had already received a noise complaint due to the child yelling out of anger. The reporting party stated the child struggled with anger issues and would often scream. It was reported the mother smoked marijuana as well as vaped nicotine in the hotel room with the child present.

It was determined this report did not meet criteria for CPS assessment and was closed at screening.

Date of report: April 19, 2023	Allegation(s): Not Applicable	Disposition(s): Not Applicable
Assignment decision: Closed at Screening		

On April 19, 2023, ODHS received a report alleging the 4-year-old child had sustained a bump on the forehead while in the care of the father. It was reported the child lived with the mother, however the father asked to have the child visit his home for Easter. It was noted the father was not previously involved in the child's life up until this time. Although the mother talked to the father multiple times during the visit, and the father indicated he would return the child, he did not follow through with the plan. The father had let the child communicate with the mother through video chat where the mother noticed the injury on the child's forehead.

Law enforcement was contacted, and a welfare check was attempted at the home of the father, however, the father and the child were not home. The mother was worried the child was injured and believed the father was waiting for the injuries to heal before the child was returned to her care. In the past, there had been tense conflict between the parents.

The police report associated with this incident documents that law enforcement was told by the family that the child had expressed wanting to

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come home and the family's sense was that the child was afraid of the father. They also reported to law enforcement concerns that the father was being too heavy handed with discipline. The family showed law enforcement a screen shot of the child and LEA noted a scratch/bump on the child's forehead, which was observed during the video chat with the mother. Per the police report, law enforcement advised the family to contact ODHS for follow up with the family.

It was determined this report did not meet criteria for a CPS assessment and was closed at screening.

Description of Department contacts regarding maternal grandmother:

Date of report: December 28, 2017	Allegation(s): Neglect by the Mother (Grandmother to the child)	Disposition(s): Not applicable
Assignment decision: Closed at Screening		

On December 28, 2017, ODHS received a report alleging neglect to the mother, pregnant with the child, by the maternal grandmother. It was reported that the mother and the alleged father were residing in the same apartment complex with their respective families. The alleged father was denying paternity of the child. At the time of this report, the mother and father were not having contact with each other. There was concern that the mother was using marijuana during the pregnancy. The reporting party stated that the grandmother took mother to the doctor and told the doctor the alleged father perpetrated domestic violence against the mother.

It was determined this report did not meet criteria for a CPS assessment and was closed at screening.

Date of report: July 16, 2018	Allegation(s): Neglect by the Mother (Grandmother to the child)	Disposition(s): Not Applicable
Assignment decision:		

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Closed at Screening		
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On July 16, 2018, ODHS received a report alleging neglect to the mother of the child and a 10-year-old child by the maternal grandmother. The mother gave birth to the child a week earlier and at the time of this report, the mother and the child were still in the hospital. The mother was held for concerns for blood pressure and the child was held for concerns related to low birth weight. There were concerns that the mother used marijuana during the pregnancy and that the child's father was receiving behavioral support services. The mother was receiving supportive services and would consider a home health nurse for the child.

The mother was reportedly responsible for watching her 10-year-old sister who was staying in the hospital while the maternal grandmother was working. There was concern for lack of supervision by the maternal grandmother.

It was determined this report did not meet criteria for CPS assessment and was closed at screening.

Date of report: November 21, 2018 Assignment decision: Within 24 Hours	Allegation(s): Neglect by the Mother (Grandmother to the child)	Disposition(s): No Allegation of Child Abuse or Neglect
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On November 21, 2018, ODHS received a report alleging neglect to a 10-year-old child by the maternal grandmother. There was concern that the 10-year-old was frequently absent from school and the family was struggling with houselessness. The school had an attendance team and was trying to work with the family.

The composition of the family also included the mother and her child. This report would have been closed at screening but was assigned for CPS for assessment as it was the fourth closed at screening report for the entire household, which housed a child under the age of 5. There were two closed

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at screening reports under the maternal grandmother's case, and one closed at screening report under the mother's case.

When the local branch received the assignment, the supervisor, program manager and CPS program manager staffed the screening decision. It was determined this report would be closed without assessment with a disposition of no allegation of child abuse or neglect. The report that the 10-year-old was frequently absent from school appeared to be a truancy concern and not an allegation of abuse or neglect. It was documented that the previous closed at screenings were reviewed as part of the staffing and decision making.

Date of report: January 23, 2019 Assignment decision: Closed at Screening	Allegation(s): Neglect by the Mother (Grandmother to the child)	Disposition(s): Not Applicable
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On January 23, 2019, ODHS received a report alleging neglect to an 11-year-old child by the child's maternal grandmother. It was reported the family was struggling with houselessness. The 11-year-old child attended 22 days of school since September 2018 and was withdrawn from school on January 16, 2019. The 11-year-old child was due to start at another school but had not yet been enrolled at the time of this report. There were no other concerns reported.

It was determined this report did not meet criteria for CPS assessment and was closed at screening.

Date of report: August 23, 2019 Assignment decision: Within 72 Hours	Allegation(s): Threat of Harm by the Mother (Grandmother to the child)	Disposition(s): Unfounded
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This is a companion report to the August 23, 2019 report under the child's mother's case above. The child was 1-year-old at the time of this report.

On August 23, 2019, ODHS received a report alleging neglect to an 11-year-old child and the mother, by the maternal grandmother to the child. It was reported on August 10 or 11, the mother attempted suicide by taking anti-depressants prescribed to the maternal grandmother. The grandmother heard the mother gasping for air in the middle of the night and took her to the hospital for treatment. It was reported the child and the 11-year-old were not present when this happened and were at a maternal aunt's home. The mother was in the hospital for a few days, and she was recommended supportive services. It was not known what led to the attempted suicide. The child was returned to the mother's care, but the grandmother was providing much oversight of the child due to the mother's mental health concerns. It was noted this was not the first time the mother had attempted suicide. Due to housing instability, the family was staying in a motel at the time of this report.

On August 23, 2019, the CPS caseworker spoke with the reporter and subsequently contacted the family. The mother signed a release of information for the supportive services she was receiving. She disclosed she attempted suicide due to bullying behaviors from neighbors at a previous residence. The bullying that was once in person had taken to social media and others online were encouraging her to commit suicide. She reported she became so hopeless over this situation and already suffered from depression. She took her mother's medication to put an end to her suffering. The mother reported she arranged for the child to be with an aunt at the time of this attempt.

The grandmother reported the family was previously living in the home of a relative and it was at this location that the mother was being bullied by four different people, one of which was a past boyfriend, who was threatening her and telling her to commit suicide. The night of the incident, the grandmother was in a separate room from the mother but heard loud rasping noises. She checked on the mother and found her struggling for air. The mother was taken to the hospital by ambulance where she was treated for an overdose. The grandmother reported there was a safety plan in place for the grandmother to provide supervision of the mother as well as the child.

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The child was observed on three occasions during this CPS assessment and each time appeared clean, happy and playing with toys. Though not able to be interviewed due to age, the child's pediatrician was contacted, and no concerns were reported.

The CPS caseworker spoke with the 11-year-old child, who reported she was not home when the mother attempted suicide and was staying with an aunt. The 11-year-old reported feeling concerned for her sister and stated she felt safe with her mom. The 11-year-old's pediatric office was contacted, and they had no concerns to report. Although documentation does not reflect the dates and times efforts were made, documentation reflects the 11-year-old's father was sent a letter to his last known address. Documentation does not reflect that any additional contact was made.

During this CPS assessment, funds were approved to pay for a motel room for the family for 6 days. By the conclusion of this assessment, the family obtained an apartment, which was observed to be clean with food available.

At the conclusion of this CPS assessment, the allegations of threat of harm the 11-year-old and the mother by the maternal grandmother were coded as unfounded. The grandmother did not provide the medication to the 17-year-old and responded appropriately by seeking medical attention upon the realization that she was gasping for air. The mother then followed the suicide prevention safety plan. The 11-year-old was not present for the incident.

Date of report: December 9, 2019	Allegation(s): Threat of Harm by the Mother (Grandmother to the child)	Disposition(s): Founded
Assignment decision: Within 24 Hours		

This is a companion report to the December 9, 2019 report under the child's mother's case above. The child was 1-year-old at the time of this report.

On December 9, 2019, ODHS received a report alleging threat of harm to an 11-year-old child by their mother. It was reported law enforcement responded to the family home due to a domestic disturbance involving a knife

between the mother and grandmother. When the officers arrived, they saw the mother and grandmother outside screaming at each other, and the mother had the child in a stroller. Once the two calmed down, the grandmother reported to law enforcement the mother wouldn't do what she was told. The grandmother stated the two had been fighting all morning, the mother was packing to leave and picked up a shoe as if to she was going to hit the grandmother. The grandmother reported she went to the kitchen and retrieved a knife. The mother then picked up a pizza cutter. The grandmother claimed to use the knife in self-defense because the mother was coming at her with the pizza cutter. The grandmother claimed the child was in the bedroom when this occurred. There was other fighting that occurred including yelling and spitting. After the officers spoke with the family, they determined the mother to be the aggressor and arrested her for assault. This report was received by the Oregon Child Abuse Hotline on December 9, 2019 and sent to CPS for assessment on December 12, 2019.

The CPS caseworker attempted contact with the 11-year-old on December 12, 2019, however, they were not yet home from school. The CPS caseworker met with the 11-year-old's father who was at the home and providing care to the 11-year-old while the grandmother was incarcerated. It was learned there was a no-contact order put in place prohibiting the grandmother from contacting the 11-year-old. The 11-year-old's father appeared protective.

Although documentation does not reflect when this occurred, the CPS caseworker spoke with a service provider for the grandmother, who reported the no-contact order would remain until the mother completed parenting classes.

The CPS caseworker spoke with the grandmother over the phone on January 3, 2020, and met with her in person on February 28, 2020. The grandmother denied she stabbed or cut the mother with the knife but was instead defending herself. The grandmother said the argument started when the mother did not put a coat on the child before going outside. They argued in the car and continued in the home. The grandmother called 911 and was surprised when she was arrested.

The CPS caseworker contacted the mother who reported the day of the incident she was in the car with the grandmother, the 11-year-old, and the

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child when the argument began. The argument carried over into the home when the mother threw a shoe at the grandmother and the grandmother picked up a paring knife. The mother then picked up a pizza cutter and while the two were waving the weapons at one another, the mother was cut on the finger. The child was mostly in the bedroom during this time and came into kitchen on one occasion when the 11-year-old came in and took the child from the kitchen to the living room.

The CPS caseworker interviewed the 11-year-old on March 3, 2020. The 11-year-old said the argument started in the car and continued once they were home. She witnessed the grandmother waving a knife at the mother and the mother waving an unidentified object back. The 11-year-old was in the kitchen when this occurred. When the child walked into the kitchen, the 11-year-old carried them into the living room away from the fighting. The 11-year-old said they were afraid during the altercation because that was the first time it escalated that far. The 11-year-old reported feeling safe with her mom and sister.

At the conclusion of this report, it was determined the allegations of threat of harm to the 11-year-old would be founded. The grandmother engaged in violence resulting in an injury to the mother while the 11-year-old was in proximity to the fight. The grandmother was arrested as a result.

Date of report: January 29, 2021 Assignment decision: Within 24 Hours	Allegation(s): Threat of Harm by ex-significant other of the Mother of the child	Disposition(s): Unfounded
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This is a companion report to the January 29, 2021 report under the child's mother's case above. The child was 1-year-old at the time of this report.

On January 29, 2021, ODHS received a report alleging threat of harm to a 13-year-old child by the father of the 1-year-old child who was also the ex-significant other to the mother of the child. A week prior to January 22, 2021, the father of the 1-year-old child made a statement illuding to having

possession of a firearm but had not been seen with a firearm. He was also alleged to be involved in a gang. The child's father was blocked from the mother's phone and instead called the grandmother and the 13-year-old child's phone. The reporter stated that when father called the 13-year-old, he made threats of shooting up the family home. The reporter believed if father was angry enough, he would follow through on this threat. It was reported the father of the 1-year-old had been physical with the mother in the past, although no additional details were provided. The mother reported being fearful for her family and child.

On February 1, 2021, the CPS caseworker was assigned to the case and made some phone calls to the family but was not able to make phone contact. The CPS caseworker went to the family home on February 1, 2021. The maternal grandmother and the 1-year-old child were home. The child was not able to be interviewed due to age, however, was observed without any marks or bruising. The 1-year-old child appeared happy and well-nourished. The grandmother, mother of the 13-year-old, reported that the mother of the child, the 13-year-old and 1-year-old child were living with her full time. The grandmother was not sure if the 1-year-old's father knew the family's address and did not report concern that he would come to the house. The grandmother intended on installing a security camera outside her home and intended on filing for a restraining order, just in case. The 13-year-old's father was reported to also be protective of the 13-year-old. The grandmother confirmed the father of the 1-year-old called the 13-year-old about two weeks prior and made threats. The mother also mentioned his relatives also made threats about harming the family.

The CPS caseworker spoke to the 13-year-old with her parents present, she presented as worried and scared. She reported the father to the 1-year-old called her cell because the mother to the 1-year-old would not answer his phone calls. He began cussing at the 13-year-old and threatened to shoot up her home stating she was messing with the wrong guy because he was part of a dangerous street gang. The 13-year-old then hung up the phone and informed her mother of the situation, who blocked his number.

On March 19, 2021, the CPS caseworker mailed a letter to the father of the 1-year-old child in attempts to engage him in the CPS assessment.

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On April 22, 2021, a collateral contact reported the father was residing with his mother and did not have ongoing contact with the child.

On May 17, 2021, the CPS caseworker called the paternal grandmother to the 1-year-old child, although was not able to reach her. Documentation does not reflect when the CPS caseworker called the father of the 1-year-old phone, however documentation does reflect that attempts were made to call him, and it appeared the line was disconnected.

Documentation does not clearly reflect that the 18-year-old was contacted as part of this CPS assessment.

It was determined the allegation of threat of harm to the 13-year-old by the 18-year-old's ex-significant other was unfounded. It was determined he did not know the family address and the family worked to install cameras and intended to file a restraining order.

Date of report: August 18, 2021	Allegation(s): Physical Abuse by the mother (Grandmother to the child)	Disposition(s): Not Applicable
Assignment decision: Closed at Screening		

This is a companion report to the August 18, 2021 report under the child's mother's case above. The child was 3 years old at the time of this report.

On August 18, 2021, ODHS received a report alleging threat of harm to a 13-year-old by her mother. On August 16, 2021, the grandmother's 20-year-old adult daughter believed the mother was suicidal while she had the 3-year-old child in her care. The adult daughter knocked at the door of the family home and there was no answer. Law enforcement was requested at the family home for a welfare check. The mother had made suicidal statements and would not come to the door; she had also made mention of taking a bottle of pills. After law enforcement arrived, the mother eventually answered the door. The adult daughter began cussing at her and accusing her of hurting the 13-year-old child earlier in the week. Law enforcement checked on the 3-year-old, who was sleeping upstairs.

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The grandmother explained she was going through a tough time and sent some vaguely depressed messages to the adult daughter. The grandmother described she and her adult daughter were having relational problems and described her 13-year-old as having behavioral issues. There was previously a misunderstanding between she and the 13-year-old. The 13-year-old and grandmother had been yelling. The 13-year-old raised her arm as if to strike her mother, who responded by giving her a quick jab to the shoulder. The grandmother grabbed her 13-year-old child from behind and pulled her in the home to keep her from leaving. The grandmother said there were no injuries. The 13-year-old was not home when law enforcement made contact. The grandmother was described as exhibited forward-thinking and

it was determined this report did not meet criteria for CPS assessment and was closed at screening.

Date of report: November 8, 2022	Allegation(s): Threat of Harm by Mother (Grandmother to the child)	Disposition(s): Unfounded
Assignment decision: Within 72 Hours	Threat of Harm by sibling (Mother of the child)	Unfounded

This is a companion report to the November 8, 2022 report under the child's mother's case above. The child was 4 years old at the time of the report.

On November 8, 2022, ODHS received a report alleging threat of harm to a 14-year-old youth by her mother and the adult daughter. The reporting party stated the mother would engage in physical altercations with her adult daughter while the 14-year-old was present and that she may have been intervening when other adults were not in the home. There was concern reported that the 14-year-old was being provided nicotine vapes by the adult daughter. The 14-year-old was also consuming marijuana edibles, but it is not known where she obtained them. The reporter stated the 14-year-old suffered from anxiety and depression symptoms that appear worse when

residing with her mother. The 14-year-old does not attend school when in her mother's care due to the stressful home environment and had been recently disenrolled due to lack of attendance. The 14-year-old was in the process of being sent to live with her father full time and only resides with her mother about half of the time.

The mother was reported to struggle with misuse of opiates, and she would take suboxone and oxytocin, but was only prescribed Vicodin. The mother had threatened suicide by overdosing on fentanyl, although the reporter did not believe there was fentanyl in the home. It was also stated the mother smoked marijuana in the home. The family was said to be housing two people who were hiding from law enforcement and that those individuals were wanted for a shooting. They brought and cleaned the firearms in the home.

The reporter also believes there was an active restraining order between the adult daughter and the mother due to an incident that occurred on January 26, 2022. They were living together at the time of this report and had been engaging in physical altercations. The 14-year-old is reported to intervene and make sure no one is hurt; a cousin was also reported to intervene.

There was concern about the mother being physically disabled and having a heart condition, which had made employment difficult. The family had pets that they were not regularly feeding, and the home was covered in feces about a month prior. One of the pets had a litter of babies and none of them survived and the remains were alleged to be in a plastic bag outside the home.

The CPS caseworker made contact with the mother and 14-year-old on November 9, 2022 with law enforcement. The mother appeared aware that there was a report made to the hotline and inquired about why it took so long for a response. She was on the phone with a service provider at the arrival of the CPS caseworker and law enforcement. She handed the phone to the CPS caseworker who reported they were in the home regularly and did not have any concerns. The mother talked about her strained relationship with her adult daughter, who had not been in the home for months and was not permitted to have contact with the mother (due to previous altercations). The CPS caseworker spoke briefly with the 14-year-old, but she had a friend over at the time and did not want to talk further.

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The home condition appeared lived in but was free of animal feces. There was only one animal in the home that appeared well cared for.

The mother stated her sister was living with her briefly, but she found out her sister was wanted by out-of-state police and was using the mother's home to hide. The mother was asked for money by her sister, and when denied her sister made threats to call the child abuse hotline.

On November 15, 2022, the CPS caseworker spoke with the reporter on the phone, who sounded either under the influence or impaired.

Contact with the adult daughter was not made, documentation is not clear what attempts were made to contact her.

It was determined the threat of harm allegations to the 14-year-old by her mother and the adult daughter were unfounded as there were no disclosures or indicators of abuse or neglect.

Date of report: May 4, 2023	Allegation(s): Threat of Harm by the mother (Grandmother to the child)	Disposition(s): Unfounded
Assignment decision: Within 24 Hours	Threat of Harm by the sister (Mother of the child)	Unfounded

On May 4, 2023, ODHS received a report alleging threat of harm to the 15-year-old child by her mother and adult sister. It was reported on May 3, 2023, the mother's grandson, who was 4 years old, died from what appeared to be strangulation by the 4-year-old's father. The 4-year-old child had been living with their father for about a month prior to the death, before that the 4-year-old child was living with their mother, who was the adult daughter on this case. It was reported the adult daughter was living in her mother's home. The 4-year-old child's autopsy showed extensive injuries including burns, bruising, scarring, a liver laceration and other injuries with some indication the injuries might have occurred while in the care of his mother. The mother and the adult daughter were being considered possible perpetrators at the

time of this call. There were concerns for the 15-year-old's safety due to residing in a home where the 4-year-old child may have been physical abused, as well as reported concerns for family violence and substance use by the adult daughter and the mother.

On May 3, 2023, a report was called in before the 4-year-old child's fatality. This call reflected concerns that the mother was prescribed narcotic pain medication and the adult daughter was taking those medications.

This screening report captured some of the family's recent history regarding family history between the mother and the adult daughter as well as substance use concerns in the home.

On May 4, 2023, the CPS caseworker (who was also assigned to assess the 4-year-old child's death), spoke with the hospital social worker and discussed the mother and adult daughter's presentation at the hospital. It was noted the adult daughter was visibly upset at the death of her child and was observed yelling and vomiting.

Due to having been assigned to assess the 4-year-old child's death, the CPS worker obtained information on May 3, 2023, from medical professionals who confirmed that the many injuries the child sustained were determined to have occurred after April 1, 2023, when the 4-year-old child was in the care of their father.

On May 4, 2023, the CPS caseworker met with the adult daughter, the 15-year-old child, the mother and several relatives and friends there to support the family at the mother's home. The CPS caseworker noted marijuana paraphernalia in the home, but no other observable safety concerns. The adult daughter reported she had her own apartment that she shared with the 4-year-old child. The adult daughter as well as everyone else present denied any physical abuse or physical discipline to the 4-year-old child while in her care. The 15-year-old was interviewed more than once over the course of this assessment. The 15-year-old did report having a volatile relationship with her mother and for this reason will sometimes stay with her adult sister. She elaborated that the mother will scream and yell and follow her around the house, but nothing had ever been physical. The 15-year-old reported feeling worried the mother might relapse with her drug of choice being prescription pills. The 15-year-old was not in school due to anxiety and depression but was taking mediation to help.

The mother was interviewed and denied any physical abuse to her 4-year-old grandchild and her 15-year-old child.

The CPS caseworker attempted contact the mother on May 19, 2023, however, she did not answer the door. It was learned later from the adult daughter that the mother was in fact at home. The CPS caseworker received text from the mother explaining she was having a hard time with her grief and that day was not a good day to meet.

The CPS caseworker was able to meet with the mother and the 15-year-old's father on May 23, 2023. The home was free of observable safety concerns. The mother shared she was recently diagnosed with Bipolar and was really struggling with the loss of her grandchild. The 15-year-old's father reported he moved in recently so he and the mother can support each other and their 15-year-old child.

On June 2, 2023, the CPS caseworker checked in with the family. There was concern shared from the 15-year-old about a potentially unsafe individual being allowed to stay in the home. The 15-year-old shared feeling uncomfortable with him around. The family decided to have this person leave.

On June 6, 2023, the CPS caseworker met with the mother and the 15-year-old. The mother signed a release of information and the CPS worker learned from a service provider that there was no concern about the mother misusing medication or engaging in substance use. It was also learned the 15-year-old was enrolled for summer school classes.

At the conclusion of this assessment, it was determined the allegations of threat of harm to the 15-year-old child would be unfounded as there was no indication the mother or the adult daughter created any conditions or circumstances that placed the 15-year-old or the deceased 4-year-old child at risk.

Description of Department contacts regarding paternal grandmother:

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Date of report: August 14, 2017	Allegation(s): Threat of Harm by the mother's significant other Physical Abuse by the mother's significant other	Disposition(s): Founded Unfounded
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On August 14, 2017, ODHS received a report alleging threat of harm to a 9-year-old as well as threat of harm and physical abuse to a 14-year-old by their mother's significant other. The reporter was informed that on August 9, 2017, the family was staying with the mother's relatives. The significant other was present when the mother received a call from her brother. The significant other believed she was speaking with another male and slapped her, grabbed her by the neck and threw her to the ground. The 14-year-old child heard what was happening and ran to help. The significant other pushed him up against the door, there were no injuries reported to the 14-year-old. The significant other left when the mother's relatives threatened to call law enforcement. The reporting party stated the mother and the children were staying with a cousin, but the address was unknown.

On August 15, 2017, the CPS caseworker went to the address believed to be the address for the family. The resident at the home denied the mother and children lived there. Another home visit was conducted to another potential address for the family, and the tenant denied the family lived there. The CPS caseworker then went to an address believed to belong to the cousin the family was staying with. Upon arrival, the cousin denied the mother and the children were present. The cousin reported they stay on occasion, but do not live there. She was present for the incident and stated the significant other was upset because the mother wanted to separate from him due to his drinking, cheating and emotional abuse. He started yelling at the mother, the 14-year-old came in, jumped on the significant other's back and yelled at him to stop. The altercation then stopped. The mother's cousin reported the mother had not seen or talked with him since. The CPS caseworker received a call from the mother on August 15, 2017, and a meeting was scheduled for the following day.

On August 16, 2017, the mother and the children arrived at the ODHS office and met with the CPS caseworker. The mother reported she hit a breaking point with her significant other, and they argued at a relative's home. The mother reported her significant other slapped her and pushed her to the ground. She reported he may have grabbed her by the neck, but she didn't remember exactly. The 14-year-old came into the room after hearing the yelling, and he started yelling at his mother's significant other. The 14-year-old was then pushed.

The mother indicated a pattern of domestic violence in her relationship over the previous six years, although this incident was the most physically escalated. She indicated power and control dynamics. Since the incident occurred, he had been threatening her, and having other people text her after she deleted his number. He threatened to kill her and won't leave her alone, which she stated is part of his power and control.

The 14-year-old reported to the CPS caseworker that he could hear the yelling and fighting. He put his ear to the bedroom door and heard a slap. He went into the room and yelled at the significant other to get away from his mother. The mother's significant other pushed him out of the room. A relative entered the room and told him to leave. The 14-year-old felt if he was there sooner, his mother never would have been hit. The 14-year-old reported this wasn't the first time he had been exposed to something like this. He did not suffer any injuries as a result.

The 9-year-old did not report witnessing this incident, although reported witnessing previous times the significant other had slapped the mother and once saw him throw the mother on the bed. Both children have asked the mother not to return to that relationship.

Documentation does not reflect the significant other was contacted as part of this CPS assessment.

On August 18, 2017, the CPS caseworker called contacted the children's biological father who was incarcerated. The children's father was not available to speak at that time. The CPS caseworker called at a later date but again, the father was still not available.

The allegation of physical abuse to the 14-year-old was determined to be unfounded because there was no evidence he suffered any injuries or was

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physically abused. It was determined the allegation of threat of harm to the 9-year-old and 14-year-old by the significant other would be founded. Both children reported witnessing a pattern of violence perpetrated by the significant other to the mother. The 14-year-old was in direct proximity to the incident and intervened to protect his mother. The mother also reported a pattern of violence increasing in severity over the course of six years.

Date of report: January 2, 2018 Assignment decision: Closed at Screening	Allegation(s): Threat of Harm by an unknown perpetrator	Disposition(s): Not Applicable
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On January 2, 2018, ODHS received a report alleging threat of harm to a 14-year-old by an unknown perpetrator. The reporter stated the 14-year-old's mother went to the courthouse to obtain a stalking order against the 14-year-old's ex-girlfriend. The mother told the reporter the youth and her family were making threats to the mother and the 14-year-old. An unknown male (about 35-36 years old), showed up at the mother's home asking to speak to the 14-year-old. The mother would not allow this man to speak with her son. The mother told the reporter this man was a known gang member. The man told the mother he was going to beat up the 14-year-old because the 14-year-old impregnated the ex-girlfriend.

It was determined this report did not meet criteria for a CPS assessment and was closed at screening.

Date of report: December 4, 2018 Assignment decision: Closed at Screening	Allegation(s): Neglect by the mother	Disposition(s): Not Applicable
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On December 4, 2018, ODHS received a report alleging neglect to a newborn child and 11-year-old child by their mother. It was reported the newborn child was born on November 25, 2018, at 32 weeks gestation and was admitted to the neonatal care unit. The newborn tested positive for methadone and marijuana at birth. The mother self-reported she used marijuana and also reported her methadone is prescribed. The pharmacist at the hospital confirmed this prescription. The mother disclosed a single use of an old oxycodone prescription in November 2018 for a toothache. The newborn was not diagnosed as being drug affected, the mother received safe sleep education and was reported to be breastfeeding. The mother was described as appropriate and able to care for the newborn, she appeared receptive to guidance from nursing staff.

It was determined this report did not meet criteria for a CPS assessment and was closed at screening.

Date of report: January 29, 2019	Allegation(s): Neglect by the mother Neglect by the father	Disposition(s): Unfounded Unfounded
Assignment decision: Within 5 Days		

On January 29, 2019, ODHS received a report alleging neglect to a 15-year-old by his mother and father. It was reported that on December 27, 2018, the 15-year-old was with a group of his friends and were found to be assaulting strangers in the community while riding public transit. Specifically, a man and his family called law enforcement after he was assaulted by five youth, including the 15-year-old. The man approached the teenagers and told them to turn their music down. They turned it down initially, but then turned it back up even louder. The man approached the teenagers again and one of the teenagers pushed the boom box toward the man's face. The man told the kids if they used a weapon, the man would take the weapon from them. He grabbed the boom box, but it fell to the floor along with his phone. When he went to grab the items and hand the radio to the youth, when the five

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teenagers assaulted him. The man's wife and 10-year-old child were present and witnessed the assault.

The man took multiple punches from the youths and needed surgery for his jaw, which was fractured in three places. He lost two teeth because of the altercation but would likely lose two more during oral surgery. The 15-year-old was identified as one of the youths to perpetrate the assault. It was also noted that this was the 4th consecutive screening report for this family and was assigned to CPS for assessment.

The CPS caseworker was assigned the CPS assessment on March 6, 2019. On March 8, 2019, the CPS caseworker interviewed the 15-year-old brother's younger sibling as well as their paternal half-sister. The CPS caseworker also spoke with their school counselor and scheduled a home visit with the mother.

On March 11, 2019, the CPS caseworker met with the mother in her home and had contact with the mother's infant child. The mother spoke about all the different ways she had supporting the 15-year-old through his behavioral challenge and her active work with resources in the community.

On March 15, 2019, the CPS caseworker met with the 15-year-old who described struggling with fighting and anger. He could not recall a time in his life when he did not struggle with strong feelings of anger.

The CPS caseworker made efforts to engage with the infant's father, however, this contact did not occur.

At the closure of this CPS assessment, it was determined the allegations of neglect to the 15-year-old by his parents would be unfounded.

Date of report: January 29, 2021 Assignment decision: Closed at Screening	Allegation(s): Threat of Harm by a sibling	Disposition(s): Not Applicable
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On January 29, 2021, ODHS received a report alleging threat of harm to the 2-year-old and 13-year-old children by their 17-year-old sibling. It was reported the 17-year-old threatened to shoot up the house of his ex-girlfriend and mother of his child. The 17-year-old had recently indicated he was in possession of a firearm and was associated with a gang. It was believed if the 17-year-old was mad enough, he would follow through on this threat.

It was determined that this report did not meet criteria for a CPS assessment because the 17-year-old was reported to live at an address different than the 2-year-old and 13-year-old children. This report was closed at screening.

Date of report: December 28, 2022	Allegation(s): Not Applicable	Disposition(s): Not Applicable
Assignment decision: Closed at Screening		

On December 28, 2022, ODHS received a report stating that on February 7, 2021, around midnight, police responded to the family's home due to the report of a domestic disturbance. Upon arrival, the mother disclosed that she and her significant other were verbally arguing, and it had become physical. She told him to leave, he later returned in an intoxicated state. Law enforcement checked on 4-year-old and 15-year-old in the home, who appeared healthy with no signs of abuse or neglect. It was reported the 4-year-old was home but sleeping during the incident. Law enforcement asked the significant other to leave the residence, he was verbally confrontational, but packed some belongings and left. The mother did not elaborate on the frequency of their altercations, elements of power and control, or what the significant other's alcohol use looks like.

It was determined this report did not meet criteria for a CPS assessment and was closed at screening.

Date of report: May 3, 2023	Allegation(s):	Disposition(s): Founded
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Assignment decision: Within 72 Hours	Threat of Harm by unknown perpetrator	
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On May 3, 2023, ODHS received a report alleging threat of harm to a 4-year-old and 15-year-old by an unknown person. It was reported the 4-year-old child was taken by ambulance to the hospital. When first responders arrived at the family home, the child was not breathing and was unconscious. The child was reported to have been experiencing seizures, blood was found throughout the home specifically in the toilet and bathroom area due to the child vomiting blood. It was highly suspected the injuries to the child were non-accidental and the child died later in the day. Normally, the child would reside with the child's mother, but had been at the father's home during the incident. The child, a 4-year-old child, a 15-year-old child and the adult brother were all living with the paternal grandmother of the child who died. Also living in the home was a 21-year-old cousin. This report was assigned to CPS for assessment and assessed together with the previous report.

On May 4, 2023, ODHS received an additional report alleging threat of harm to the 4-year-old and 15-year-old by their 21-year-old cousin who was reported to be a sex offender and had founded child welfare for sexual abuse in 2016. There were concerns about this cousin's access to the children in the mother's home. This report was assigned to CPS for assessment.

On May 11, 2023, ODHS received a report alleging physical abuse and neglect to the 4-year-old by his mother (grandmother to the deceased child), 15-year-old brother and adult brother. The 4-year-old disclosed that he and the deceased child had been hit by his mother and brothers. He reported he was often left in the care of his brothers, and he was very scared of them. He demonstrated being hit in the chest with a closed fist. He described being hit on the foot with a hanger and said the day the child died, police came to his house. He saw his adult brother hit the child and knock out the child. The 4-year-old demonstrated this by laying still on the floor. The mother denied knowing the adult brother and 15-year-old child were hitting the 4-year-old or the child. This report was assigned for CPS assessment and assessed together with the previous reports.

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On May 12, 2023, ODHS received a report that was initially closed at screening but upon review, was assigned to CPS for assessment on May 31, 2023. This report included allegations of threat of harm to the 4-year-old child by his father. On May 11, 2023, the 4-year-old was observed getting into something and upon being asked to stop, the 4-year-old became very agitated. He grabbed the individual's throat and threatened to choke them. He then stated that his father taught him how and further stated that when his dad chokes people, it works. Through this behavior and statements accompanying the behavior, it was believed the 4-year-old disclosed he witnessed his father choke someone before. This CPS assessment was assessed together with the previous reports.

Upon being assigned this case, the CPS caseworker completed a staffing with a supervisor as well as law enforcement. It was learned the adult brother to the 4-year-old and 15-year-old would be arrested.

On May 3, 2023, the CPS caseworker sent a text message to the mother. After not receiving an answer, the CPS caseworker called and left a message. A home visit was attempted, however, the mother lived in a secure building and the CPS caseworker was not allowed entry. A few days later, the CPS caseworker received a phone call from this number and learned it was not an updated phone number for the mother.

On May 4, 2023, the CPS caseworker participated in cross-county staffing regarding the child who died and learned they died of blunt force trauma to the torso as well as strangulation. The injuries on the body were 4-5 weeks old, and the child was severely malnourished and dehydrated. One of the attending doctors stated it would be impossible for anyone living in the home with the child not to have known the abuse was occurring.

The CPS caseworker was able to obtain updated contact information for the mother to the 4-year-old and 15-year-old and scheduled a meeting. At this meeting, the CPS caseworker met with the mother and her friend at the ODHS office. She explained that she and her 4-year-old child staying at a cousin's house due to not feeling safe in their home. The CPS worker conducted a home visit to the cousin's home later that day and met with the 4-year-old and 15-year-old, who both appeared free of injuries. In regard to the report from May 4, 2023, the mother stated the 21-year-old cousin lived with her briefly so that he could have an address for his ID, but she stated

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he moved out and did not know his location. A safety plan was implemented with the cousins whom the family were staying with as safety service providers.

On May 11, 2023, the CPS caseworker met with the mother. She reported her adult son, moved in with her in April of 2023. After he moved in, they talked about the child and she encouraged her adult son to be involved in the child's life. The first week the child stayed with them, the mother felt the child was underweight. She denied seeing any injuries at that time. The mother felt that the child was sick when they came to stay with them, and that illness led to his death, not abuse. The mother denied that her 15-year-old or adult son hit her 4-year-old child or the child who died.

The CPS caseworker interviewed the 4-year-old while at this home visit who demonstrated being punched in the chest with a fist by his adult brother. The 4-year-old described the last time he saw the child before the child died. The 4-year-old described seeing the child hit on the feet. The 4-year-old described other means of physical abuse to the child.

The Department determined it was appropriate to create an out-of-home safety plan for the 4-year-old, which was reviewed and approved by a supervisor.

On May 22, 2023, a CPS supervisor met with the father of the 4-year-old, who denied knowing of the abuse to the child who died. He stated sometimes when his 4-year-old child would come to him for parenting time, he would have a cut or bruise, but attributed this to being an active child. As to the concerns reported on May 12, 2022, the 4-year-old's father reported he engages in boxing and the 4-year-old had watched him fight in the boxing ring with other adults.

At the closure of this CPS assessment, the allegations of threat of harm to the 4-year-old and 15-year-old by an unknown perpetrator, later determined to be their adult brother, was founded. Both children were in close proximity to and witnesses of physical abuse to a child that resulted in a death.

Date of report: May 4, 2023	Allegation(s): Threat of Harm by a cousin	Disposition(s): Unfounded
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Assignment decision: Within 72 Hours		
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On May 4, 2023, ODHS received a report alleging threat of harm to 4-year-old and 15-year-old by their 21-year-old cousin who was reported to be a sex offender. There were concerns about this cousin's access to the children as he was living in the mother's home. This report was assigned to CPS for assessment, assessed with the report from May 3, 2023, and was summarized above.

At the conclusion of this CPS assessment, it was determined the allegation of threat of harm to the 4-year-old and 15-year-old by an adult cousin would be unfounded as there were no concerning disclosures made about this individual, furthermore, it did not appear this cousin was regular household member.

Date of report: May 11, 2023	Allegation(s): Physical Abuse by the mother	Disposition(s): Unfounded
Assignment decision: Within 24 Hours	Physical Abuse by the brother	Founded
	Physical Abuse by the brother	Unable to Determine
	Neglect by the mother	Founded

On May 11, 2023, ODHS received a report alleging physical abuse and neglect to a 4-year-old child by his mother and two brothers. The 4-year-old disclosed that he and the child who died had been hit by the 4-year-old's mother and the 4-year-old's brothers. He reported he was often left in the care of his brothers, and he was very scared of them. He demonstrated being hit in the chest with a closed fist. He described being hit on the foot with a hanger. The 4-year-old also mentioned that the day the child died, and police came to his house, he saw his brother hit the child resulting in being knocked out. The mother denied knowing about the information disclosed. This report

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was assigned for CPS assessment, assessed together with the previous reports dated May 3 and May 4, 2023, and is summarized above.

At the conclusion of this CPS assessment, it was determined the allegations of neglect by the mother would be founded as the 4-year-old child was routinely left in the care of his brothers, who perpetrated physical abuse to the 4-year-old as well as the child who died. The allegation of physical abuse by the 15-year-old brother would be unable to determine as the 4-year-old described being hit by the 15-year-old but did not report or show sign of injury. The allegation of physical abuse by the adult brother would be founded as the 4-year-old disclosed physical abuse which were similar actions that led to the death of the adult brother's child.

Date of report: May 12, 2023 Assignment decision: Within 72 Hours	Allegation(s): Threat of Harm by the father	Disposition(s): Unable to Determine
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On May 12, 2023, ODHS received a report that was initially closed at screening but upon review, was assigned to CPS for assessment on May 31, 2023. This report included allegations of threat of harm to a 4-year-old child by his father. On May 11, 2023, the 4-year-old child was observed getting into something and upon being asked to stop, the 4-year-old child became very agitated. The 4-year-old grabbed the individual's throat and threatened to choke them. He then stated that his father taught him how and further stated that when his dad chokes people, it works. Through this behavior and statements accompanying the behavior, it appeared the 4-year-old child disclosed he witnessed his dad choke someone before. This CPS assessment was assessed together with the previous reports dated May 3, 4, and 11, 2023, and was summarized above.

At the conclusion of this CPS assessment, it was determined the allegation of threat of harm would be unable to determine. While the 4-year-old's disclosure was concerning, the father reported he participated in boxing and other fighting type sports and that the 4-year-old had witnessed this. While it

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is plausible this could be the explanation, the father also had a history of perpetrating domestic violence, although unclear if this occurred in front of the 4-year-old child.

Description of Department contacts regarding unrelated individual, ex-significant other to the father:

Date of report: December 15, 2021 Assignment decision: Within 24 Hours	Allegation(s): Threat of harm by significant other	Disposition(s): Unable to Determine
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On December 15, 2021, ODHS received a report alleging threat of harm to a 17-year-old by her significant other who is the father to deceased child.

It was reported on November 8, 2021, law enforcement was called to a department store due to several assaults that had taken place. The 17-year-old was observed getting into a vehicle while the father walked to a nearby bank parking lot. The two were observed to be fighting and continued to fight sometime later. They were observed running and pulling at each other. When the father noticed that a witness was filming their fight, he confronted the witness, and the 17-year-old joined him. They were yelling at this person when a different individual, a 73-year-old man, mentioned he was on the phone with 911. There were several onlookers attempting to intervene. When the 17-year-old and father walked away, the 17-year-old bumped into the 73-year-old man and said something about him touching her buttocks. The father grabbed the man around his neck and forcefully threw him to the ground. The man reported pain in his shoulder afterward and learned later that he suffered two broken ribs. The father left the scene when he saw emergency vehicles arrive. The 17-year-old presented as hostile and would not speak with law enforcement. Witnesses reported the 17-year-old appeared to be trying to get away from the father and was also attempting to stop him from yelling at and assaulting onlookers.

Law enforcement contacted the 17-year-old's father. He stated the 17-year-old and father recently broke up. He stated the father was very abusive and claimed he once had to pick up the 17-year-old from being with the father because of the abuse.

Between December 22, 2021, and January 4, 2021, the CPS caseworker made multiple attempts to contact the 17-year-old and her mother both by phone and in person. The CPS caseworker made brief contact with the 17-year-old, who denied speaking to the CPS caseworker. The CPS caseworker also attempted to contact the father at his residence but was unable to make contact.

It was determined this CPS assessment would be closed with a disposition of unable to determine for the threat of harm allegation because the department was not able to complete a comprehensive assessment.

Description of concerns regarding actions taken or not taken by the Department or law enforcement agencies in response to the critical incident or events that led to the critical incident:

The CIRT recognized an opportunity for improvement regarding the closed at screening report dated April 19, 2023, in which it was learned the 4-year-old child had an unexplained bruise/bump on their forehead. The family was told by law enforcement that ODHS would follow up with them, however this did not occur as the report was closed at screening. The unexplained injury on the forehead of the 4-year-old child warranted a CPS assessment. The reporter had possession of the photo of the injury that, if requested and viewed by screening, may have provided clearer understanding of the injury and better informed the decision to assign a CPS assessment.

The CIRT discussed the closed at screening report dated February 1, 2023, and agreed the report did not meet criteria for assignment, however there was no documentation to support the screener contacted the CPS caseworker or CPS supervisor to notify the caseworker of the closed at screening report. This highlights the importance of cross-program

communication and collaboration for the benefit of the families interfacing with the department. The open CPS assessment from November 8, 2022, provided an opportunity to address the closed at screening report within this assessment, however this also did not occur. In addition, Oregon Administrative Rule requires the CPS caseworker to consult with a supervisor when a closed at screening report is received on an open CPS assessment. Documentation did not support that this occurred.

The CIRT observed the complexities in understanding family dynamics and more specifically the caregiving responsibilities for children who are residing in multi-generational households. These complexities are experienced both at the screening and CPS levels. The CIRT noted a need for a comprehensive understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the adults involved in the child's life across the many multi-familial screening and CPS reports generated, which can be hindered by production pressure both at screening and assessment.

Additionally, the CIRT discussed a theme of insufficient information gathered and/or documented in CPS assessments to inform and justify child safety decisions. In particular, the CPS assessment dated November 8, 2022, listed concerns that the child had a bruise on their face. The CIRT noted Karly's Law was not followed per Oregon Revised Statute¹.

In the department's response to the critical incident, the CIRT observed gaps and barriers in collaboration with child advocacy centers and designated medical providers that impacted the department's ability to make informed and timely child safety decisions for the surviving children. These partnerships and collaborations are critical to best navigate complex cross-system situations where potential criminal investigations are co-occurring alongside CPS assessments. These situations are best navigated when the safety needs of children are central to the planning and coordination of evaluations and interviews.

Finally, the CIRT acknowledged in the review of the events leading up to the critical incident, the mother approached multiple systems for assistance in

¹ https://oregon.public.law/statutes/ors_419B.023

ensuring the child's safety but was unsuccessful in obtaining the assistance she needed. The CIRT discussed how systemic racism negatively impacts specific populations when navigating complex systems.

Recommendations for improvement in the administration and oversight of the child welfare system that are specific to the critical incident and any historical information reviewed by the team:

The CIRT noted that the missed opportunities observed in this case are thematic in gaps and barriers observed in cases recently reviewed by the CIRT. Regarding the missed opportunity around the closed at screening report from April 19, 2023, the CIRT recommends continuation of recent efforts and CIRT recommendations for the Oregon Child Abuse Hotline (ORCAH) to assess current practice with closed at screenings, identify areas for improvement and make recommendations that support practice change. This analysis is due to be completed and recommendations identified by the end of November 2023. In addition, exploration of training or coaching on professional bias is recommended for hotline screeners and supervisors. A plan should be determined and implemented no later than spring 2024.

When systemic changes are made, the CIRT recognizes that it may take a significant amount of time to strategize, implement, monitor and evaluate these efforts. In a recent case reviewed by the CIRT, there was a procedural recommendation made to ensure timely communication between ORCAH and CPS supervisors and caseworkers when a closed at screening is generated on an open CPS assessment. While the procedure has been changed to support this communication, education of this change to the workforce was brought forward in CPS Quarterlies for July 2023. The CIRT recommends ORCAH and the Safety Program continue to monitor and evaluate the dissemination and education of this procedural change to the workforce and consider opportunities for continued education and communication of this change.

The CIRT noted themes in this case, and in other cases recently reviewed, where there were missed opportunities around case practice when Karly's Law applies but is not followed. In alignment with recent recommendations

currently underway, the CIRT recommends the Child Safety Program along with the Child Welfare Equity, Training & Workforce Development program and Multi-Disciplinary Child Abuse Team (MDT) partners create a statewide plan for training and support on Karly's Law no later than September 2023 with implementation beginning no later than November 2023. The CIRT also recommends the Child Safety Program consider twice annual opportunities to communicate and reinforce practice around Karly's Law to the workforce.

Lastly, the CIRT recommends the Child Safety Program communicate with identified professionals regarding gaps and barriers in collaboration with child advocacy centers and designated medical providers that can impact the department's ability to make informed and timely child safety decisions for surviving children. This communication should occur no later than September 1, 2023.