

## Indiana: 2023 Annual Report of Child Abuse & Neglect Fatalities in Indiana

The Annual Report of Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities in Indiana is the state's official record of child deaths determined by the Indiana Department of Child Services to have been caused by caregiver maltreatment or neglect.

---

Victim: 4-year-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 3

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Perpetrator: Mother, mother's boyfriend

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Circumstances: A 4-year-old girl died from a gunshot wound. She lived with her mother, siblings, great-grandmother and mother's boyfriend. On the day of the fatality, the mother left for work and left the child and her siblings in the care of the great-grandmother. Later that afternoon, the great-grandmother was caring for a younger sibling when she heard a noise and found the child deceased in the mother's bedroom. Two of the child's siblings accused each other of accidentally shooting the child with the boyfriend's gun, which they obtained from the mother's top dresser drawer. The mother and her boyfriend left a loaded gun where it could be accessed by the children.