

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: 12-year-old girl

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

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 27

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 2

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 1

Circumstances: A 12-year-old girl died from complications of necrotizing fasciitis due to chronic ulcers of skin folds. She lived with her mother, siblings, mother's boyfriend and other relatives. On the day of the incident, the child arrived at the hospital with a wound infection and became unresponsive shortly after. The mother reported the child had not eaten for five days and had complained of back pain for four to five days. The mother stated the child had a substance draining from her back. The child was diagnosed with septic shock and at autopsy was found to have multiple necrotizing skin infections. The child's home was observed to have insect and mouse infestations and to be unsanitary throughout.