

Indiana: 2022 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: 2-year-old girl

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

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 1

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Perpetrator: Father, Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: Father, 1; Mother, 1

Circumstances: A 2-year-old girl died as a result of medical neglect. She lived with her parents and siblings. The child suffered from cystic fibrosis, and she had been very ill with pneumonia in the days leading up to the fatality, but the parents did not seek medical care. The family's home was observed to be an unsafe living environment. The parents had not been regularly taking the child to scheduled medical appointments or completing necessary lab tests. The child's doctor reported that without consistent medical care and medication compliance, cystic fibrosis could be deadly. At autopsy, the child was found to be dehydrated. The pathologist noted that the child would have been very ill with pneumonia but likely would have survived with timely medical care.