

Pennsylvania: 2022 Quarterly Summaries of Child Fatalities and Near Fatalities

2nd Quarter Summaries of Child Fatalities/Near Fatalities

Philadelphia

(#18) A 9-month-old male child died on March 25, 2022, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on May 19, 2022, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, it was reported the victim child fell off of a bed to the floor and emergency services were contacted. The child was transported to the local children's hospital and presented with no pulse; cardiopulmonary resuscitation was performed, and the child was resuscitated but later died. Medical testing revealed several injuries including palpable scalp swelling, a right occipital skull fracture, intracranial bleeding, edema in the posterior fossa, and extensive hemorrhages. The injuries sustained were indicative of non-accidental trauma. It was determined through the investigation that the mother was the sole caregiver of the child at the time the injuries were sustained. As the result of the safety assessment completed, four other children in the home at the time of the incident were placed with relatives and the one other child in the home at the time of the incident was placed with their respective father. The family received services. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family was previously known to child welfare.