

Pennsylvania: 2022 Quarterly Summaries of Child Fatalities and Near Fatalities

2nd Quarter Summaries of Child Fatalities/Near Fatalities

Dauphin

(#7) A 2-month-old male child died on February 25, 2022, as a result of physical abuse. Dauphin County Social Services for Children and Youth indicated the report on April 6, 2022, naming the victim child's mother as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was found unresponsive, and the mother contacted emergency medical services. The child was pronounced dead, and it was determined the child had been deceased for several hours. An autopsy revealed the preliminary cause of death was determined to be asphyxiation. It was determined through the investigation that the mother was under the influence of illegal substances and alcohol at the time of the incident. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the one other child in the home at the time of the incident was placed in kinship care and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family was previously known to child welfare.