

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: 2-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: 1

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 2

Circumstances: A 2-year-old girl died from fentanyl intoxication. She lived with her mother and mother's friend. On the day of the fatality, the child took a nap and was later found unresponsive. The home was observed to have animal feces on the floors and clutter throughout the home. Drugs were found in the garage, and syringes were found on the bathroom counter. The mother admitted to using drugs daily and submitted to a drug screen, which was positive for cocaine, THC and fentanyl.