Child Fatality Report Release of Information to the Public

Person ID: 97420840

County of Child's Residence: WISE

Gender: Female

Age: 11 Year(s) 2 Month(s)

Date of Death: 01/01/2023

On the date of the fatality, the child was not in DFPS conservatorship and was living with the child's parent, a managing conservator, a legal guardian or other person entititled to the child's possession.

Child's Name: Morairity,Rachel A

Current Report(s) of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 06/13/2023

Summary of Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received a report with concerns the deceased child and the deceased child's mother were missing. Law enforcement received a welfare concern for the family. Extended family has not seen the mother or child in a year. The father mentioned the mother was deceased and he cremated her. No records have been found regarding the mother's death or cremation. Efforts to locate the mother and child have been unsuccessful. Both mother and father use narcotics and family is reporting concerns of drug use.

The Department's investigation determined through information obtained from law enforcement, medical professionals, and the family that the child and her siblings were in the home at the time of the mother's death, which occurred several months prior to the report being received. The oldest sibling was interviewed and made an outcry of witnessing his father use drugs, had knowledge of the mother and child's murders, and assisted his father in disposing of the bodies. The child's and mother's bodies were recovered on the family's property. The oldest sibling was observed to have two black eyes, and several marks, bruises, burns, and scars on his body which were also evaluated by medical staff. The father admitted he caused the black eyes to the oldest sibling. The youngest sibling was also evaluated by medical staff and observed to have scars on her body, several marks and bruises, a cut on her finger and medical staff expressed concerns of historical physical abuse. The father admitted to using methamphetamines daily and upon testing, the siblings were found to be positive for amphetamines and

methamphetamines. Law enforcement reported the condition of the home was unsanitary and unsafe. There were infestations of flies and bugs throughout the home, trash, stacks of dirty diapers, urine and feces in buckets, garbage, and old food throughout the home. The siblings were removed and placed in foster care. The youngest sibling has made statements the father put stuff in her private parts. A interview of the child was attempted but was unsuccessful.

The medical examiner completed an autopsy and the deceased child's cause of death was smothering and her manner of death was homicide.

Law Enforcement conducted an investigation and the father was arrested for killing the child and the mother in two separate incidents.

Investigation Findings:

The Department confirmed the father committed physical abuse to the deceased child which led to her death. The father was arrested for the child's murder and her body was recovered on the family's property.

The Department confirmed the father committed physical abuse to the two surviving siblings.

The Department confirmed the father committed neglectful supervision to the deceased child and the two surviving siblings.

The Department confirmed the father committed physical neglect to the two surviving siblings due to the conditions of the home.

The Department administratively closed concerns regarding the neglectful supervision of the children by the mother as she had been deceased for months prior to the Department's investigation.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:
1.) 06/13/2023: Safety Assessment - Initial: Unsafe
Risk Assessment Final Risk Level: Very High

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Case Action:

Removal/Subcare

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Counseling and Evaluation,Parent/Caregiver Training

Other Services:

The family agreed to services.

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

The Department sought and was granted Temporary Managing Conservatorship of the surviving siblings and they were placed into foster care.

If one or more children were previously removed from the home, for each conservatorship episode, summarize dates of conservatorship and type of placement at the end of conservatorship:

Not applicable.

Previous Report of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 01/26/2019

Summary of Previous Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received a report that law enforcement was called for a suspicious person or activity at a vacant residence. Law enforcement found the deceased child, her sibling, and her mother and father living out of their vehicle parked at the residence. The mother and father were manufacturing and using methamphetamines inside the vehicle with the children present. The mother and father were arrested for drug paraphernalia and a methamphetamine lab.

The Department's investigation determined the mother and father were the children's primary caregivers. The mother admitted to using methamphetamines and the pipes found by law enforcement were hers. The children and the father were present in the vehicle when law enforcement conducted the vehicle search. The mother admitted that she and the father used methamphetamine together. The father admitted to using methamphetamines. The father tested positive for amphetamines and methamphetamines on an oral swab drug screen. The parents were charged with child endangerment as the child and her sibling were present in the vehicle the day law enforcement found drugs in the vehicle. The children made outcries that the home they were in lacked electricity or running water. The roof was caved in on the home and the home was uninhabitable.

Investigation Findings:

The Department confirmed the mother and father committed neglectful supervision to the deceased child and the child's sibling.

The Department confirmed the mother and father committed physical neglect to the deceased child and the child's sibling.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:
1.) 01/27/2019: Safety Assessment - Initial: Safe with plan
2.) 04/29/2019: Safety Assessment - Case Closure: Safe
Risk Assessment Final Risk Level: High

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Case Action:

Close

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Other Services:

The family did not agree to services with the Department but were completing services through adult probation.

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

The children were placed in a parental child safety placement with their maternal grandmother, that remained in place at case closure. The grandmother sought legal intervention and had been given temporary custody and had agreed that any contact between the mother and father and the children would be supervised.

Previous Report of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 12/03/2019

Summary of Previous Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received a report with concerns the deceased child's sibling was observed with a half inch cut on the middle of his forehead. The sibling provided several explanations for the injury and changed the story several times. The sibling report his father cut his forehead with an action figure and then reported his father's fingernail cut him when they were playing around and wrestling. The deceased child was asked how the sibling sustained the cut on his forehead and she stated the sibling and father were play wrestling and the father scratched the sibling on the forehead. There were concerns an adult sibling grabbed the sibling by the head and pushed his face and nose against the wall for misbehaving.

The Department's investigation determined the sibling did not have any marks, bruises, or injuries indicative of physical abuse. The sibling was interviewed and reported he had a scratch on his forehead from a fingernail. The deceased child was interviewed and reported the father accidently scratched her sibling's head with his thumbnail. The children didn't express concerns with the adult sibling. The parents submitted a negative drug test and provided certificates of completion of drug services through adult probation. The investigation was closed with the children remaining in the care of their parents.

Investigation Findings:

The Department did not confirm the father and adult sibling committed physical abuse to the deceased child's sibling. The sibling was not observed to have any injuries and did not make an outcry of abuse.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:
Safety Assessments:
1.) 12/06/2019: Safety Assessment - Initial: Safe
Risk Assessment Final Risk Level: High

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Case Action:

Close

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Counseling and Evaluation

Other Services:

The mother and father agreed to the services requested.

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

No additional action was taken.

Other Previous Report of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s):

Summary of Previous Allegation(s)/Investigation:

Investigation Findings:

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Case Action:

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Other Services:

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

Note: This report was prepared on 06/24/2024 and does not include corrections or updates, if any, that may be subsequently made to DFPS data on or after the date this report was prepared.