

New Jersey
Department of Children and Families
Public CCAPTA Reports
January 2019 – December 2019

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Department of Children and Families
Division of Child Protection and Permanency (CP&P)
Report on Child Fatality or Near Fatality

Information below is provided under authority at NJSA 9:6-8.10a and NJAC 10:133G. Pursuant to federal law at 42 USC 5106a et seq and guidance in the federal Child Welfare Policy Manual, released information is limited to that which is pertinent to the subject fatality or near fatality.

Child Fatality **Child Near Fatality**

Victim Information:

Identifier (Initials): G.B. **Gender:**Female
Date of Birth/Age: 1/24/2019 (1 month) **County of Residence:**Monmouth

Incident Information:

Date of Incident: 3/9/2019 **Date CP&P Notified of Incident:**3/9/2019

Allegation Type: Abuse Neglect

Disposition: Substantiated Suspected/Pending

Description of Incident: Child G.B. was found unresponsive while sleeping on the chest of her father A.M., A.M. called the police and providing CPR when the police arrived. The police and EMT took over CPR. G.B. was brought to Ocean County Medical Center where G.B. was pronounced dead. A.M. was arrested and is currently incarcerated.

Other Possible Child Victims and Living Arrangement (Gender/age of siblings or other children residing with the child victim or perpetrator only):A.B. (Male) (Age 1)

Historical Information:

CP&P's Involvement with the Child Victim or Family PRIOR to Fatality or Near Fatality:

- Open (Date Opened:6/23/2018) Closed (Date Closed:) Not Previously Known
- The victim or family was known to CP&P but the details of such involvement are not pertinent to the fatality or near fatality and not subject to disclosure.

If previously known and the information is pertinent to the fatality or near fatality, the date and disposition of each prior referral: On 6/23/2018 Mother A.B. took A.B. (7 months old) to the hospital. A.B. presented with second degree bathtub burns on his right thigh, abdomen, pubic area, and left finger. A.B. had a bruise on his left facial cheek and a small abrasion on the back of his head. 12/19/2018 Established finding. Allegation of neglect: Physical impairment Burn/Scalding against father A.M..

Types of Service Provided:Substance Abuse and Counseling/therapy.

Date and type of CP&P's last contact with the child victim prior to fatality or near fatality:MVR
2/22/2019 with G.B. and A.B..

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Child Fatality **Child Near Fatality**

Victim Information:

Identifier (Initials): H.B. **Gender:**F
Date of Birth/Age: 8/28/18 **County of Residence:**Somerset

Incident Information:

Date of Incident: 12/5/18 **Date CP&P Notified of Incident:**12/5/18

Allegation Type: Abuse Neglect

Disposition: Substantiated Suspected/Pending

Description of Incident: Homicide; Mother, C.B. fed H.B. at 6:00AM, H.B. was fussy and "screaming in pain"; H.B. was given reflux medication and C.B. went to work, leaving H.B with her father, D.B. At 11:00AM, mother C.B. returns from work to have father, D.B. call her into the bedroom where H.B. was gasping for air, and turning blue. 911 was called. Child, H.B. was found to have a skull fracture, blunt impact trauma to her head, extensive bilateral retinal hemorrhages and 4 healing rib fractures. Father, D.B. was arrested and indicted on charges of 1st degree Murder while mother, C.B. was arrested and indicted for 2nd degree Reckless Manslaughter.

Other Possible Child Victims and Living Arrangement (Gender/age of siblings or other children residing with the child victim or perpetrator only):M, age 1 year, 10 months removed via Emergency Removal and placed in the care of his paternal grandparents.

Historical Information:

CP&P's Involvement with the Child Victim or Family PRIOR to Fatality or Near Fatality:

- Open (Date Opened:) Closed (Date Closed:) Not Previously Known
- The victim or family was known to CP&P but the details of such involvement are not pertinent to the fatality or near fatality and not subject to disclosure.

If previously known and the information is pertinent to the fatality or near fatality, the date and disposition of each prior referral: NA

Types of Service Provided:NA

Date and type of CP&P's last contact with the child victim prior to fatality or near fatality:NA

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Child Fatality **Child Near Fatality**

Victim Information:

Identifier (Initials): DCW **Gender:**
Date of Birth/Age: 1/12/18 **County of Residence:**Sussex

Incident Information:

Date of Incident: April 13, 2019, **Date CP&P Notified of Incident:**April 13, 2019,

Allegation Type: Abuse Neglect

Disposition: Substantiated Suspected/Pending

Description of Incident: DCW drowned in the above ground pool in the family's yard. DCP&P has determined that DCW's death was due to mother, JC's lack of appropriate supervision. JC left DCW along with his two brothers age 12 and 8 playing in the yard while she took a call on her cell phone in another part of the yard. Police determined that JC's call lasted approximately seven minutes. DCW was able to climb the ladder to the pool, open the unlocked gate and fall into the water. JC found DCW's body in the pool after she and the other children realized he was missing and went searching for him.

Other Possible Child Victims and Living Arrangement (Gender/age of siblings or other children residing with the child victim or perpetrator only):

Historical Information:

CP&P's Involvement with the Child Victim or Family PRIOR to Fatality or Near Fatality:

- Open (Date Opened:) Closed (Date Closed:) Not Previously Known
- The victim or family was known to CP&P but the details of such involvement are not pertinent to the fatality or near fatality and not subject to disclosure.

If previously known and the information is pertinent to the fatality or near fatality, the date and disposition of each prior referral:

Types of Service Provided:

Date and type of CP&P's last contact with the child victim prior to fatality or near fatality:

The details are as follows:

On April 13, 2019, the Division received a CPS for concerns for child death by drowning and inadequate supervision. It was reported that 15-month-old DCW had climbed up the 5-step ladder, opened the unlocked gate, and fell into the family's above ground pool. Police report that the pool cover had fallen into the pool. All family members were interviewed. It was reported that JC took a call on her cell phone and was reportedly on the phone for 10 minutes before she realized DCW was missing.

Police records indicate JC to have been on the phone call for seven minutes. She was distracted by the phone call and was not providing appropriate or adequate supervision of her 15-month-old child and later noticed DCW's shirt in the pool. She retrieved his body from the pool.

The Division has completed its CPS investigation and has found that JC is responsible for the death of DCW and substantiated neglect/death.

The JC family became known to the Division in December of 2016 due to behavioral concerns for one of the children. Services were provided and the case was closed at intake with an unfounded finding.

In February of 2017, a CPS was received alleging that two of the children were left alone unsupervised. Upon investigation, all parties stated that the children are not left home alone. Allegations of neglect were unfounded. The case was closed at intake.

In July of 2017, a CPS was received reporting drug and alcohol use in the home. Services remained involved and the CPS allegations were unfounded and the case was closed at intake.

In October of 2017, CPS allegations were received in response to neighbors hearing a loud verbal dispute in the home. The allegations of physical abuse, family violence harms child-domestic violence was not established. The case was closed at intake.

In February of 2018, a CPS referral was received regarding an injury to one of the children. The allegation of physical abuse-physical impairment - incident without injury was not established. The case was closed at intake.

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Child Fatality **Child Near Fatality**

Victim Information:

Identifier (Initials): M.K. **Gender:**Female
Date of Birth/Age: 11/3/2012 **County of Residence:**Ocean
(Age 6)

Incident Information:

Date of Incident: 6/17/2019 **Date CP&P Notified of Incident:**6/17/2019

Allegation Type: Abuse Neglect

Disposition: Substantiated Suspected/Pending

Description of Incident: Child M.K. and sibling Z.K. from Colorado were visiting father, J.K. for the summer. M.K. went missing in the afternoon on June 17, 2019. Child M.K. was found unresponsive in the backyard pool. Child M.K. was pronounced dead by the paramedics.

Other Possible Child Victims and Living Arrangement (Gender/age of siblings or other children residing with the child victim or perpetrator only):Z.K. Age 8

Historical Information:

CP&P's Involvement with the Child Victim or Family PRIOR to Fatality or Near Fatality:

- Open (Date Opened:6/17/2019) Closed (Date Closed:4/26/2020) Not Previously Known
- The victim or family was known to CP&P but the details of such involvement are not pertinent to the fatality or near fatality and not subject to disclosure.

If previously known and the information is pertinent to the fatality or near fatality, the date and disposition of each prior referral:

Types of Service Provided:Grief Counseling

Date and type of CP&P's last contact with the child victim prior to fatality or near fatality:

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Child Fatality **Child Near Fatality**

Victim Information:

Identifier (Initials): L.M. **Gender:**M
Date of Birth/Age: 9/12/15, age 4 **County of Residence:**Burlington

Incident Information:

Date of Incident: 02/07/20 **Date CP&P Notified of Incident:**02/08/20

Allegation Type: Abuse Neglect

Disposition: Substantiated Suspected/Pending

Description of Incident: 4yo L.M. accidentally shot himself in the face. It is determined two of the three children, including the victim, L.M. and 2yo sibling (Lo.M.), were playing in the playroom. L.M. went to his father's (An.M.) bedroom where he was sleeping. While sleeping the father had a loaded 22 caliber gun in his holster on the bed. L.M. was able to unholster the gun and took back into the playroom where he accidentally shot himself in the face. The older 11 year old sibling (La.M) was in his bedroom and the mother (A.M) was in her separate bedroom. The father An.M. was substantiated for Neglect.

Other Possible Child Victims and Living Arrangement (Gender/age of siblings or other children residing with the child victim or perpetrator only):11 year old brother, (La.M.) and 2 year old sister (Lo.M) were in the home during incident but sustained no injuries.

Historical Information:

CP&P's Involvement with the Child Victim or Family PRIOR to Fatality or Near Fatality:

- Open (Date Opened:) Closed (Date Closed:) Not Previously Known
- The victim or family was known to CP&P but the details of such involvement are not pertinent to the fatality or near fatality and not subject to disclosure.

If previously known and the information is pertinent to the fatality or near fatality, the date and disposition of each prior referral:

Types of Service Provided:

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Child Fatality **Child Near Fatality**

Victim Information:

Identifier (Initials): M.M. **Gender:**F
Date of Birth/Age: 10/2/2018, age 2 mos. **County of Residence:**Passaic

Incident Information:

Date of Incident: 12/9/2018 **Date CP&P Notified of Incident:**12/9/2018

Allegation Type: Abuse Neglect

Disposition: Substantiated Suspected/Pending

Description of Incident: M.M.was placed to sleep on her stomach in the bed between her her mother, T.D. and her father, also initials, M.M. At 2:30 AM, baby M.M. had a bottle, and upon the father, M.M. awakening at 7:30AM, infant M.M. was deceased. The family had a bassinet in the room they shared with their 3 other children, but it was filled with items and not used for sleeping. In addition, both parents admitted to smoking marijuana after it was clearly visable to the police and later to CP&P staff as well. There were baggies observed so the marijuana could be packaged, and Codine cough syrup that was prescribed to the maternal grandmother, L.D. A large needle apparently used in preparing to use Vape was also in plain sight and accessible to the children.

Other Possible Child Victims and Living Arrangement (Gender/age of siblings or other children residing with the child victim or perpetrator only): M.M. had 3 siblings living at home at the time of her death, All three siblings have the initials of M.M.. They are: Female, age 6; Female, age 4; and Male, age 3.

Historical Information:

CP&P's Involvement with the Child Victim or Family PRIOR to Fatality or Near Fatality:

- Open (Date Opened:) Closed (Date Closed:11/21/2014) Not Previously Known
- The victim or family was known to CP&P but the details of such involvement are not pertinent to the fatality or near fatality and not subject to disclosure.

If previously known and the information is pertinent to the fatality or near fatality, the date and disposition of each prior referral:The family of T.D. and her mother, L.D. share a CP&P case number

as often times, they lived together and shared a household. Twice in 2018, the maternal grandmother, L.D. and one of her grandchildren. J.D. lived in a separate household where two reports were made to CP&P: neither was substantiated. The current family configuration last had a CP&P report on 4/30/14, years before the birth of M.M. At that time, there were allegations that mother T.D. and father, M.M. were smoking cigarettes in the home when one of the children had asthma, and that both parents were smoking marijuana. Both adults had substance abuse evaluations, urine screens and tested positive for THC. The allegations of harm to the children were Not Established and the case was closed on 11/21/2014.

Types of Service Provided: Substance Abuse Evaluations, Urine Screens, Substance Use Treatment

Date and type of CP&P's last contact with the child victim prior to fatality or near fatality: None: The T.D. household was not open at the time of M.M.'s birth or before the death.

Date and type of CP&P's last contact with the child victim prior to fatality or near fatality:

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Child Fatality **Child Near Fatality**

Victim Information:

Identifier (Initials): A.M.S. **Gender:**Female
Date of Birth/Age: 03/27/2019 **County of Residence:**Gloucester
Age 1

Incident Information:

Date of Incident: 03/04/2020 **Date CP&P Notified of Incident:**03/04/2020

Allegation Type: Abuse Neglect

Disposition: Substantiated Suspected/Pending

Description of Incident: The Division received a report on 3/04/20 with concerns for A.M.S. At the time of the report, the Division had Care and Supervision, with J.H. (biological mother) being supervised 24/7 with her children. J.H. and children were residing with relatives both of whom were approved supervisors. It was reported that police and EMS responded to the home after A.M.S. was found to be unresponsive after being underwater in the tub while being bathed with her two brothers. A.M.S. was intubated and in critical condition until 3/17/20 when she was pronounced deceased and her organs donated.

Other Possible Child Victims and Living Arrangement (Gender/age of siblings or other children residing with the child victim or perpetrator only): J.M.S. (twin #1) and J.M.S. (twin #2) (Twins born March 6, 2018 Age 2) were subsequently placed in the care, custody, and supervision of the Division and placed in a relative kinship home.

Historical Information:

CP&P's Involvement with the Child Victim or Family PRIOR to Fatality or Near Fatality:

- Open (Date Opened:02/15/2019) Closed (Date Closed:) Not Previously Known
- The victim or family was known to CP&P but the details of such involvement are not pertinent to the fatality or near fatality and not subject to disclosure.

If previously known and the information is pertinent to the fatality or near fatality, the date and disposition of each prior referral:D&P became involved with the Ms. J.H. on 2/15/19 due to concerns of substance abuse. Ms. J.H. was attending Rowan Medicine at the time of the CPS report.

On 2/15/2019 Ms .J.H. tested positive for fentanyl and opiates during her doctor's appointment. Allegations were "Not established".

On 3/28/2019 DCP&P received a CPS report stating that the mother Ms. J.H. gave birth to a baby (AMS) on 3/27/19. The report stated that both mother and child tested positive for Subutex The allegations against Ms. J.H. were "Not Established".

On 6/4/19, DCP&P received a CPS report stating that the mother (Ms. J.H.) was observed to be under the influence of drugs by the mother's friend. The allegations were "Not Established".

Types of Service Provided:Substance Abuse

Date and type of CP&P's last contact with the child victim prior to fatality or near fatality:MVR complete February 25, 2020 were child A.M.S. was seen.

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Child Fatality **Child Near Fatality**

Victim Information:

Identifier (Initials): DR **Gender:**Female
Date of Birth/Age: **County of Residence:**

Incident Information:

Date of Incident: 5/6/19 **Date CP&P Notified of Incident:**5/6/19

Allegation Type: Abuse Neglect

Disposition: Substantiated Suspected/Pending

Description of Incident:

DR, a female toddler who was left by her mother in a hot vehicle for over three hours which led to her demise. There was no history with Child Protective Services prior to this incident. During the investigations by law enforcement and CP&P, it has been determined that this child's death was a direct result of her mother's negligence.

On 5/6/19, DR, age 1 was discovered deceased in her parent's vehicle parked outside of their home in Lakewood, NJ. It was determined by the Ocean County Prosecutor that DR was left in the family vehicle that was parked in their driveway for approximately 3 hours. The mother CS took DR and her 4 year old sibling to a babysitters house but brought DR back home after she became cranky. Upon arrival back at the family home DR was asleep and CS yelled to the father YR to get DR out of the car but he did not hear her. CS then went to her home office to work and DR was discovered unresponsive 3 hours later.

The autopsy report indicated the Cause of Death was Exposure to Increased Environmental Temperatures.

CP&P has completed a CPS investigation and substantiated mother for neglect/child death. The Ocean County Prosecutor has charged the mother with 2nd degree child endangerment.

Other Possible Child Victims and Living Arrangement (Gender/age of siblings or other children residing with the child victim or perpetrator only):

Historical Information:

CP&P's Involvement with the Child Victim or Family PRIOR to Fatality or Near Fatality:

- Open (Date Opened:) Closed (Date Closed:) Not Previously Known
- The victim or family was known to CP&P but the details of such involvement are not pertinent to the fatality or near fatality and not subject to disclosure.

If previously known and the information is pertinent to the fatality or near fatality, the date and disposition of each prior referral:

Types of Service Provided:

Date and type of CP&P's last contact with the child victim prior to fatality or near fatality:

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Child Fatality **Child Near Fatality**

Victim Information:

Identifier (Initials): M. R-L **Gender:**Female
Date of Birth/Age: 10/30/17; 1 yr. **County of Residence:**Camden
10 mos

Incident Information:

Date of Incident: 8/16/19 **Date CP&P Notified of Incident:**8/16/19

Allegation Type: Abuse Neglect

Disposition: Substantiated Suspected/Pending

Description of Incident: D.S.and S.S. are the caregivers and legal custodians of M.R-L., who is open with CP&P related to Permanency services for the biological mother, L.R.. S.S., the relative legal custodian of M. R-L. left M.R-L in a parked car for more than 8 hours. The temperature outside was 90 degrees and humid. M.R-L. was found deceased by a passerby. That morning, the S.S. family routine had changed, and S.S. forgot to drop M.R-L. at daycare after he dropped his wife, D.S. at work. S.S. proceeded to go home, eat, nap, and left for work, not realizing that M.R-L. was in a car seat in the 3rd row of the family vehicle. S.S. was charged with 4th Degree Cruelty and Neglect of Child.

Other Possible Child Victims and Living Arrangement (Gender/age of siblings or other children residing with the child victim or perpetrator only): Female, age 1 month

Historical Information:

CP&P's Involvement with the Child Victim or Family PRIOR to Fatality or Near Fatality:

- Open (Date Opened:10/10/17) Closed (Date Closed:) Not Previously Known
- The victim or family was known to CP&P but the details of such involvement are not pertinent to the fatality or near fatality and not subject to disclosure.

If previously known and the information is pertinent to the fatality or near fatality, the date and disposition of each prior referral: The biological family of M.R-L. and that history is not pertinent to this fatality. The relative custodians; the S family has a CP&P history themselves. Although extensive, S.S. was not a prior perpetrator and the history is not pertinent to this fatality.

Types of Service Provided:

Date and type of CP&P's last contact with the child victim prior to fatality or near fatality:

On 8/8/19, there was an In Home Visitation of M.R-L. and newborn sibling G.R-L. in the home of D.S. and S.S. by the caseworker

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Child Fatality **Child Near Fatality**

Victim Information:

Identifier (Initials): W.R. **Gender:**Female
Date of Birth/Age: 9/25/2008 **County of Residence:**Morris

Incident Information:

Date of Incident: 12/30/2019 **Date CP&P Notified of Incident:**12/30/2019

Allegation Type: Abuse Neglect

Disposition: Substantiated Suspected/Pending

Description of Incident: W.R. was found deceased in Ms. S.M. (biological Mother) home by Emergency Medical Services (EMS). According to the EMS report, W.R. was discovered in a "supine position" between the bed and the wall and was "unresponsive, pulseless and apneic" when they arrived. EMS pronounced W.R. dead and the medical examiner assumed responsibility for her body. The EMS report notes that the home was found to have several prescription medications scattered around as well as hypodermic needles. Morris County Prosecutor's Office detective also confirmed there were several prescriptions bottle, prescription boxes, including boxes containing Fentanyl Patches and hypodermic needles thrown around the home.

Other Possible Child Victims and Living Arrangement (Gender/age of siblings or other children residing with the child victim or perpetrator only):

Historical Information:

CP&P's Involvement with the Child Victim or Family PRIOR to Fatality or Near Fatality:

- Open (Date Opened:3/6/2009) Closed (Date Closed:3/18/2020) Not Previously Known
- The victim or family was known to CP&P but the details of such involvement are not pertinent to the fatality or near fatality and not subject to disclosure.

If previously known and the information is pertinent to the fatality or near fatality, the date and disposition of each prior referral:On 4/25/2013 a CPS was generated and on 6/20/2013, S.M. was established for taking un-prescribe meds while caring for W.R..

Types of Service Provided:Family Preservation Services, Substance Abuse Evaluation, Family Therapy

Date and type of CP&P's last contact with the child victim prior to fatality or near fatality:MVR
12/6/2019

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Child Fatality **Child Near Fatality**

Victim Information:

Identifier (Initials): B.S. **Gender:**M
Date of Birth/Age: 8/5/16, age 1 **County of Residence:**Hudson

Incident Information:

Date of Incident: 07/17/18 **Date CP&P Notified of Incident:**7/17/18

Allegation Type: Abuse Neglect

Disposition: Substantiated Suspected/Pending

Description of Incident: The child B.S. was dropped off at the babysitter's home (M.D.) and (A.F.). However only A.F. was present as M.D. was at the hair salon. Upon M.D. returns she noticed the victim B.S. unresponsive on the floor with his leg in an awkward position and she called 911. A.F.'s account of events stated he took B.S. to the park and he fell and hit his head and was walking strenuously. However surveillance video outside the residence revealed the child, B.S. never left the residence, however A.F. did leave the residence for 44 mins. When EMT arrived B.S. was lying on the floor unconscious, in cardiac arrest and observed to have bruising and light swelling on his abdomen. B.S.' right leg appeared to be deformed. He was transported the hospital where he was pronounced dead. The cause of death according to the medical examiner is multiple blunt force injuries. Both babysitters M.D. and A.F. were substantiated and A.F. was indicted for murder.

Other Possible Child Victims and Living Arrangement (Gender/age of siblings or other children residing with the child victim or perpetrator only):B.R. aged 7 at time was not babysat by M.D nor A.F.

Historical Information:

CP&P's Involvement with the Child Victim or Family PRIOR to Fatality or Near Fatality:

- Open (Date Opened:) Closed (Date Closed:) Not Previously Known
- The victim or family was known to CP&P but the details of such involvement are not pertinent to the fatality or near fatality and not subject to disclosure.

If previously known and the information is pertinent to the fatality or near fatality, the date and disposition of each prior referral:NA

Types of Service Provided:NA

Date and type of CP&P's last contact with the child victim prior to fatality or near fatality:NA

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Child Fatality **Child Near Fatality**

Victim Information:

Identifier (Initials): Z.W. **Gender:**M
Date of Birth/Age: 12/24/2013, **County of Residence:**Essex
age 5

Incident Information:

Date of Incident: 9/5/2019 **Date CP&P Notified of Incident:**9/5/2019

Allegation Type: Abuse Neglect

Disposition: Substantiated Suspected/Pending

Description of Incident: Autistic 5 year old not sleeping well on over the counter remedy recommended by Pediatrician, so mother, S.R. and her father, E.J. gave Z.W. a "concoction" made with Methadone and the maternal grandfather, E.J.'s Ambian prescription. Child found deceased in bed where he slept with E.J.. Both adults were arrested on charges of Manslaughter after autopsy confirmed: "Acute Combined Toxicity of Methadone and Zolpidem". (Ambian)

Other Possible Child Victims and Living Arrangement (Gender/age of siblings or other children residing with the child victim or perpetrator only): None

Historical Information:

CP&P's Involvement with the Child Victim or Family PRIOR to Fatality or Near Fatality:

Open (Date Opened:) Closed (Date Closed:2/15/2017) Not Previously Known

The victim or family was known to CP&P but the details of such involvement are not pertinent to the fatality or near fatality and not subject to disclosure.

If previously known and the information is pertinent to the fatality or near fatality, the date and disposition of each prior referral:12/14/2016; Annoymous neighbor reports Z.W. left alone in the hallway of apartment building, sometimes only dressed in his underwear. Mother, S.R. drinks with her sister who also stays there to the point of intoxication and the two play loud music such that the police have been called. Allegations were Not Established.

Types of Service Provided: Substance Abuse Evaluation, Urine Screen

Date and type of CP&P's last contact with the child victim prior to fatality or near fatality: 1/18/2017 for
In Home Visit prior to case closing