

Information for Release		8/13/2012
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Date of the notification to CPS: 9/25/2011

Near Fatality

The date the child suffered the near fatality: 9/25/2011

Child's name: Mario

Age at time of incident: 2 Years

Perpetrator(s): Clarissa Lucero

Age: 27 years

City, town or general location of residence of the child and perpetrator(s): At the time of the incident, the child and perpetrator were living in Bullhead City, Arizona.

A. Circumstances of the fatality or near fatality that indicate it was the result of abuse or neglect:

On September 25, 2011, Clarissa Lucero neglected her son, Mario, when she left methadone within his reach. He ingested the methadone and had to be flown to a hospital for treatment. The neglect by Clarissa could have resulted in serious injury or death by overdose.

B. Whether CPS has received any reports or past cases of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child and the current alleged abusive or neglectful parent, guardian or custodian* :

CPS has received two prior report alleging abuse or neglect of Mario by Clarissa Lucero.

On or about February 28, 2011 a report was received alleging concerns for the children as the mother, Clarissa could be heard yelling and cursing at them multiple times a day. The report was investigated and unsubstantiated as there was insufficient evidence to conclude that Clarissa was emotionally abusing Mario. The family was referred for Family Support Services.

On or about May 4, 2010 a report was received alleging mother, Clarissa, was abusing prescription medication and marijuana in the home. The report was investigated and there was no evidence of any maltreatment towards the children.

1. Actions taken by CPS in response to the fatality or near fatality of the child including:

CPS investigated the allegations through a joint investigation with the Bullhead City Police Department.

2. Actions taken regarding the child and/or other children in the home:

Mario was discharged from the hospital and placed in foster care with a relative. Following an assessment of child safety the other children in the home were also placed in foster care with relatives.

3. Whether the agency is or intends to provide direct services or service referrals to the family:

Intensive out of home services are being provided to the children and family. These services include intensive parent aide services, counseling and visitation.

*Posted information provides whether there have been reports or any current or past cases of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child who has died or suffered a near fatality and the current alleged abusive or neglectful parent, guardian or custodian pursuant to A.R.S. § 8-807(F)(2)(a)(iv).

Information, if any, regarding other family or household members and the child or the alleged perpetrator is not posted on the Web site. Calls to the Child Abuse Hotline that do not meet the criteria of a report because they do not contain allegations of abuse or neglect (or because there is no information provided to locate the child or family) are not posted.