

**PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON CHILD DEATH INVESTIGATIONS
IN VIRGINIA
DURING STATE FISCAL YEAR 2017**

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CHILD DEATH INVESTIGATIONS DURING STATE FISCAL YEAR 2017

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a preliminary report on child deaths that were reported to local departments of social services (LDSS) and investigated during State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2017. This report highlights changes or trends from previous years. It also includes a synopsis of data for all child abuse or neglect fatalities for SFY 2017, including demographic information pertaining to the victims, perpetrators and households impacted by those fatalities. The information is used to evaluate and modify Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) policies, guidance, best practices and procedures where warranted.

The purpose of this report is to provide information on all child fatalities that were investigated, with an emphasis on those deaths that occurred as a result of substantiated abuse or neglect. This report includes two appendices. Appendix A provides details for investigations that resulted in a founded disposition; Appendix B provides details of investigations that resulted in unfounded dispositions. A founded disposition means that preponderance of the evidence demonstrates that child maltreatment occurred. This determination is to be based primarily upon first source, or direct evidence. A disposition of unfounded means there was not preponderance of the evidence to warrant a founded disposition.

In SFY 2017, the Regional Child Fatality Review Teams conducted reviews of all child deaths which occurred in SFY 2016. There are five regional teams throughout the state; and, they utilize a multidisciplinary approach in these reviews.

Preliminary Summary of Findings

In SFY 2017:

- LDSS investigated 124 child deaths suspected of being caused by abuse or neglect.
- There were 46 children who died as a result of abuse or neglect.
- There were 69 investigations that resulted in an unfounded disposition; eight investigations were incomplete at the time of this report and one was under appeal.
- Fifty-nine LDSS conducted at least one child death investigation.
- The child death rate in Virginia remained the same at 2.5 deaths per 100,000 children in SFY 2017 and SFY 2016, and is slightly above the national death rate of 2.3 deaths per 100,000 children.
- The Eastern Region investigated the most child deaths (42). While the Western Region experienced the highest rate of child death (7.4 deaths per 100,000 children).

- Children who died as a result of abuse or neglect ranged in age from birth to 17 years with more than 83% who were under the age of three.
- More male children (26) died from abuse or neglect than female children (20).
- The race of the children who died as a result of abuse or neglect included: 52.2% who were White; 41.3% who were African American; 4.3% who were multi-racial, and one whose race was unknown.
- Sixty-two caretakers were determined to be responsible for the death of 46 children.
- Thirty-two of the caretakers were female and 26 were male. The gender of four was unknown.
- Seventy-four (74%) of the 62 caretakers were biological parents, and 28 (45.2%) of them were less than 30 years of age.
- Twenty-seven (59%) of the 46 abuse- or neglect-related child deaths involved physical neglect, and 18 (39.1%) child deaths involved physical abuse. Some children died from more than one type of abuse and/or in combination with physical neglect or medical neglect.
- Children were removed and placed into foster care in seven households out of the 32 families who had other children in the home at the time of the child death.
- There were 46 households, including the child care providers, where child deaths were found to be caused by abuse or neglect; 24 families (52.1%) had prior involvement with child welfare.

I. CHILD DEATHS

LDSS conducted 124 investigations involving 124 child deaths suspected of being caused by child maltreatment in SFY 2017. LDSS determined that 46 children died as a result of abuse or neglect; 69 children were in unfounded reports; eight reports were pending at the time of this report, and one was under appeal. This is almost a 4% decrease in investigations from those conducted in SFY 2016 (129).

The Eastern Region investigated the most reports (42) followed by Northern (25), Piedmont (23), Western (18), and Central (16).

As highlighted in Table 1, fifty-nine (49%) of the 120 LDSS investigated at least one child death. Virginia Beach (9), Newport News (7), Norfolk (6) and Portsmouth (6) had the highest number of investigations, not all of which were founded. Norfolk and Virginia Beach represent two of the larger agencies and most populated areas in Virginia; Newport News and Portsmouth investigated fewer child deaths than in SFY 2016 (four and one, respectively).

Table 1: Dispositions of CPS Complaints with a Child Death by Locality SFY 2017

LDSS	Founded	Unfounded	Pending or Appealed	Total
Alexandria		1		1
Alleghany	1			1
Amherst	1		1	2
Appomattox		1		1

Arlington	1		2	3
Bath Co.	1			1
Bristol	1	3		4
Campbell Co.		1		1
Charlottesville	1			1
Chesapeake	1	4		5
Chesterfield	2	1		3
Danville	1	1		2
Essex		1		1
Fairfax Co.		2		2
Fauquier		1		1
Grayson	1			1
Greensville	1			1
Halifax		1	1	2
Hampton		2		2
Hanover	1			1
Harrisonburg		1		1
Henrico	3			3
Henry	1	3		4
James City	1			1
King George		1		1
King William		1		1
Lee	1	1		2
Loudon		1		1
Martinsville		1		1
Mecklenburg		2		2
Newport News	3	4		7
Norfolk	3	3		6
Norton		1		1
Nottoway			1	1
Orange	2	2		4
Patrick	1			1
Petersburg		1	2	3
Pittsylvania		2		2
Portsmouth	3	3		6
Prince Edward	1			1
Prince George		1		1
Prince William	1	3		4
Pulaski		1		1
Richmond City	1	1		2
Roanoke City	1		1	2
Roanoke Co.		1		1
Rockingham		1		1
Russell		1		1

Shenandoah	1			1
Smyth	2			2
Southampton		1		1
Spotsylvania		3		3
Stafford	1	1		2
Suffolk		1		1
Tazewell	1			1
Virginia Beach	4	4	1	9
Washington	1	2		3
Wise		1		1
York		2		2
Total	46	69	9	124

Sources: VDSS, April 2018. Information obtained from LDSS.

As exhibited in Table 2, the percentages of founded versus unfounded dispositions involving child fatalities was the same for founded dispositions and decreased by 11 for unfounded dispositions. The percentage of all investigations in SFY 2017 was approximately 37% founded and 60% unfounded.¹

**Table 2: Dispositions of Child Death Investigations
SFY 2015 - SFY 2017**

	SFY 2015		SFY 2016		SFY 2017	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Founded	52	39.7	46	35.7	46	37.1
Unfounded	72	55.0	80	62.0	69	55.6
Pending/Appealed	7	5.3	3	2.3	9	7.3
Total	131	100.0	129	100.0	124	100.0

Sources: VDSS, April 2018. Information obtained from LDSS.

As shown in Table 3, the death rate for children who died from abuse or neglect remained the same from SFY 2016. According to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) 2016 [Child Maltreatment report](#), the national estimate of child deaths due to maltreatment has increased 7.4% since FFY 2012. While there are fluctuations from year to year, the increase is attributed to the implementation of child death reviews, expansion of the scope of existing reviews as well as consultation of data sources outside of Child Protective Services (CPS). Due to the relatively low frequency of child fatalities, the national rate is sensitive to which states report this data and changes in the child population estimates produced by the U. S. Census Bureau.²

¹ 11,387 investigations completed; 4,230 founded (37%); 6,817 unfounded (60%); and 1,871 other (16%). Source: Virginia Child Welfare Outcome Reports Version 4.36 (May 2018).

² Source: *Child Maltreatment 2016*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children’s Bureau.

**Table 3: Death Rate of Children in Virginia Due to Abuse or Neglect
SFY 2007 – SFY 2017**

SFY	Death Reports Investigated	Deaths Due to Abuse/Neglect	Death Rate (per 100,000 children)*	National Death Rate**
2007	60	29	1.4	2.4
2008	74	35	1.7	2.3
2009	72	34	1.7	2.3
2010	78	44	2.4	2.3
2011	86	30	1.6	2.0
2012	107	37	2.0	2.1
2013	105	33	1.8	2.2
2014	124	47	2.5	2.0
2015	131	52	2.8	2.1
2016	129	46	2.5	2.3
2017	124	46	2.5	2.3

*Death rate is calculated as number of deaths due to abuse/neglect divided by the state child population (2016 = 1,870,123)

Sources: VDSS, April 2018, Virginia Department of Health, Division of Health Statistics.

** Source: *Child Maltreatment 2016*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children’s Bureau.

The *Code of Virginia*, specifically § 63.2-1505 B5, grants certain exceptions to completing child death investigations which require reports or records generated outside the local department, such as an autopsy report. The time needed to obtain these reports or records is not counted towards the 45/60/90 day timeframes. The records must be necessary to complete the investigation and not available due to circumstances beyond the control of the local department. In SFY 2017, this accounted for eight pending investigations, and one is under appeal.

As highlighted in Table 4, the Eastern Region conducted the most child death investigations. The percentage of founded versus unfounded child fatality investigations varied by region. The percentage of founded versus unfounded in *all* investigations also varied by region.³

**Table 4: Child Fatality Investigations and Outcomes by Region
SFY 2017**

	Founded		Unfounded		Pending		Appealed		Total
		%		%		%		%	
Central	9	56.2	4	25.0	3	18.8	0	0.0	16
Eastern	16	38.0	25	60.0	1	2.4	0	0.0	42
Northern	6	24.0	17	68.0	1	4.0	1	4.0	25
Piedmont	7	30.4	13	57.0	3	13.0	0	0.0	23
Western	8	44.4	10	55.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	18
Statewide	46	37.0	69	56.0	8	6.5	1	0.8	124

Sources: VDSS, April 2018. Information obtained from LDSS.

³ The percentages for founded investigations by region: Central- 9.56%; Eastern- 13.64%; Northern- 9.27%; Piedmont- 9.57%; Western- 12.77%. Source: Virginia Child Welfare Outcome Reports Version 4.36 (May 2018).

VDSS also reports by region the ratio of child deaths to the population of children less than 18 years of age, as well as examines the number of child deaths and the percentages of founded and unfounded investigations.

As exhibited in Table 5, the rate of child deaths per 100,000 children has increased in the Eastern Region since SFY 2015; and, the Western Region continues to have the highest rate.

**Table 5: Child Deaths Due to Abuse or Neglect and Rates by Region
SFY 2015-SFY 2017**

	SFY 2015		SFY 2016		SFY 2017	
	Deaths	Rate (Per 100,000)	Deaths	Rate (Per 100,000)	Deaths	Rate* (Per 100,000)
Central	8	2.7	12	4.0	9	3.0
Eastern	12	2.9	12	2.9	16	3.9
Northern	8	0.9	4	0.5	6	0.7
Piedmont	12	5.1	11	4.7	7	3.0
Western	12	10.8	7	6.3	8	7.4

Sources: VDSS, April 2018. Information obtained from LDSS. Virginia Department of Health, Division of Health Statistics.
*The population data used to determine rate per 100,000 for children <18 years of age by region are: Central: 298,894; Eastern: 414,245; Northern: 814,906; Piedmont: 233,843; Western: 108,235.

II. CHILDREN

LDSS investigated the deaths of 124 children in SFY 2017; and 46 children were found to have been abused or neglected. This section provides detailed demographic information and trends for the children involved in child death investigations and who were determined to have been abused or neglected.

As highlighted in Table 6, children from birth to three years continue to be the most vulnerable to death as a result of abuse or neglect. Virginia's percentage for SFY 2017 was 83.1%, which is higher than the percentage throughout the country. Nationally, 70% of all child fatalities in FFY 2017 were children younger than three years of age.⁴

⁴ Source: *Child Maltreatment 2016*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau.

**Table 6: Children Who Died From Abuse or Neglect by Age
SFY 2015 – SFY 2017**

	SFY 2015		SFY 2016		SFY 2017	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Birth to 12 months	22	42.3	28	61.0	28	61.1
13 months to 3 years	20	38.5	12	26.1	10	22.0
4 to 7 years	7	13.5	4	8.7	4	8.7
8 to 12 years	3	5.8	2	4.2	0	0.0
13 to 17 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	8.7
Total	52	100.0	46	100.0	46	100.5

Sources: VDSS, April 2018. Information obtained from LDSS.

As shown in Table 7, there were more male child deaths than female ones in SFY 2017. This is consistent with the national data which indicates that boys experienced a higher fatality rate (2.87 per 100,000) than girls (2.11 per 100,000).⁵

**Table 7: Children Who Died From Abuse or Neglect by Gender
SFY 2015 – SFY 2017**

	SFY 2015			SFY 2016			SFY 2017		
	Number	Percent	Rate (per 100,000)	Number	Percent	Rate* (per 100,000)	Number	Percent	Rate* (per 100,000)
Female	28	53.8	1.97	17	37.0	1.9	20	43.4	2.1
Male	24	46.2	3.04	29	63.0	3.0	26	57.0	2.7
Total	52	100.0	2.51	46	100.0	2.4	46	100.4	2.5

Sources: VDSS, April 2018. Information obtained from LDSS. Virginia Department of Health, Division of Health Statistics.

*The population data used to determine rate per 100,000 for children <18 years of age was females: 915,348 and males: 954,775.

As exhibited in Table 8, 52.2% of the child fatalities in Virginia were White and 41.3% were African-American. The percentage of African-American child deaths remained the same in SFY 2017 and the disproportionate rate (more than 2 times) in Virginia is consistent with the national data (approximately 2 times).⁶

^{5,6} Source: *Child Maltreatment 2016*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children’s Bureau.

**Table 8: Children Who Died From Abuse or Neglect by Race
SFY 2015 – SFY 2017**

	SFY 2015		SFY 2016		SFY 2017		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Rate* (per 100,000)
African-American	17	32.7	19	41.2	19	41.3	4.5
White	34	65.4	21	45.6	24	52.2	1.8
Multi-racial	1	1.9	5	11.0	2	4.3	n/a
Asian	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
Unknown	0	0	1	2.2	1	2.2	n/a
Total	52	100.0	46	100.0	46	100.0	2.4

Sources: VDSS, April 2018. Information obtained from LDSS. Virginia Department of Health, Division of Health Statistics.

*The population data used to determine rate per 100,000 for children <18 years of age was African American: 418,464; White: 1,312,330; multi-racial: not available Asian: 139,329; total: 1,870,123.

III. CARETAKERS

CPS investigates child fatalities that are suspicious for abuse or neglect committed by a caretaker only. Caretakers include childcare providers who are both regulated (licensed) and unregulated (unlicensed).

As shown in Table 9, LDSS determined that there were 62 caretakers responsible for the deaths of 46 children due to abuse or neglect in SFY 2017. Sixteen victims were abused or neglected by two different caretakers. The overwhelming majority of caretakers (74%) were the biological parents, which is slightly below the national data (78%) that indicates the parents acted alone, together or with other individuals.

**Table 9: Caretakers in Child Deaths from Abuse or Neglect
SFY 2015 – SFY 2017**

	SFY 2015		SFY 2016		SFY 2017	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Mother	25	41.7	28	40.0	22	35.4
Father	16	26.7	25	36.0	24	38.7
Stepparent	0	0.0	3	4.2	1	1.6
Grandparent	1	1.7	1	1.4	0	0.0
Uncle/Aunt	2	3.3	0	0.0	1	1.6
Paramour	6	10.0	5	7.1	1	1.6
Childcare Provider	4	6.7	3	4.2	4	6.5
Foster Parent	1	1.7	0	0.0	0	0.0
Legal Guardian	1	1.7	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other adult in home	1	1.7	0	0.0	5	8.1
Unknown	3	5.0	5	7.1	4	6.5
Total Caretakers	60	100.2	70	100.0	62	100.0

Source: VDSS, April 2018. Information obtained from LDSS.

Nationally, perpetrators without a parental relationship to the child accounted for 16.7%.⁷ The identity of four caretakers was unknown. Unknown is used when an investigation reveals that the child was physically abused or neglected, but the LDSS is unable to establish the identity of the responsible caretaker. If new information is received regarding the identity of the caretaker, a new investigation may be conducted. The four childcare providers were not regulated and were subject to licensure.

As highlighted in Table 10, the race of the majority of caretakers (53.2%) was White, which is consistent with previous years.

**Table 10: Caretakers in Child Deaths from Abuse or Neglect by Race
SFY 2015- SFY 2017**

	SFY 2015		SFY 2016		SFY 2017	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
African-American	15	25.0	30	42.9	25	40.3
White	41	68.3	36	51.4	33	53.2
Asian	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Unknown	3	5.0	4	5.7	4	6.5
Multi-racial	1	1.7	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total Caretakers	60	100.0	70	100.0	62	100.0

Source: VDSS, April 2018. Information obtained from LDSS.

As shown in Table 11, there are typically more female perpetrators of child maltreatment than male perpetrators.

**Table 11: Caretakers in Child Deaths from Abuse or Neglect by Gender
SFY 2015-SFY 2017**

	SFY 2015		SFY 2016		SFY 2017	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Female	32	53.3	35	48.6	32	51.6
Male	25	41.7	34	47.2	26	42.0
Unknown	3	5.0	3*	4.2	4*	6.5
Total Caretakers	60	100.0	72	100.0	62	100.1

Source: VDSS, April 2018. Information obtained from LDSS.

*The gender for 4 caretakers is unknown.

As exhibited in Table 12, the ages of caretakers ranged from 17 to 71 years in SFY 2017. The majority of the caretakers (42%) were between 20 and 29 years of age.

⁷Source: *Child Maltreatment 2016*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau.

**Table 12: Caretakers in Child Deaths from Abuse or Neglect by Age
SFY 2015- SFY 2017**

	SFY 2015		SFY 2016		SFY 2017	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Under 20 years	4	6.7	7	10.0	2	3.2
20 to 29 years	23	38.3	33	47.0	26	42.0
30 to 39 years	19	31.7	18	26.0	17	27.4
40 to 49 years	7	11.7	8	11.4	8	13.0
50 or older	3	5.0	1	1.4	3	4.8
Unknown	4	6.7	3	4.2	6	10.0
Total	60	100.0	70	100.0	62	100.4

Source: VDSS April 2018. Information obtained from LDSS.

IV. CATEGORIES OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT

In SFY 2017, 46 children died as a result of at least one type of abuse or neglect. Some children were abused or neglected in more than one way and by more than one caretaker. Of the children who died, 27 (59%) had been physically neglected and 14 (30%) had been physically abused. Four (9%) children died from physical abuse and/or in combination with physical or medical neglect. One (3%) child was medically neglected.

The type of abuse or neglect is not necessarily the *cause of death* for the child. For example, one child was being inadequately supervised when he accidentally shot himself. The manner of death (as determined by the medical examiner) would be accidental; the cause of death (also determined by the medical examiner) would be gunshot wound; and, the type of abuse or neglect (determined by CPS) would be neglect by an act of omission.

As highlighted in Table 13, twenty-seven (59%) of the child deaths involved some type of physical neglect. The most prevalent type of neglect was lack of supervision. Lack of supervision involves a child being left in the care of an inadequate caretaker or in a situation requiring judgement or actions greater than the child’s level of maturity, physical condition and/or mental abilities.

**Table 13: Types of Neglect in Child Deaths
SFY 2015- SFY 2017**

	SFY 2015	SFY 2016	SFY 2017
Abandonment	0	1	0
Inadequate Supervision	35	25	23
Inadequate Shelter	1	7	0
Inadequate Food	0	0	0
Failure to Thrive	0	0	0
Medical Neglect	2	6	1
Other/Unspecified sub-type	1	1	3

Source: VDSS, April 2018. Information obtained from LDSS.

Medical neglect directly caused or contributed to the death of 1 (2.2%) child. Medical neglect involves a caretaker’s failure to obtain a child’s necessary medical care or to follow doctor-recommended medical regimen for the child. See the Table of Founded Child Deaths in **Appendix A** for further details.

As illustrated in Table 14, eighteen (39.1%) children died as a result of physical abuse in SFY 2017. Some children died from more than one type of physical abuse and/or in combination with physical neglect or medical neglect.

**Table 14: Types of Abuse in Child Deaths
SFY 2015 – SFY 2017**

	SFY 2015	SFY 2016	SFY 2017
Asphyxiation (accidental or intentional)	2	2	5
Bone Fracture	2	2	3
Burns	0	1	1
Bruises	2	0	3
Gunshot	3	1	2
Poisoning	1	1	1
Abusive Head Trauma	3	5	2
Stabbing	0	0	0
Internal Injuries	2	3	0
Head Injury	4	6	4
Chronic Physical Abuse ¹	0	0	0
Other or Unspecified Type	3	1	4

Source: VDSS, April 2018. Information obtained from LDSS.

¹Chronic Physical Abuse, formerly known as Battered Child Syndrome.

Abusive Head Trauma (AHT) and Chronic Physical Abuse are diagnoses made by physicians and are based on a pattern of injuries. SFY 2017 saw a slight decrease in AHT-related child deaths.

V. FAMILIES AND THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

When initiating a response to a child fatality report, CPS conducts an assessment of immediate harm or threat of harm toward any sibling(s) or other child(ren) in the home. Based on this initial safety assessment, a safety plan may be developed with the family for a course of action to mitigate any danger(s) or threat(s) of harm. The following information identifies those families and the resulting protective action taken by the LDSS.

As shown in Table 15, there were 46 households, including the child care providers, that involved 46 child death investigations resulting in founded dispositions for SFY 2017; 32 (70%) of those households had other children for whom initial safety was assessed. All of the remaining households had no other children in the home.

**Table 15: Initial Safety Outcomes for Other Children in the Household
SFY 2015-2017**

	SFY 2015	SFY 2016	SFY 2017
	# Families	# Families	# Families
Safety plan with family	13	6	20
Safety plan with relatives	17	15	7
Emergency removal/foster care	3	7	5
Total Families	33	28	32

Source: VDSS, April 2018. Information obtained from LDSS.

In SFY 2017, a plan was developed with 20 households that allowed the siblings to remain in their own home. An additional seven households were able to develop a safety plan with the LDSS that allowed the siblings to remain with relatives, while remaining in the legal custody of the caretakers. LDSS assessed siblings living in five households as unsafe and therefore removed the children by placing them in foster care. The number of children removed and placed in foster care decreased from SFY 2016.

As a result of CPS involvement, families were provided services, to include: grief counseling; burial assistance; substance use assessments and treatment; Family Partnership Meetings (FPM); intimate partner violence services; protective orders; parent education and mental health services. Family Partnership Meetings are usually held when a child is either removed from the home or is at serious risk of being removed from the home. These meetings present an opportunity for family and community participation in the decision making process for children.

As exhibited in Table 16, there were 46 victims (46 households) in founded CPS fatality investigations for SFY 2017; 24 families (52.1%) had prior or active child welfare involvement. Three families were active with the LDSS at the time of the fatality. The percentage of families with prior involvement for child deaths has increased approximately 17% from SFY 2015 to SFY 2017; this increase will be further reviewed and discussed by the regional child fatality review teams.

**Table 16: Prior Family Child Welfare Involvement in Child Deaths from Abuse or Neglect
SFY 2015- SFY 2017**

	SFY 2015		SFY 2016		SFY 2017	
	# Families	Percent	# Families	Percent	# Families	Percent
Yes	16	33.3	24	53.3	24	52.1*
No	32	66.7	21	46.7	22	48.0
Total	48	100.0	45	100.0	46	100.1*

Source: VDSS, April 2018. Information obtained from LDSS.

Some families had prior history in more than one locality

Prior involvement means that the abuser, victim or siblings were previously the subject of a family assessment, an investigation or an ongoing service or foster care case. It does not include any caretaker's history of abuse or neglect that occurred as a child or any reports of suspected child abuse or neglect that did not meet validity criteria.

Prior involvement also includes any open family assessment, investigation or case at the time of the child's death. It may also have occurred in more than one locality or a locality different from where the child died. The following summarizes the prior or current child welfare involvement of the families with founded fatality victims:

1. **Patrick Co.:** In July 2016, there was an open report for physical neglect by the parents involving an infant (the deceased child) at the time of death.
2. **Bristol Co.:** In March 2016, CPS received a report of substance-exposed infant (the deceased child). Services were recommended but declined by the family. In April 2014, an investigation was conducted for physical abuse involving the sibling of the deceased child and an adult in the home. The investigation was founded and ongoing services were provided as a result of the finding.
3. **Richmond:** In June 2016, a report was received for substance-exposed infant (the deceased child). Services were recommended. In February 2016, an investigation was conducted for physical abuse involving a child and the mother of the deceased child. Services were provided.
4. **Fairfax Co.:** In October 2014, a report was received for physical abuse by the father involving the deceased child and sibling. Services were provided.
5. **Charlottesville:** In June 2016, there was an open report for substance-exposed infant (the deceased child) at the time of death.
6. **Shenandoah Valley:** In March 2014, a report was received for physical neglect by the mother involving the deceased child and a sibling. Services were not recommended. In February 2013, a report was received for substance-exposed infant (the deceased child). Services were needed and provided.
7. **Campbell Co.:** In June 2-15, a report was received for physical neglect by the father involving the deceased child and siblings. Services were not recommended.
8. **Roanoke City:** In September 2014, CPS received a report for physical neglect by the father involving the siblings of the deceased child. Services were provided and the local social services agency obtained a protective order. The investigation was unfounded. From 2012 to 2014, two reports were received for physical neglect by both the mother and the father. Services were not recommended in response to either report.
9. **Prince William:** In June 2015, CPS received a report for physical neglect by the father involving the deceased child. Services were not recommended and the investigation was founded.
10. **Newport News:** In February 2016, a report was received for physical abuse by the father involving his biological child. Services were not recommended.
11. **Virginia Beach:** In July 2016, a report was received for medical neglect by the mother involving the deceased child. Services were not recommended.
12. **Chesapeake:** In July 2015, CPS received a report for physical abuse by the father involving a sibling of the deceased child. The investigation was unfounded.
13. **Portsmouth:** In October 2016, there was an open report for physical abuse by the mother involving an infant (the deceased child) at the time of death.
14. **Chesapeake:** In September 2016, there was an open report for physical neglect by the adopted parents involving the deceased child.
15. **Henry Co:** In March 2017, a report was re-opened as the result of preliminary protective order; it was for physical neglect by the parents involving the sibling of the decedent and previously for

the deceased child. Services were provided. In 2016, two reports were received for physical neglect by the parents involving the deceased child. Services were not needed.

- 16. Roanoke City:** In September 2016, the siblings of the deceased child were removed from the father's care and placed with an adult known to them; custody was later awarded to this adult. In September 2011, a report was received for physical neglect by the father involving the siblings of the deceased child. Services were recommended and provided.
- 17. Greensville:** In July 2016, a report was received for physical neglect by the mother and her paramour involving a sibling of the deceased child. Services were not recommended.
- 18. Southampton:** In February 2015, a report was received for physical neglect by the mother involving the siblings of the deceased child. Services were not recommended and a grandparent filed for custody of the siblings. In October 2014, a report was received for physical neglect by the mother involving the siblings of the deceased child. Services were not recommended.
- 19. Sussex:** In February 2016, a report was received for physical neglect by the mother involving the deceased child and siblings. Services were not recommended.
- 20. Nottoway:** In January 2015, a report was received for physical abuse by the parents involving the deceased child's siblings. Services were not needed.
- 21. Portsmouth:** In April 2014, adoption was finalized after prior reports and removals for the other three siblings of the deceased child. From 2010 to 2011, two more reports were received for physical abuse and neglect. The siblings were removed and placed into foster care.
- 22. Newport News:** In March 2017, CPS received a report for physical abuse by the mother involving a sibling of the deceased child. The mother was arrested and the investigation was founded.
- 23. York Co:** In October 2015, a report was received for physical neglect by the parents involving the siblings of the deceased child. Services were not recommended. From 2014 to 2015, there were two reports received for physical abuse. The mother did not follow through with recommendations for services.
- 24. Washington Co:** In December 2010, a report was received for physical abuse by the father involving a child from a previous relationship. Services were provided.
- 25. Henrico Co.:** In February 2008, a report was received for sexual abuse by the mother's paramour involving the sibling of the deceased child. Services were provided; however, the mother ultimately violated a court order and custody of this sibling, as well as another, was given to a relative.
- 26. Tazewell Co:** In June 2016, a report was received for physical neglect by the parents involving the siblings of the deceased child. The family identified multiple supports they had and services were not recommended.
- 27. Henrico Co.:** In May 2015, a report was received for physical abuse by the mother involving a sibling of the deceased child. The child later admitted to lying and no services were recommended.
- 28. Alleghany Co.:** In April 2016, a report was received for physical neglect by the father involving a child from a previous relationship. The child was removed from the father's care and placed into foster care. From 2014 to 2015, two more reports were received for physical neglect by the father involving children from a prior relationship. The children were removed and custody was granted to the biological mother.
- 29. Orange Co.:** In January 2017, a report was received for physical neglect by the mother during the pregnancy of the deceased child. Services were needed and the mother obtained them outside of the agency.

VI. UNFOUNDED REPORTS

In SFY 2016 there were 69 (56%) child fatality investigations with an unfounded disposition. An unfounded disposition does not mean the abuse or neglect did not occur. An unfounded disposition means the investigation lacked a preponderance of the evidence to warrant a disposition of founded.

Of the 69 unfounded reports:

- 49 of the reports (71%) involved a child less than one year of age.
- 33 of the 69 reports (48%) were sleep-related. This means the actual surface the child slept on, with whom the child was sleeping, or how the child was sleeping. This includes children who suffocated or accidentally asphyxiated due to their sleep environment.

Many of the sleep-related child deaths resulted in a determination by a medical examiner that the cause of death was Sudden Unexplained Infant Death (SUID). SUID is a diagnosis of exclusion, made when there is an absence of pathological findings revealing injury, violence, disease, or other fatal medical condition. A SUID diagnosis recognizes a host of confounding factors, most importantly, the presence of unsafe sleep factors and/or medical problems such as pneumonia, prematurity or congestion⁵.

VII. APPENDICES

A. Table of Child Death Investigations with a Founded Disposition

B. Table of Child Death Investigations with an Unfounded Disposition

⁵ Excerpt from Sleep-Related Infant Deaths in Virginia, a report from the Virginia State Child Fatality Review Team. <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/medExam/childfatality-reports.htm>

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AppendixA: Table of Founded Investigations with a Child Death

Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Abuse Type	Previous History	Summary (SUID stands for Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Portsmouth	7/11/2016	2/16/2016	0.4	F	AA	father	27	AA	M	Physical Abuse	No	Child brought to the hospital for illness. Unexplained injuries were later found and the child succumbed to these injuries. In the absence of a plausible cause, the injuries were diagnostic of inflicted injuries.
Bristol	8/11/2016	3/3/2016	0.11	F	W	father mother	31 34	W W	M F	Physical Abuse Physical Abuse	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Child died from non-accidental traumatic injuries. The parents were criminally charged.
Stafford	8/13/2016	3/20/2013	0.5	F	W	father's paramour father	46 40	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child was not properly supervised by the father's paramour and drowned in the family pool. Father left the child with an inadequate caretaker.
Danville	8/13/2016	9/4/2012	3.9	M	AA	father mother	26 27	AA AA	M F	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child sustained a fatal self-inflicted gunshot wound. Currently, there are no criminal charges.
Virginia Beach	8/15/2016	4/5/2016	0.4	M	W	childcare worker- unreg	50	W	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in a pack and play. Cause of death was SUID. Child care provider was criminally charged and also not licensed.
Richmond City	8/18/2016	6/6/2016	0.2	M	AA	mother other	24 24	AA AA	F F	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with co-sleeping.
Roanoke	8/22/2016	1/10/2016	0.11	M	AA	mother	24	AA	F	Physical Abuse	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death consistent with non-accidental inflicted trauma. The mother was criminally charged.
Charlottesville	8/22/2016	6/13/2016	0.2	M	AA	father Other	30 48	AA AA	M F	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. The father was under the influence of illegal substances and did not provide a safe sleeping environment. The father and other adult in the home were criminally charged.
Chesterfield	8/23/2016	5/3/2016	0.3	F	W	child care worker- unreg	53	W	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in a pack and play that also contained a sibling and blanket. Cause of death was SUID. Unlicensed babysitter reported caring for 15 children at the time of the incident.
Hanover	8/27/2016	8/30/2010	5.4	M	AA	father	36	AA	M	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child drowned in a hotel pool (child non-verbal). The father admitted he was asleep while child played a game. Currently, there are no criminal charges.
Prince William	9/7/2016	4/10/2016	0.11	F	W	unknown	Unk	Unk	Unk	Physical Abuse	No	Child stopped breathing. Manner of death was a homicide, evidence of long-term abuse. Currently, there are no criminal charges.

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AppendixA: Table of Founded Investigations with a Child Death

Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Abuse Type	Previous History	Summary (SUID stands for Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Newport News	9/10/2016	3/17/2015	1.5	F	AA	mother other	17 35	W W	F F	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive on the floor. Cause of death was blunt force trauma to the head. Currently, there are no criminal charges.
Lee Co.	9/16/2016	8/23/2016	0.1	M	W	father	24	W	M	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive and face down on the couch. Father was intoxicated while supervising the child. Cause of death was SUID, associated with an unsafe sleep environment.
Virginia Beach	9/27/2016	3/28/2016	0.5	M	AA	mother	26	AA	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive and face down in between a couch and cushion. Cause of death was SUID, associated with an unsafe sleep environment, parainfluenza and premature birth.
Washington	10/26/2016	8/8/2016	0.7	F	W	mother father	25 25	AA AA	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive while co-sleeping with the mother. Cause of death is SUID, associated with an unsafe sleep environment.
Chesterfield	10/31/2016	9/14/2016	0.1	M	W	father	23	W	M	Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive in a crib. Cause of death was undetermined. The father was criminally charged.
Newport News	11/1/2016	8/27/2015	1.2	M	W	Father	25	W	M	Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive by the father. Cause of death due to abusive head trauma. The father committed suicide while in jail on unrelated charges.
Portsmouth	11/5/2016	5/10/2016	0.5	M	W	mother father	23 37	AA AA	F M	Physical Abuse Physical Abuse	Yes	Child found unresponsive. Cause of death was poisoning, with blunt force trauma contributing. Currently, there are no criminal charges.
Arlington	11/17/2016	8/1/2016	0.3	F	W	child care worker- unreg	43	W	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive, face down on a blanket on the floor. The unlicensed babysitter was criminally charged.
Henry	11/27/2016	2/1/2002	14.8	M	W	mother father	48 44	W W	M F	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. The child died from complications of a seizure disorder.
Chesapeake	11/27/2016	7/16/2002	14.4	F	W	Father Mother	31 30	W W	M F	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. The gun was unsecured in the home and the parents had been counseled on gun safety.
Orange	12/15/2016	8/28/2016	0.3	F	AA	father	27	AA	M	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child died as a result of a DUI car crash and not being properly restrained. Currently, no criminal charges.

Preliminary Report on Child Deaths Due to Abuse or Neglect in Virginia During State Fiscal Year 2016

AppendixA: Table of Founded Investigations with a Child Death

Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Abuse Type	Previous History	Summary (SUID stands for Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Henrico	12/28/2016	7/20/2016	0.4	F	AA	other	34	AA	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive on couch. Cause of death was SUID, associated with an unsafe sleep environment.
Patrick	1/3/2016	10/22/2015	0.11	M	W	Mother	19	W	F	Physical Abuse	Yes	Child died from asphyxiation. The mother admitted (several months later) to smothering the child. The mother was criminally charged.
Greensville	1/8/2017	8/7/2016	0.4	M	AA	mother father	26 33	AA AA	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive and face down in the crib. Cause of death was asphyxiation, associated with an unsafe sleep environment.
Shenandoah	1/20/2017	3/21/2016	0.8	M	W	Father	25	W	M	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. The father was criminally charged.
Chesterfield	1/24/2017	11/7/2015	1.2	M	AA	unknown	Unk	Unk	M	Physical Abuse	yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was undetermined. Currently, there are no criminal charges.
Virginia Beach	8/15/2013	9/13/2012	0.9	M	AA	Unknown	Unk	Unk	Unk	Physical Abuse	No	Child found in an adult bed after a house fire. Cause of death was undetermined. Currently, there are no criminal charges. *Child death not initially reported, investigated in SFY 2017.*
Portsmouth	1/26/2017	1/26/2017	0.0	F	Unk	mother	41	AA	F	Physical Abuse	Yes	Child found unresponsive in a plastic bag. The mother was criminally charged.
Bath	2/4/2017	10/20/2010	6.3	F	W	mother	27	W	F	Physical Abuse	Yes	Child was shot in the head with a shotgun, autopsy findings are consistent with homicide. The mother was criminally charged.
Prince Edward	3/16/2017	4/8/2015	1.9	M	AA	unknown	unk	Unk	Unk	Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive in the home by his father. Cause of death was blunt force trauma to the head, the manner was homicide. Currently, there are no criminal charges.
Newport News	3/19/2017	5/31/2016	0.8	M	AA	mother father	31 30	AA AA	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the crib. Cause of death was acute combined overdose and the manner homicide. Currently, there are no criminal charges.

Preliminary Report on Child Deaths Due to Abuse or Neglect in Virginia During State Fiscal Year 2016

AppendixA: Table of Founded Investigations with a Child Death

Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Abuse Type	Previous History	Summary (SUID stands for Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Smyth	4/5/2017	3/21/2017	0.0	F	W	father mother	30 30	W W	M F	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive while co-sleeping with parents in an adult bed. Cause of death was suffocation, associated with an unsafe sleep environment. Both parents tested positive for multiple illegal substances.
Henrico	4/13/2017	7/1/2002	14.8	F	AA	Other	36	AA	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child ejected after MVC and died at the scene. Currently, criminal charges are pending.
Tazewell	4/19/2017	9/20/2016	0.6	M	W	mother father	22 23	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive on the floor and was not being properly supervised by the parents.
Norfolk	4/19/2017	5/12/2013	3.9	M	AA	father	27	AA	M	Physical Abuse	No	Child sustained a fatal gunshot wound. The father was criminally charged.
James City	4/28/2017	1/17/2017	0.3	F	W	father	30	W	M	Physical Abuse	Yes	VC unresponsive after a short fall onto carpet floor. Significant head trauma, indicative of Abusive Head Trauma. The father was criminally charged.
Grayson	4/30/2017	8/21/2013	3.7	M	Multi	Mother	unk	AA	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child sustained fatal injuries after being run over by a car. Currently, there are no criminal charges.
Virginia Beach	4/30/2017	3/18/2017	0.1	F	W	father	43	W	M	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive on a couch. Cause of death was SUID, associated with co-sleeping.
Henrico	4/30/2017	7/2/2011	5.8	M	AA	Uncle	22	AA	M	Physical Neglect	No	Child sustained a fatal, accidental gunshot wound by older sibling. The unsecured gun belonged to a relative, who was providing supervision at the time of the fatal incident. Currently, there are no criminal charges.
Alleghany	5/2/2017	12/18/2016	0.4	F	W	mother	23	W	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the crib. Cause of death was accidental asphyxia, associated with an unsafe sleep environment. Currently, there are no criminal charges.
Smyth	5/2/2017	2/14/2017	0.2	M	Multi	Mother	26	W	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive while co-sleeping with mother in an adult bed. Cause of death was accidental suffocation, associated with an unsafe sleeping environment.

Preliminary Report on Child Deaths Due to Abuse or Neglect in Virginia During State Fiscal Year 2016

AppendixA: Table of Founded Investigations with a Child Death

Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Abuse Type	Previous History	Summary (SUID stands for Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Norfolk	5/6/2017	5/11/2015	2.0	M	W	father	unk	W	M	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in a backyard pool. Currently, there are no criminal charges.
Orange	5/15/2017	5/8/2013	4.0	M	Multi	child care worker - unreg	27	W	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child suffered a fatal gunshot wound to the face. The child care provider was criminally charged and not licensed.
Amherst	5/14/2017	1/13/2002	15.3	F	W	father mother	71 38	W W	M F	Medical Neglect Medical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was bacterial sepsis.
Norfolk	5/28/2017	5/5/2015	2.1	F	W	stepparent mother	27 27	W W	M F	Physical Abuse Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was Hypoxic Encephalopathy of undetermined etiology. The mother and her paramour were criminal charged.

**Preliminary Report on Child Deaths Due to Abuse or Neglect in Virginia During State Fiscal Year 2016
Appendix B: Table of Unfounded Investigations with a Child Death**

Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Previous History	Summary (SUID = Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Chesapeake	7/3/2016	6/9/2016	0.11	M	AA	Mother Grandmother	20 46	AA AA	F F	Yes	Child put to sleep on stomach with pillow under the head. Cause of death SUID associated with prone position and unsafe sleep environment. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Prince William	7/7/2016	2/23/2016	0.4	F	W	Mother	34	W	F	No	Child found unresponsive sleeping in an adult bed. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Appomattox	7/15/2016	7/3/2016	0.0	M	W	Mother	18	W	F	No	Child died from natural causes. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Pulaski	7/22/2016	4/24/2016	0.2	F	W	Aunt	26	W	F	No	Child found unresponsive in bassinet and taken to hospital. Cause of death was SUID, the manner undetermined. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
York	8/3/2016	5/21/2016	0.2	M	W	Grandmother	55	W	F	No	Child found unresponsive in a pack-n-play. Cause of death was SUID, associated with prone sleep position. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Washington Co	8/7/2016	3/5/2016	0.4	M	Unk	Mother Father	23 26	Unk Unk	F M	No	Child found unresponsive sleeping in an adult bed. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Orange	8/10/2016	10/5/2014	1.8	F	W	Unknown	Unk	Unk	Unk	Yes	Child found unresponsive in a bed. Cause of death was undetermined. Currently, there are no criminal charges.
Southampton	8/7/2016	4/3/2016	0.3	M	AA	Mother	21	AA	F	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with respiratory tract infection. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Suffolk	8/13/2016	11/25/2005	10.7	F	W	Father Father's paramamour	48 36	W W	M F	Yes	The child was found with a plastic bag on her head at time of death. Cause of death was undetermined. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Chesapeake	8/18/2016	12/15/2014	1.7	F	W	Grandfather	64	W	M	No	Child found unresponsive and partially submerged in backyard pool. Cause of death was accidental drowning. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Bristol	8/21/2016	7/28/2016	0.1	M	Multi	Mother	21	W	F	Yes	Child found unresponsive. Cause of death was SUID, unsafe sleep could not be determined. No evidence of abuse or neglect.

**Preliminary Report on Child Deaths Due to Abuse or Neglect in Virginia During State Fiscal Year 2016
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Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Previous History	Summary (SUID = Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Bristol	8/23/2016	6/23/2016	0.2	F	W	Grandmother	56	W	F	No	Child found unresponsive in a crib. Cause of death was natural (undetected medical condition.) No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Norfolk	9/14/2016	7/28/2016	0.1	M	AA	Child care worker-unreg Child careworker-unreg	30 29	AA AA	F M	Yes	Child found unresponsive co-sleeping in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with unsafe sleep environment. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Virginia Beach	9/13/2016	6/6/2016	0.3	M	W	Mother Father	31 32	W W	F M	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with an unsafe sleep environment and prematurity. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Newport News	9/21/2016	7/1/2016	0.2	F	Unk	Mother Father	27 34	AA AA	F M	Yes	Child found unresponsive in car seat in the home. Cause of death was SUID, associated with viral tracheobronchitis. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Prince George	9/26/2016	7/19/2000	16.2	M	AA	Other Other	40 40	W AA	F M	No	Child had some medical conditions and died a natural death. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Loudon Co	10/4/2016	9/2/2016	0.1	F	W	Mother Father	20 28	W W	F M	Yes	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was accidental overlay. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Orange	10/4/2016	10/7/2013	3.0	M	W	Grandfather	63	W	M	No	Child sustained fatal head injury in tractor accident. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Norfolk	10/7/2016	10/2/2016	0.0	M	AA	Mother	19	AA	F	Yes	Child found unresponsive in a crib. Cause of death was SUID in the neonatal period. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Pittsylvania	10/11/2016	7/8/2016	0.3	F	Multi	Father Mother	29 24	AA W	M F	Yes	Child found unresponsive. Cause of death was undetermined. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Virginia Beach	10/12/2016	7/4/2016	0.3	F	W	Mother Mother	25 26	W W	F F	Yes	Child died as a result of co-sleeping in an adult bed. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Spotsylvania	10/12/2016	8/28/2016	0.1	M	Multi	Mother	30	W	F	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with unsafe sleep environment. No evidence of abuse or neglect.

**Preliminary Report on Child Deaths Due to Abuse or Neglect in Virginia During State Fiscal Year 2016
Appendix B: Table of Unfounded Investigations with a Child Death**

Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Previous History	Summary (SUID = Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Martinsville	10/19/2016	4/16/2016	0.5	F	AA	Child care worker-unreg Child careworker-unreg	18 47	W AA	F F	No	Child found unresponsive in a bassinet. Cause of death was accidental suffocation, associated with an unsafe sleep environment. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Stafford	10/21/2016	1/3/1999	17.8	F	W	Mother Father	55 61	W W	F M	Yes	Child had been ill and found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was natural causes, specifically pneumonia. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Newport News	11/1/2016	6/22/2006	10.4	M	W	Mother	29	W	F	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Child died of natural causes. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Campbell	11/4/2016	10/10/2015	1.1	M	Unk	Mother Father	33 44	Unk Unk	F M	No	Child found face down in the bathtub. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Newport News	11/18/2016	10/12/2015	1.1	M	AA	Other	25	AA	F	No	Child presented to hospital with breathing difficulties. Cause of death was accidental poisoning. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Halifax	12/6/2016	8/10/2016	0.3	M	W	Mother	34	W	F	Yes	Child found unresponsive in pack and play. Cause of death was asphyxiation, associated with unsafe sleep environment. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Norton	12/8/2016	2/10/2010	6.8	M	Multi	Aunt Mother	60 29	W W	F F	Yes	Child died from natural causes. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Chesapeake	12/16/2016	7/16/2016	0.4	M	W	Grandfather	45	W	M	No	Child found unresponsive co-sleeping in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with unsafe sleep environment and human parainfluenza. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Pittsylvania	12/24/2016	10/30/2016	0.2	M	W	Grandmother	34	W	F	Yes	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with unsafe sleep environment. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Bristol	12/31/2016	4/29/2005	11.7	F	Unk	Mother	40	Unk	F	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was complications of head injury sustained when an infant. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Fauquier	1/1/2017	7/3/2016	0.5	M	W	Mother Father	34 41	W W	F M	Yes	Child found unresponsive in a crib. Cause of death was undetermined. No evidence of abuse or neglect.

**Preliminary Report on Child Deaths Due to Abuse or Neglect in Virginia During State Fiscal Year 2016
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Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Previous History	Summary (SUID = Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Alexandria	1/2/2017	11/25/2016	0.1	F	Multi	Father	25	AA	M	Yes	Child found unresponsive in pack and play with twin sibling. Cause of death was undetermined. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Newport News	1/12/2017	10/22/2016	0.2	F	AA	child care worker-unreg	21	AA	F	Yes	Child found unresponsive in a car seat in the babysitter's home. Cause of death was undetermined. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Portsmouth	1/20/2017	11/10/2016	0.2	F	AA	Mother	22	AA	F	No	Child found unresponsive in bassinet. Cause of death was undetermined. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Roanoke Co	1/21/2017	11/9/2016	0.2	M	AA	Father	41	AA	M	Yes	Child found unresponsive in crib and ruled a natural death. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Rockingham	1/25/2017	11/16/2016	0.2	F	W	Mother	20	W	F	Yes	Child found unresponsive with parents in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with co-sleeping. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Mecklenburg	1/28/2017	7/31/2016	0.5	M	AA	Grandmother	74	AA	F	Yes	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with an unsafe sleep environment and a virus. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
King William	2/12/2017	9/21/2016	0.4	M	AA	Mother Father	35 29	AA AA	F M	Yes	Child found unresponsive by his parents. Cause of death was natural causes. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Portsmouth	2/15/2017	1/4/2017	0.1	F	AA	Mother	25	AA	F	No	Child found unresponsive. Cause of death was SUID, associated with co-sleeping. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Hampton	2/15/2017	4/15/2016	0.8	M	Multi	Mother Father	20 26	Multi Multi	F M	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with co-sleeping and an unsafe sleep environment. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Fairfax Co	2/24/2017	9/6/2016	0.5	F	Asian	Mother Grandmother	27 50	Asian Asian	F F	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was undetermined. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Richmond City	3/1/2017	11/15/2016	0.3	F	AA	Mother Father	27 30	AA AA	F M	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was asphyxiation. No evidence of abuse or neglect.

**Preliminary Report on Child Deaths Due to Abuse or Neglect in Virginia During State Fiscal Year 2016
Appendix B: Table of Unfounded Investigations with a Child Death**

Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Previous History	Summary (SUID = Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Virginia Beach	3/5/2017	5/5/2016	0.8	M	Multi	Father	26	AA	M	No	Child found unresponsive in an empty bounce house. Cause of death was accidental asphyxiation, associated with an unsafe sleep environment. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Prince William	3/6/2017	9/21/2016	0.5	F	Asian	Unknown	unk	Unk	Unk	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Spotsylvania	3/11/2017	9/12/2011	5.5	M	W	Mother Father	43 44	W W	F M	Yes	Child died from natural causes due to an asthmatic attack. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Prince William	3/21/2017	6/4/2016	0.8	F	W	Aunt	33	W	F	No	Child found unresponsive and wedged between adult bed and wall (nap time). No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Fairfax Co	3/21/2017	9/17/2016	0.5	F	AA	Mother Father	24 26	AA AA	F M	Yes	Child found unresponsive by parents in an adult bed. Cause of death was undetermined, associated with an unsafe sleep environment. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Russell	3/26/2017	1/16/2017	0.2	F	W	Mother	32	W	F	Yes	Child found unresponsive on a couch. Cause of death was SUID. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Hampton	3/28/2017	1/28/2017	0.2	F	W	Mother	36	W	F	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SIDS. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Norfolk	4/5/2017	1/9/2017	0.2	M	AA	Father	40	AA	M	Yes	Child found unresponsive in a playpen. Cause of death was natural. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Henry	4/10/2017	9/2/2014	2.6	F	W	Uncle Grandmother	42 63	W W	M F	No	Child died from injuries sustained in ATV accident. Cause of death was accidental blunt force injuries of the head. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Lee Co	4/16/2017	7/24/2014	2.7	F	W	Aunt Uncle	29 29	W W	F M	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was undetermined. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
York	4/27/2017	2/16/2015	2.2	M	AA	Father	28	AA	M	No	Child hit by car in driveway. Cause of death was blunt force trauma, due to accidental auto pedestrian collision. No evidence of abuse or neglect.

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Spotsylvania	5/8/2017	1/9/2017	0.3	M	Multi	Mother Grandmother	24 41	AA AA	F F	Yes	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with unsafe sleep environment. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Petersburg	5/10/2017	5/10/2017	0.0	Unk	AA	Mother	16	AA	F	Yes	Child found deceased in a plastic bag. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Chesapeake	5/13/2017	5/5/2017	0.0	M	W	Mother Father	32 25	W W	F M	No	Child found unresponsive on his back in bassinet. Cause of death was SUID, in the neonatal period. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Essex	5/13/2017	4/28/2017	0.0	F	W	Mother	22	W	F	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was accidental asphyxia, associated with an unsafe sleep environment. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Harrisonburg	5/20/2017	3/19/2016	1.2	F	W	Unknown	Unk	Unk	Unk	No	Child became unresponsive. Cause of death was undetermined. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Wise	5/23/2017	9/25/2013	3.7	M	W	Father	27	W	M	No	Child suffered a fatal injury after motor vehicle crash. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Henry	5/24/2017	6/25/2016	0.9	M	W	Father Mother	17 17	W W	M F	No	Child found unresponsive in a pack and play. Cause of death was SUID, associated with an unsafe sleep environment. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Virginia Beach	5/27/2017	1/12/2017	0.4	M	W	Grandmother Paramour	44 30	W W	F M	No	Child found unresponsive in makeshift bed. Autopsy revealed old rib fractures. Cause of death was SUID.
Mecklenburg	5/29/2017	11/21/2001	15.5	M	W	Father	44	W	M	Yes	Child found with a fatal, self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Danville	5/31/2017	7/23/2013	3.9	F	AA	Mother	25	AA	F	Yes	Child sustained an accidental, fatal crush injury. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Washington Co	6/10/2017	4/5/2017	0.2	F	W	Mother Father	20 31	W W	F M	Yes	Child found co-sleeping in an adult bed. No evidence of abuse or neglect.

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Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Previous History	Summary (SUID = Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Henry	6/22/2017	11/12/2016	0.6	M	W	Grandmother Grandfather	60 60	W W	F M	Yes	Child found unresponsive on an air mattress. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
King George	6/23/2017	3/13/2015	2.3	M	W	Father Mother	44 38	W W	M F	No	Child found unresponsive in backyard pool. No evidence of abuse or neglect.
Portsmouth	6/30/2017	4/27/2017	0.2	F	AA	Mother Father	23 24	AA AA	F M	No	Child found unresponsive in a bouncer. Cause of death was SUID, associated with unsafe sleep environment and prematurity. No evidence of abuse or neglect.