

SUMMARY: FILE REVIEW

Of the Death of a Youth in the Care of the Director in 2020

Circumstances of the Fatality

The review examined the case files of a youth who died. The director was providing guardianship services to the youth at the time of their death.

Findings

There was a delay in assessing the report of neglect. Once the report was assessed, there was a determination there were concerns of neglect, and planning occurred to address the youth's safety. Numerous consultations and significant collaboration occurred to support a plan for the youth to remain with their parent. The youth was eventually brought into the care of the director due to an escalation of the ongoing concerns for their safety and well-being; however, they refused to stay at their placement and returned home to their parent. Significant supports were put in place to regularly assess the youth's safety while in their parent's care, and the director worked with the youth and their parent to develop plans to address the identified concerns. Soon after being placed in the director's care, the youth died.

Actions

The involved Service Delivery Area leadership and the Quality Assurance team developed an action plan to have a discussion with the child protection team leaders focusing on providing services to children throughout the director's involvement; this includes the timeliness of response to reports.

The review was completed in November 2020. The above action plan was fully implemented in November 2020.