



**CRBC**  
Citizens Review  
Board for Children

**SECOND QUARTER  
FISCAL YEAR 2015 REPORT**

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## **Our Mission Statement**

To conduct children in out-of-home care case reviews, make timely individual case and systemic child welfare recommendations; and advocate for legislative and systematic child welfare improvements to promote safety and permanency.

## **Our Vision Statement**

We envision the protection of all children from abuse and neglect, only placing youth in out-of-home care when necessary; and providing families with the help they need to stay intact; children will be safe in a permanent living arrangement.

### Discrimination Statement

The Citizens Review Board for Children (CRBC) renounces any policy or practice of discrimination on the basis of race, gender, national origin, ethnicity, religion, disability, or sexual orientation that is or would be applicable to its citizen reviewers or staff or to the children, families, and employees involved in the child welfare system (CRBC, 2013).

### Confidentiality

CRBC local board members are bound by strict confidentiality requirements. Under Article 88A, § 6, all records concerning out-of-home care are confidential and unauthorized disclosure is a criminal offense subject to a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment not exceeding 90 days, or both. Each local board member shall be presented with the statutory language on confidentiality, including the penalty for breach thereof, and sign a confidentiality statement prior to having access to any confidential information.



## **CRBC's New Assistant Administrator**



The Citizens Review Board for Children has a new innovative Assistant Administrator. We are excited and delighted to welcome Ms. Crystal Young as the newest member of our leadership team. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mass Media Arts/Journalism from Hampton University and a Masters of Social Work from the University of Maryland Baltimore.

Ms. Young previously served as the Program Administrator for the Maryland Commission for Women (MCW), a 25- member group of citizens appointed by the Governor that represent the geographical regions and diversity of the state. Ms. Young provided oversight for all office operations to ensure consistent implementation of the mission and vision of the department.

In addition, she coordinated and planned all of the public events, forums, conferences and other activities that acknowledged extraordinary women and girls for the Commission, such as the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame and the Women of Tomorrow award ceremonies. Ms. Young currently serves as a member on the Striving to Empower People for Success (STEPS) board to develop, mentor and enhance the skills of public assistance recipients to achieve excellence in the workplace through the Department of Human Resources.

In 2011, Ms. Young was the recipient of the Department of Human Resources Customer Service Excellence Award. Prior to serving at the MCW, she worked extensively in the human services field at the Baltimore City Department of Social Services (BCDSS) providing case management to the homeless, crisis intervention, employee development as a trainer, facilitator, public speaker, presenter and subject matter expert.

Also during her tenure at BCDSS Ms. Young served as the Agency's Fatality Reviewer mobilizing and facilitating team briefings to gather pertinent information relevant to the histories of children placed in the care of BCDSS and prepared formal case reviews that assisted in the formulation of agency policies.

## **CRBC Acknowledgements**

The Citizens Review Board for Children (CRBC) would be remised if we did not take the time to acknowledge those who make our mission work! The CRBC program are extremely thankful to all of the people who remain committed to making an effort to keep Maryland's children safe and protected against abuse and neglect.

### DHR/SSA:

CRBC would like to welcome Secretary Sam Malhotra to the Maryland Department of Human Resources (DHR). We could not carry out our mission without the continued support and collaboration from the Maryland Department of Human Resources and the Social Services Administration.

### Courts:

CRBC continues to be committed to working with every Circuit Court in the State of Maryland to further assure that all of the children in out-of-home placements are expeditiously placed within a permanent safe and loving home. Moreover, CRBC would like to thank you for the unremitting request to review individual cases of concern within each circuit and jurisdiction.

### Governor Appointed Volunteers:

To our wonderful volunteers, as always we thank each of you for all of your individual and collective untiring commitment to attend the scheduled local board case reviews, CRBC committee meetings and special events. In addition, your case and systemic advocacy efforts and recommendations are essential to the overall CRBC mission and goals!

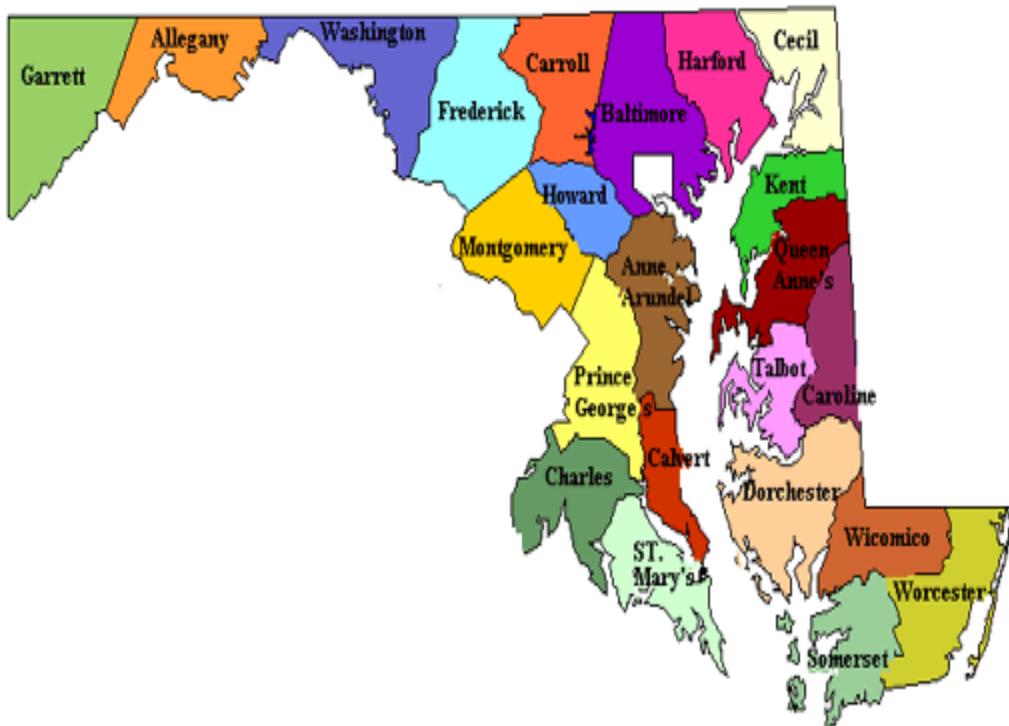
### Coalition to Protect Maryland's Children (CPMC):

As an organizational member of the coalition we are also thankful for your efforts to secure budgetary and public policy resources to make meaningful and measureable improvements in children's safety, permanence, and well-being.



## Introduction

The Citizens Review Board for Children (CRBC) is proud to release its 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Fiscal Year 2015 Report. The following pages will contain an overall view of CRBC's out-of-home case review process, findings, and recommendations.



CRBC conducts out-of-home placement case reviews in all 23 Maryland counties and Baltimore City. However, there were no case reviews scheduled during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter in Allegany, Caroline, Dorchester, Garrett, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Somerset counties. Therefore this 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Fiscal Year 2015 report will only contain findings based on the other 15 Maryland counties and Baltimore City.

## Children in Out-of-Home Care in Maryland

	Goal	Number of Children in OOH Care											
		Goal = 5,621 or less											
		Jul-2013	Aug-2013	Sep-2013	Oct-2013	Nov-2013	Dec-2013	Jan-2014	Feb-2014	Mar-2014	Apr-2014	May-2014	Jun
<b>State Total</b>	<b>5,621</b>	<b>5,887</b>	<b>5,848</b>	<b>5,830</b>	<b>5,815</b>	<b>5,723</b>							
Allegany	81	92	95	93	89	90							
Anne Arundel	173	169	167	167	161	162							
Baltimore City	2490	2,724	2,703	2,698	2,690	2,642							
Baltimore County	586	576	583	593	600	580							
Calvert	97	106	101	100	95	97							
Caroline	40	43	41	41	41	42							
Carroll	48	47	46	49	47	45							
Cecil	144	156	156	152	161	153							
Charles	113	112	109	108	105	107							
Dorchester	24	24	25	25	25	25							
Frederick	156	151	147	150	151	138							
Garrett	39	39	39	39	43	41							
Harford	235	246	250	250	250	254							
Howard	65	68	65	67	68	64							
Kent	6	6	6	6	7	9							
Montgomery	401	394	392	399	398	400							
Prince George's	538	543	533	532	528	519							
Queen Anne's	15	14	13	12	12	13							
St. Mary's	93	92	93	88	87	91							
Somerset	31	32	34	32	32	29							
Talbot	25	28	34	27	27	26							
Washington	162	167	156	148	143	141							
Wicomico	35	34	35	32	33	33							
Worcester	23	24	25	22	22	22							
Source:	MD CHESSIE/SSW OOH Served file (except Baltimore City, which provides raw data)												
Extract date:		Aug-13	Sep-13	Oct-13	Nov-13	Dec-13							

*Data definition: The number of children in out of home care, on the last day of the month. Counted as the number of children with an open removal episode at the end of the month. Source: MD CHESSIE/SSW OOH Served file; Baltimore City raw data.*

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Highlighting Key	
Green	meeting targeted goal or having fewer children in care than established goal
Yellow	up to 15% higher than targeted goal
Red	more than 15% higher than targeted goal

Source: Maryland Department of Human Resources State Stats

## **Targeted Review Criterion**

The Maryland Department of Human Resources (DHR) and the Citizens Review Board for Children (CRBC) has a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). This agreement establishes a joint function between DHR and CRBC with regard to the Child Welfare Accountability Act of 2006 and the Department's Child Welfare Quality Assurance System. The MOA includes targeted review criteria that consist of permanency plans such as Reunification, Adoption, and Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA). In addition, CRBC will also re-review specific individual cases.

### **Reunification:**

- ★ *Already established plans of Reunification for youth 10 years of age and older.* CRBC will conduct a review for a child 10 years of age and older who has an established primary permanency plan of Reunification, and has been in care 12 months or longer. The review will be conducted within 3 months of the next court hearing.
- ★ *Newly changed plans of Reunification for youth 10 years of age or older.* CRBC will conduct a review of a child that has a plan of Reunification within 3 months before the child's 18-month court hearing.

### **Adoption:**

- ★ *Existing plans of Adoption.* CRBC will conduct a review for a child that has had a plan of Adoption for over 12 months. The purpose of the review is to assess the appropriateness of the plan and identify barriers to achieve the plan.
- ★ *Newly changed plans of Adoption.* CRBC will conduct a review of a child within 3 months of the establishment of Adoption as a primary permanency plan. The purpose is to ensure that there is adequate and appropriate movement by the local departments to promote and achieve the Adoption.

### **Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA):**

- ★ *Already established plans of APPLA for youth 16 years of age and younger.* CRBC will conduct a full review for a child 16 years of age and younger who has an established primary permanency plan of APPLA. The primary purpose of the review is to assess appropriateness of the plan and review documentation of the Federal APPLA requirements.
- ★ *Newly established plans of APPLA.* CRBC will conduct a review of a child within 3 months of the establishment of APPLA as the primary permanency plan. Local Boards will review cases to ensure that local departments made adequate and appropriate efforts to assess if a plan of APPLA was the appropriate recourse for the child.
- ★ *Older youth aging-out or remaining in care of the State between the ages of 17 and 20 years old.* CRBC will conduct a review of a youth that are 17-20 years of age. The primary purpose of the review is to assess services provided to prepare the youth to transition to adulthood.

### **Re-Review Cases:**

- ★ *Assessment of progress made by LDSS.* CRBC will conduct follow-up reviews during the previous three months of the current fiscal year of any case where the Local Board identified barriers to adequate progress. The purpose of the review is to assess status and any progress made by LDSS to determine if identified barriers have been removed.

## **Permanency Plan Hierarchy**

In 2005, Maryland House Bill 771 adjusted the state permanency goals to align with the federal standards. The permanency plan hierarchy in Maryland is as follows: (Social Services Administration, 2012):

- Reunification with parent(s) or guardian
- Placement with a relative for adoption or guardianship
- Adoption by a non-relative
- Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA)

## **Family Centered Practice Model**

According to the Social Services Administration, Family Centered Practice assures that the entire system of care engages the family in helping them to improve their ability to adequately plan for the care and safety of their children. The safety, well-being and permanence of children are paramount. The strengths of the entire family are the focus of the engagement (2010).

## **Permanency Plan Recommendations**

### **Reunification**

In accordance with Family Law § 5 539.1, the following CRBC Recommendations are based on the children in out-of-home care case reviews conducted during the Second Quarter of Fiscal Year 2015 with a permanency plan of Reunification.

A plan of Reunification shall be pursued with a reasonable expectation that the plan will be achieved within 15 months from the date of entry into out-of-home placement excluding trial home visits and runaway episodes (Social Service Administration, 2012). The goal of having Reunification as a permanency plan is to expeditiously return the child safely to their own family whenever possible.

- All jurisdictions are encouraged to make reasonable efforts to improve outcomes for children by reducing the median length of time children stay in out-of-home placement (COMAR 07.02.11.02 B 2); and increase the number of reunifications achieved within 12 months of entry into an out-of-home placement (COMAR 07.02.11.02 C 1).
- All jurisdictions are encouraged to make reasonable efforts to increase the identification and development of an appropriate concurrent permanency plan (COMAR 07.02.11.13 B 1).
- All jurisdictions are encouraged to make reasonable efforts to improve documenting health care information such as the Health Passport and MDCHESSIE (Social Security Administration, 2014).
- All jurisdictions are encouraged to make reasonable efforts to improve substance abuse services to all children identified as having a problem with substance abuse (COMAR 07.02.11.08 S 1 and 2).

## **Adoption**

In accordance with Family Law § 5 539.1, the following CRBC Recommendations are based on the children in out-of-home care case reviews conducted during the Second Quarter of Fiscal Year 2015 with a permanency plan of Adoption.

According to the Social Service Administration, Adoption is the preferred placement when a child cannot be returned to his or her parents because it gives the child a new permanent legal family with the same legal standing and protection as a family created by birth (SSA, 2012). However, Adoption by a relative is preferred over Adoption by a non relative; a growing number of children are adopted by their relatives, including grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and older siblings (SSA, 2012).

- All jurisdictions are encouraged to have all children with a permanency plan of Adoption move in a timely and effective manner through the legal process to obtain permanence (Family Law § 5–545).
- All jurisdictions are encouraged to have all children with a permanency plan of Adoption who are age appropriate to receive adoption counseling services. The local departments should provided adoption supportive services to the child (COMAR 07.02.12.04).

- All jurisdictions are encouraged to have all children with a permanency plan of Adoption receive needed medical services for discharge. The caseworker should ensure that any child whose placement changed from foster care placement to pre-adoptive out of home placement receives appropriate physical and mental health care (COMAR 07.02.11.08).
- All jurisdictions are encouraged to have all children with a permanency plan of Adoption receive needed medical services for discharge. The caseworker should ensure that any child whose placement changed from foster care placement to pre-adoptive out of home placement receives appropriate physical and mental health care (COMAR 07.02.11.08).
- All jurisdictions are encouraged to have all children with a permanency plan of Adoption receive needed educational services for discharge. The caseworker should ensure that youth be provided the needed educational services for discharge (Social Services Administration, 2013).
- All jurisdictions are encouraged to have all children with a permanency plan of Adoption have an identified pre-adoptive resource. The local departments are responsible for making every effort to locate an adoptive family for any child who cannot be reunited with his/her birth family (Social Services Administration, 2014).

## **APPLA**

In accordance with Family Law § 5 539.1 the following CRBC Recommendations are based on the children in out-of-home care case reviews conducted during the Second Quarter of Fiscal Year 2015 with a permanency plan of APPLA.

APPLA requires an individual plan for permanency that aims for the most secure and stable arrangement possible, considers not just the child's immediate needs but future needs and promotes the development of supportive community relationships (Social Services Administration, 2012).

The establishment of APPLA as a permanency plan for a youth requires the caseworker to document reasonable efforts made to finalize a preferred permanency plan and must clearly articulate the plan to maximize stability, meet future needs, and encourage the development of enduring support relationships in the community (Social Services Administration, 2012).

The permanency plan of APPLA is not achieved until the youth exits care. APPLA is the



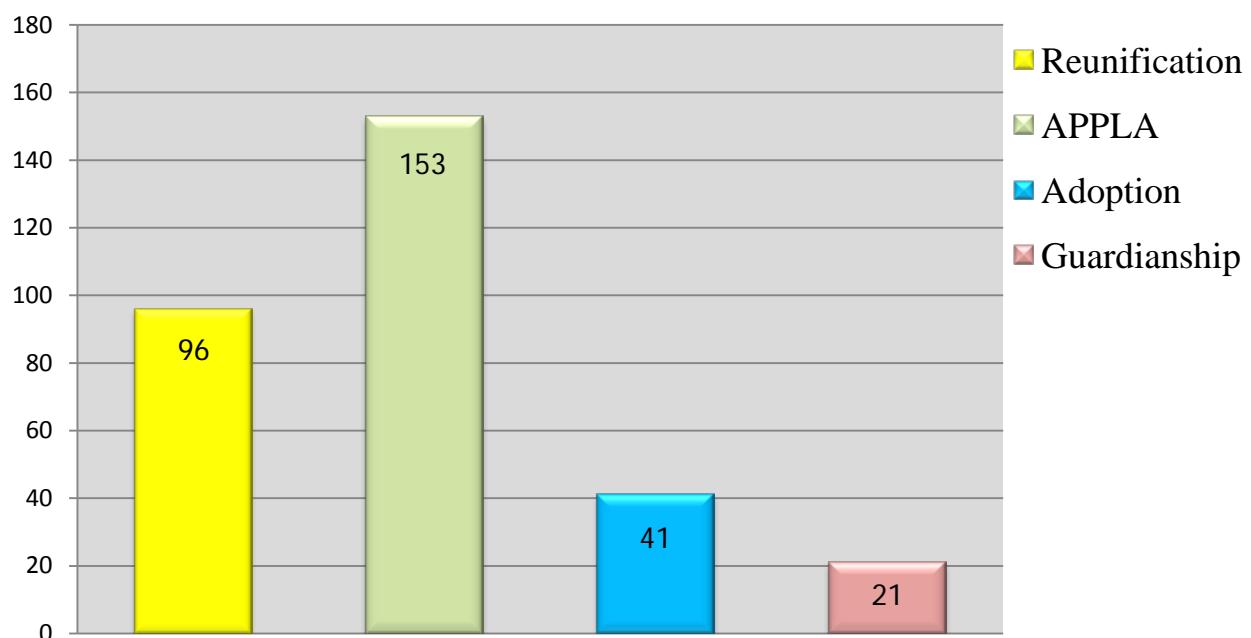
least preferred choice among the permanency plan hierarchy and should be used only when all other plans have been completely exhausted. (Social Services Administration, 2012).

- All jurisdictions are encouraged to have all children involved in the case planning process. Every youth 14 years of age or older shall have Family Involvement Meeting (FIM) that includes transitional planning or independent living service. These meeting should be held annually after the youth's 14<sup>th</sup> birthday until commitment is rescinded (Social Security Administration, 2009).
- All jurisdictions are encouraged to have a signed service agreement with all youth who are 14 years of age or older.
- All jurisdictions are encouraged to have caseworkers have a face-to-face visit with the child at least once a month. The local department caseworker shall have regular visits with the child in out-of-home placement (COMAR 07.02.11.17).
- All jurisdictions are encouraged to have an identified permanent connection for all children with a permanency plan of APPLA. When a youth has a permanent adult connection the youth experiences less rejection, trauma, and emotional instability because of failed placements (Social Services Administration, 2012).
- All jurisdictions are encouraged to have all children with a permanency plan of APPLA assessed for life skills. Every youth age 14 to 21 must have a life skills assessment to determine their strengths and needs in order to develop steps for preparation toward adulthood (Social Services Administration, 2013).
- All jurisdictions are encouraged to have all children with a permanency plan of APPLA with a need for life skills training provided with appropriate trainings. The local department of social services shall ensure when possible all youth 14 to 21 years of age participate in group life skills classes (Social Services Administration, 2013).
- All jurisdictions are encouraged to have complete medical records for all children in out-of-home placements. The local department shall ensure that the child's case record contains the child's medical history and the most recent copies of the child's health care documents (COMAR 07.02.11.08).
- All jurisdictions are encouraged to have all children with a permanency plan of APPLA have an appropriate transitioning planning that includes identified housing. To properly identify the needs of Maryland's youth and ensure that youth obtain the resources and skills needed to be self-sufficient, local

departments should be administering the Maryland Youth Transitional Plan at age 14 to align with the state case plan and Maryland's Ready by 21 Benchmarks (Social Services Administration, 2013).

## Case Review Statistics

### Totals by Permanency Plan



In the Second Quarter of Fiscal Year 2015 (October 1st through December 31st) those 311 regular case reviews consisted of cases with permanency plans of Reunification, Adoption, Another Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA), and Guardianship.

### Gender Totals

Male	Female
151(49%)	160 (51%)

There were 311 regularly scheduled youth reviewed in the FY15 Second Quarter overall, consisting of 151(49%) males, and 160 (51%) females.

### Gender By Plan

#### Male:

Reunification	Adoption	APPLA	Guardianship
52 (34%)	20 (13%)	71 (47%)	9 (6%)

In FY15 Second Quarter, there were 151 youth reviewed who were male. These youth consisted of 52 with a plan of Reunification, 20 males with a plan of Adoption, 71 with a plan of APPLA, and 9 with a plan of Guardianship.

#### Female:

Reunification	Adoption	APPLA	Guardianship
45 (28%)	21 (13%)	82 (51%)	12 (8%)

In FY15 Second Quarter, there were 160 youth reviewed who were female. These youth consisted of 45 with a plan of Reunification, 21 with a plan of Adoption, 82 with a plan of APPLA, and 12 with a plan of Guardianship.

### Ethnicity Overall



African American	Caucasian	Asian	Other
194 (62%)	97 (31%)	2 (1%)	18 (6%)

Of the 311 youth reviewed in the FY15 Second Quarter, there were 194 (62%) who were African American, 97(31%) who were Caucasian, 2 who were Asian, and 18 who were identified as other.

#### Ethnicity By Plan

##### Reunification:

African American	Caucasian	Asian	Other
47 (49%)	40 (42%)	1	8

In FY15 Second Quarter, there were a total of 96 youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Reunification consisting of 47 (49%) who were African American, 40 (42%) who were Caucasian, 1 Asian, and 8 who were identified as other.

##### Adoption:

African American	Caucasian	Other
17 (41%)	17 (41%)	7

In FY15 Second Quarter, there were 41 youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Adoption consisting of 17 (41%) who were African American, and 17 (41%) who were Caucasian, and 7 who were identified as other.

##### APPLA:

African American	Caucasian	Asian	Other
114 (75%)	35 (23%)	1	3

In FY15 Second Quarter, there were 153 youth reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA consisting of 114 (75%) who were African American, 35 (23%) who were

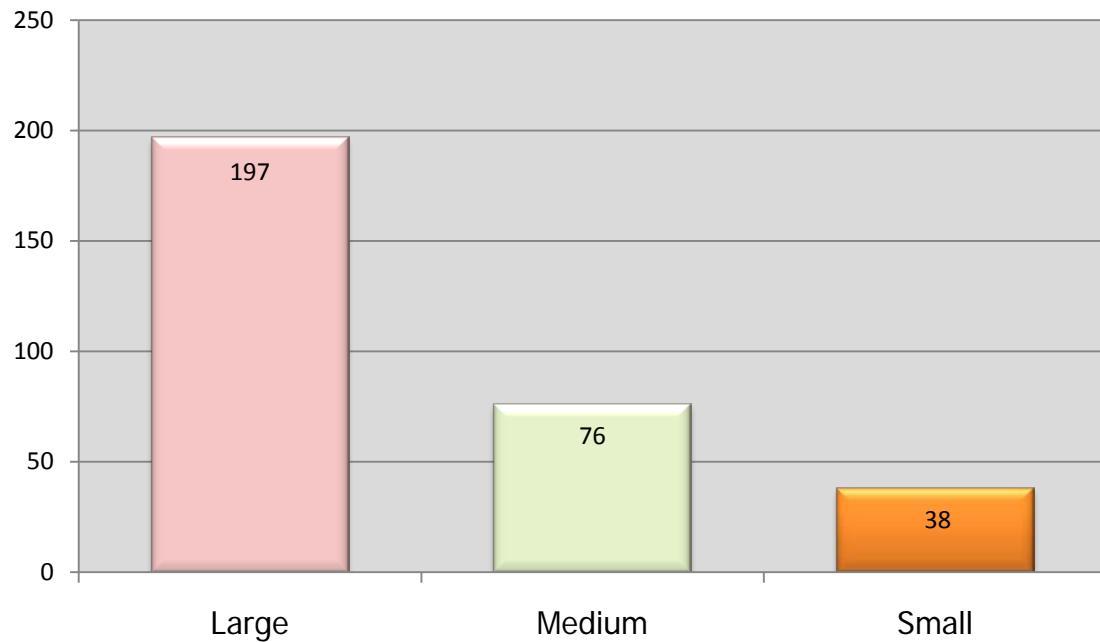
Caucasian, 1 Asian, and 3 who were identified as other.

Guardianship:

African American	Caucasian
16 (76%)	5 (24%)

In FY15 Second Quarter, there were 21 youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Guardianship consisting of 16 (76%) who were African American, and 5 (12%) who were identified as Caucasian.

**Jurisdictional Case Review Totals**



There were a total of 197 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions, 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions, and 38 cases reviewed in the small jurisdictions.

### Large Jurisdictions:

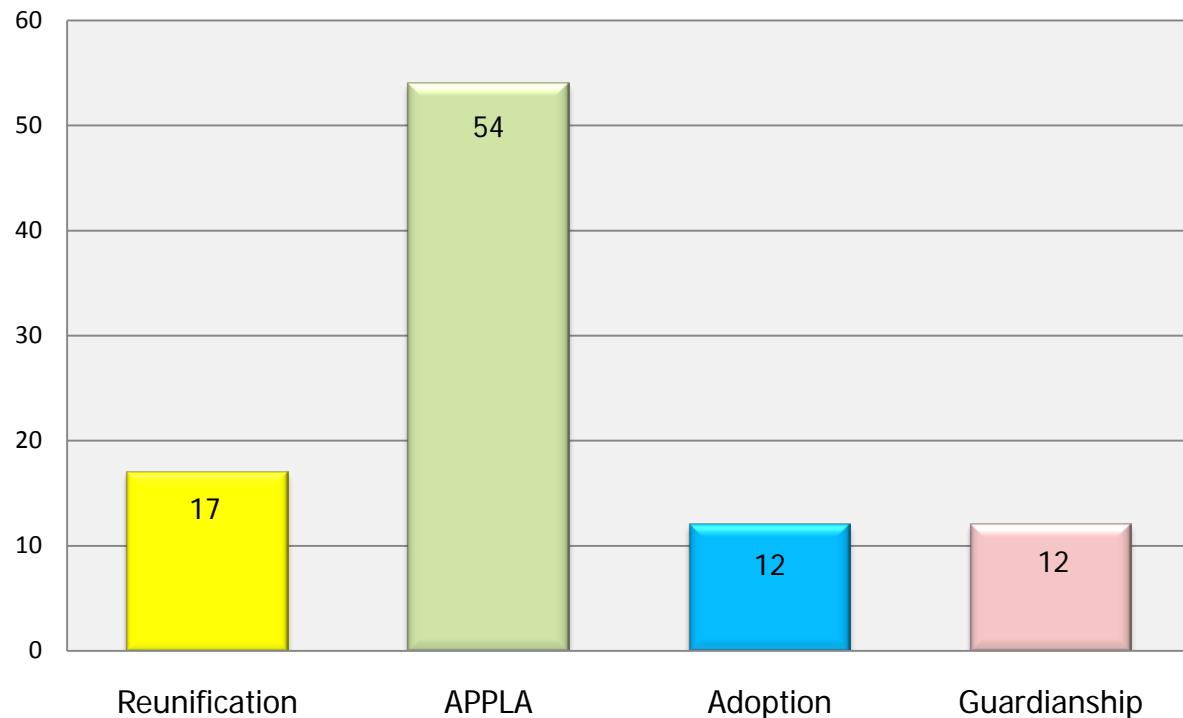
	Reunification	Adoption	APPLA	Guardianship	Total Cases
Baltimore City	17	12	54	12	<b>95</b>
Baltimore County	17	4	17	1	<b>39</b>
Montgomery	12	1	12	0	<b>25</b>
Prince Georges	5	3	28	2	<b>38</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>197</b>

\* Large: 500 cases or more

Out of the 311 regularly scheduled youth reviewed in the Second Quarter of FY15, there were a total of 197 (71%) who were placed within large jurisdictions.

### **Baltimore City**

There were a total of 95 youth cases reviews conducted in Baltimore City in the Second Quarter of FY15.



**Baltimore City Reunification** case reviews made up 17 (9%) of the 197 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

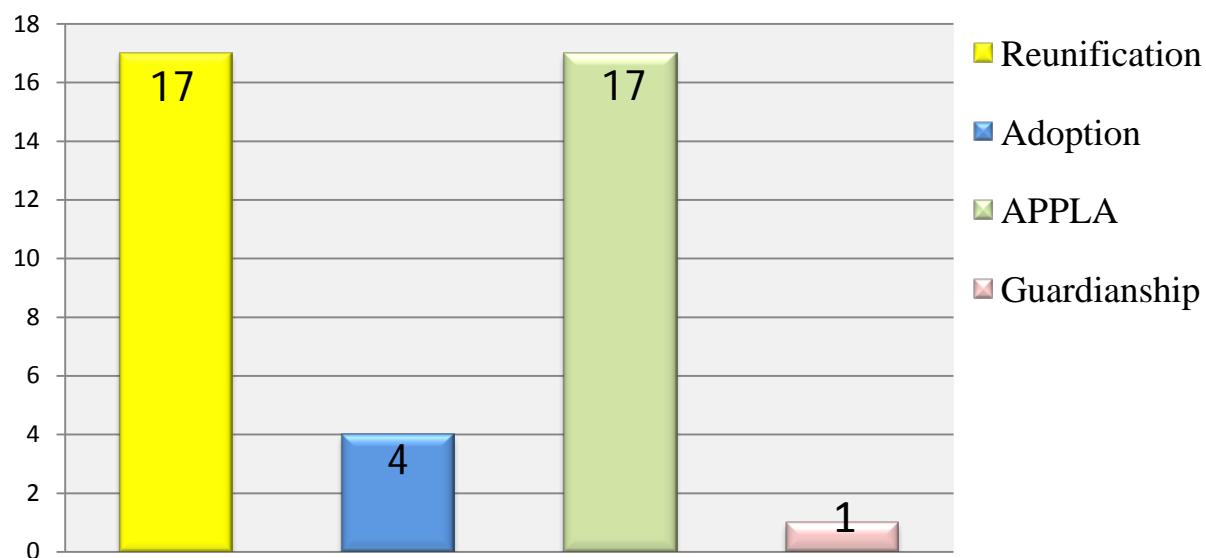
**Baltimore City APPLA** case reviews made up 54 (27%) of the 197 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Baltimore City Adoption** case reviews made up 12 (6%) of the 197 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Baltimore City Guardianship** case reviews made up 12(6%) of the 197 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

## Baltimore County

There were a total of 39 youth cases reviews conducted in Baltimore County in the Second Quarter of FY15.



**Baltimore County Reunification** case reviews made up 17 (9%) of the 197 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

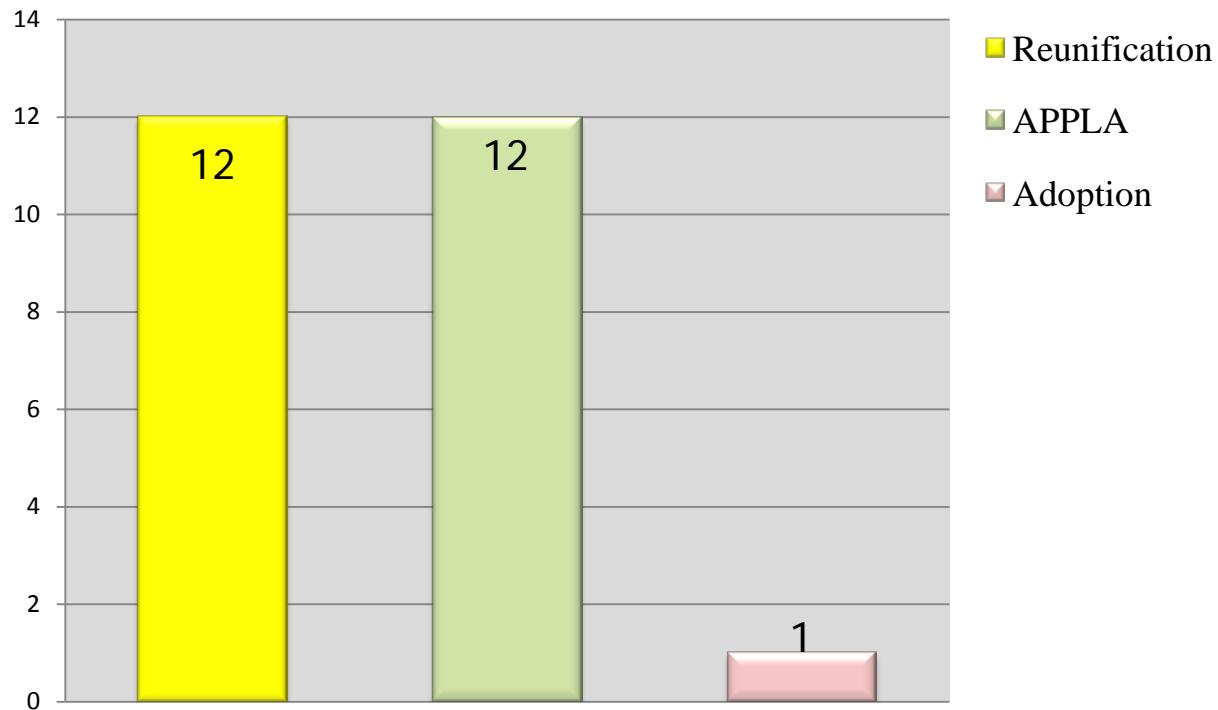
**Baltimore County APPLA** case reviews made up 17 (9%) of the 197 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Baltimore County Adoption** case reviews made up 4 (2%) of the 197 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Baltimore County Guardianship** case reviews made up 1 (1%) of the 197 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

## Montgomery County

There were a total of 25 youth cases reviews conducted in Montgomery County in the Second Quarter of FY15.



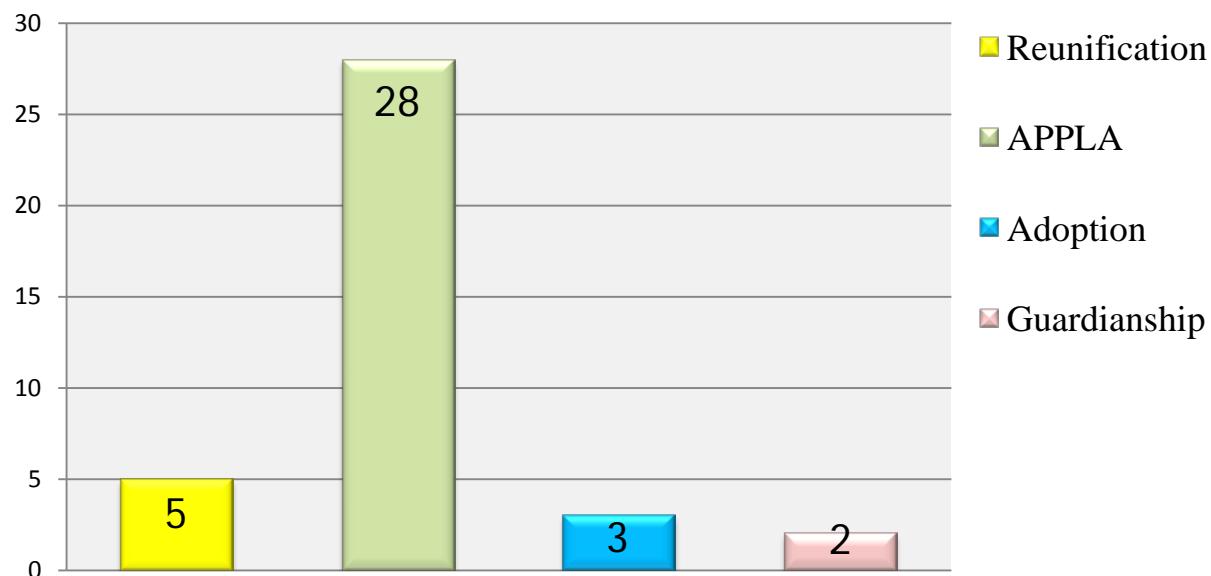
**Montgomery County Reunification** case reviews made up 12 (6%) of the 197 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Montgomery County APPLA** case reviews made up 12 (6%) of the 197 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Montgomery County Guardianship** case reviews made up 1 (1%) of the 197 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

### **Prince Georges County**

There were a total of 38 youth cases reviews conducted in Prince Georges County in the Second Quarter of FY15.



**Prince Georges Reunification** case reviews made up 5 (3%) of the 197 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Prince Georges APPLA** case reviews made up 28 (14%) of the 197 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Prince Georges Adoption** case reviews made up 3 (2%) of the 197 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Prince Georges County Guardianship** case reviews made up 2 (1%) of the 197 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Medium Jurisdiction:**

	Reunification	Adoption	APPLA	Guardianship	Total
<b>Anne Arundel</b>	2	1	7	4	<b>14</b>
<b>Cecil</b>	10	5	3	0	<b>18</b>
<b>Charles</b>	3	0	4	1	<b>8</b>
<b>Frederick</b>	5	2	0	0	<b>7</b>
<b>Harford</b>	1	0	11	0	<b>12</b>
<b>Saint Mary's</b>	5	0	3	0	<b>8</b>
<b>Washington</b>	2	4	3	0	<b>9</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>76</b>

\*\* Medium: 300-500 cases

Out of the total 311 youth reviewed in the Second Quarter of FY15, there were a total of 76 (24%) who were placed within medium jurisdictions.

## Anne Arundel County

There was a total of 14 youth case reviews conducted in Anne Arundel County in the Second Quarter of FY15.



**Anne Arundel County Reunification** case reviews made up 2 (3%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

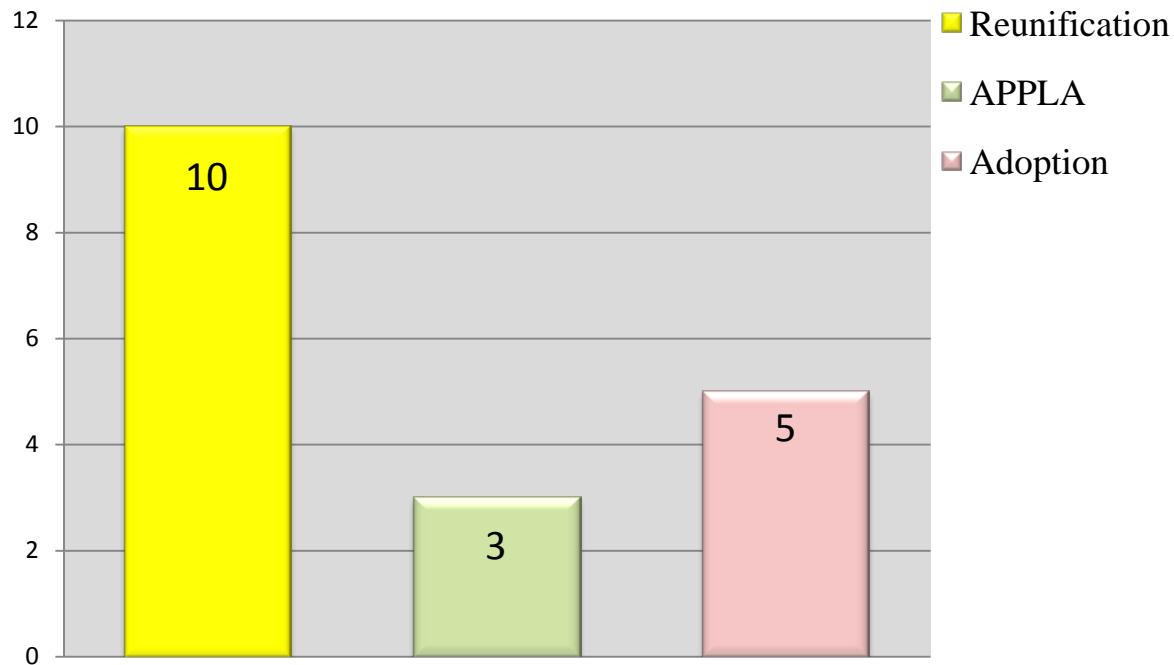
**Anne Arundel County APPLA** case reviews made up 7 (9%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Anne Arundel County Adoption** case reviews made up 1 (1%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Anne Arundel County Guardianship** case reviews made up 4 (5%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

## Cecil County

There were a total of 18 youth cases reviews conducted in Cecil County in the Second Quarter of FY15.



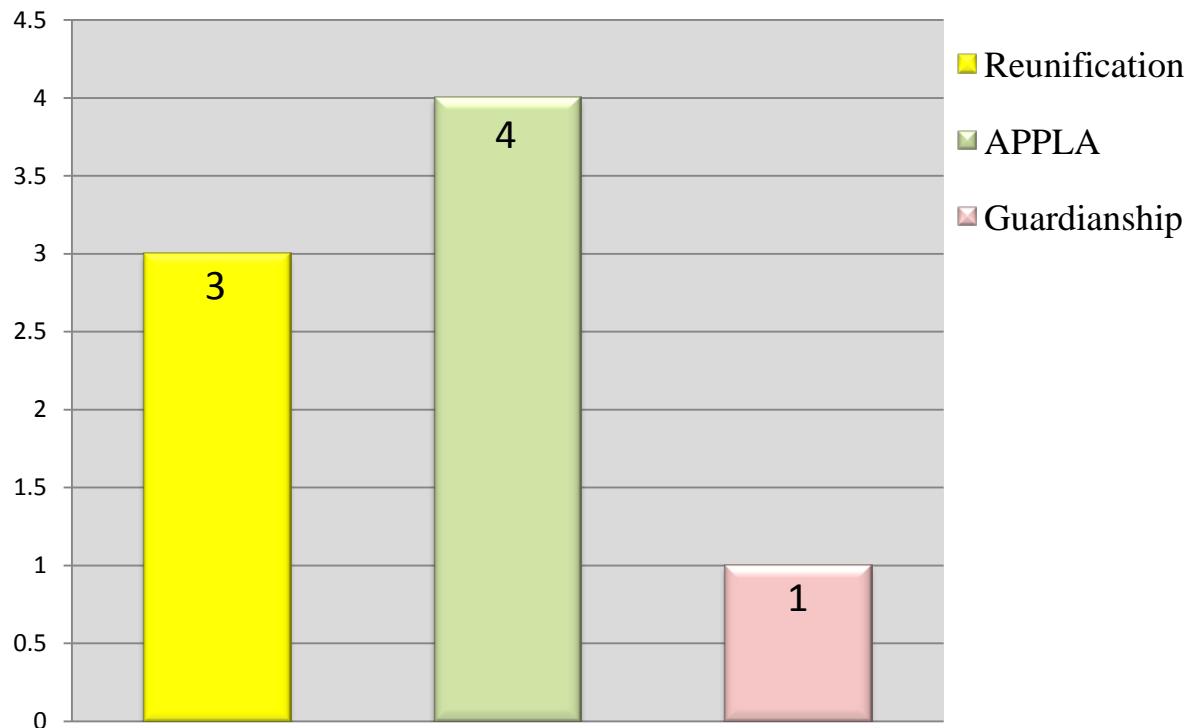
**Cecil County Reunification** case reviews made up 10 (13%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Cecil County APPLA** case reviews made up 3 (4%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Cecil County Adoption** case reviews made up 5 (7%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

## Charles County

There were a total of 8 youth cases reviews conducted in Charles County in the Second Quarter of FY15



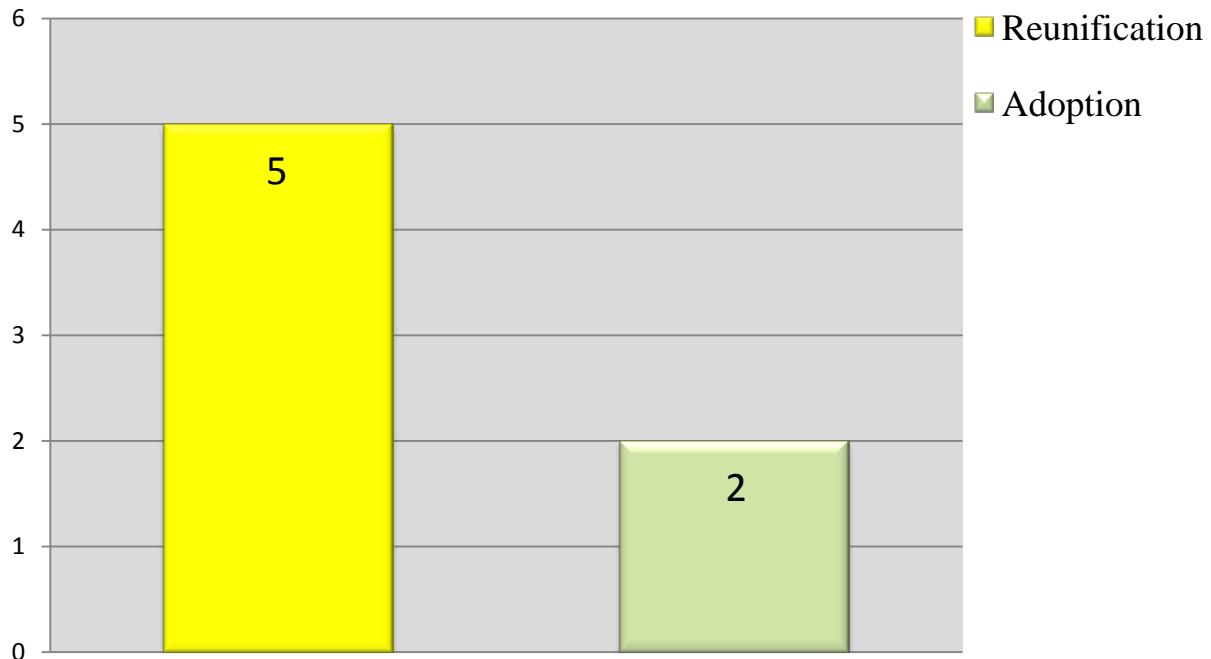
**Charles County Reunification** case reviews made up 3 (4%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Charles County APPLA** case reviews made up 4 (5%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Charles County Guardianship** case reviews made up 1 (1%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

## **Frederick County**

There were a total of 7 youth cases reviews conducted in Frederick County in the Second Quarter of FY15.

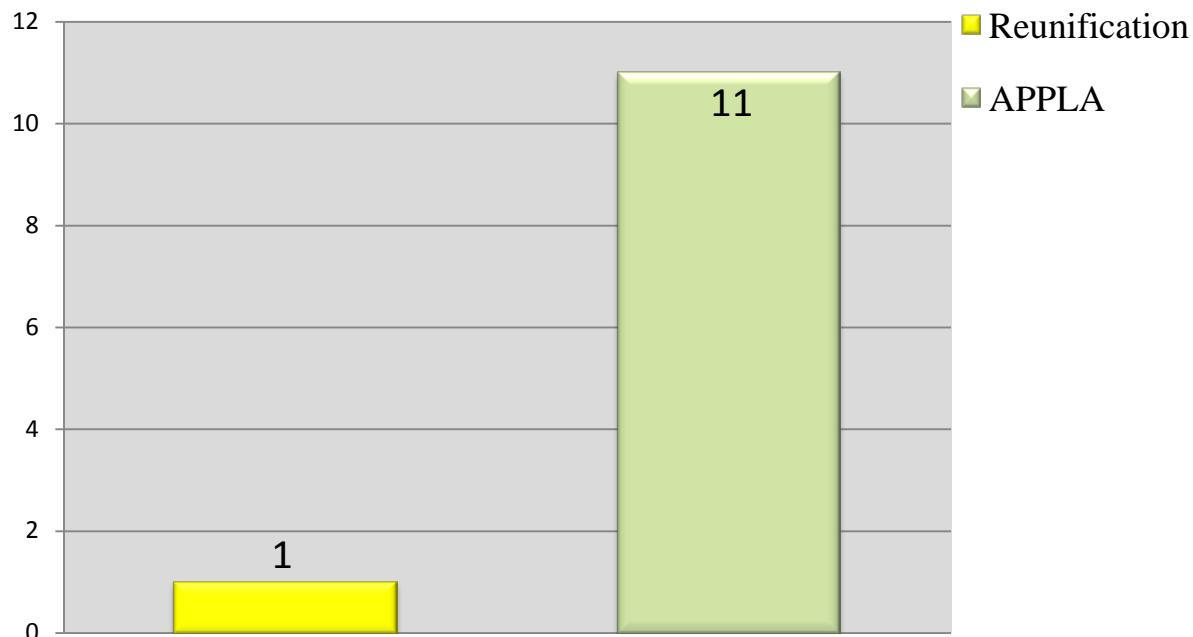


**Frederick County Reunification** case reviews made up 5 (7%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Frederick County Adoption** case reviews made up 2 (3%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

## Harford County

There were a total of 12 youth cases reviews conducted in Harford County in the Second Quarter of FY15

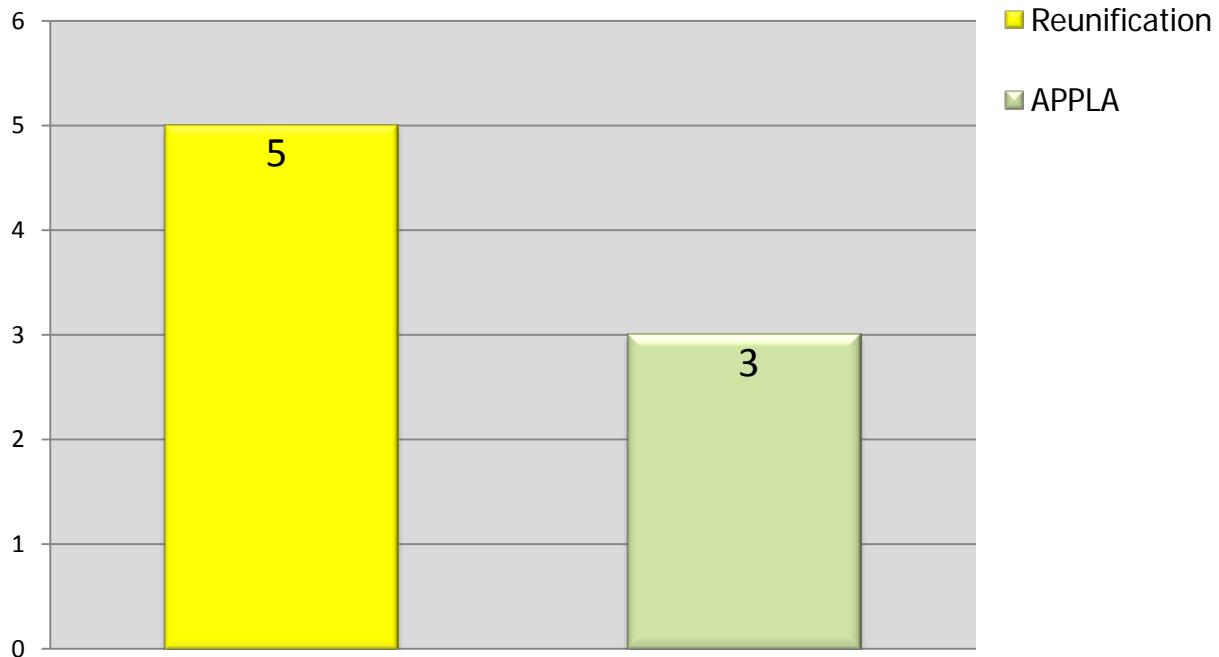


**Harford County Reunification** case reviews made up 1 (1%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Harford County APPLA** case reviews made up 11 (14%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

## Saint Mary's County

There were a total of 8 youth cases reviews conducted in St. Mary's County in the Second Quarter of FY15.

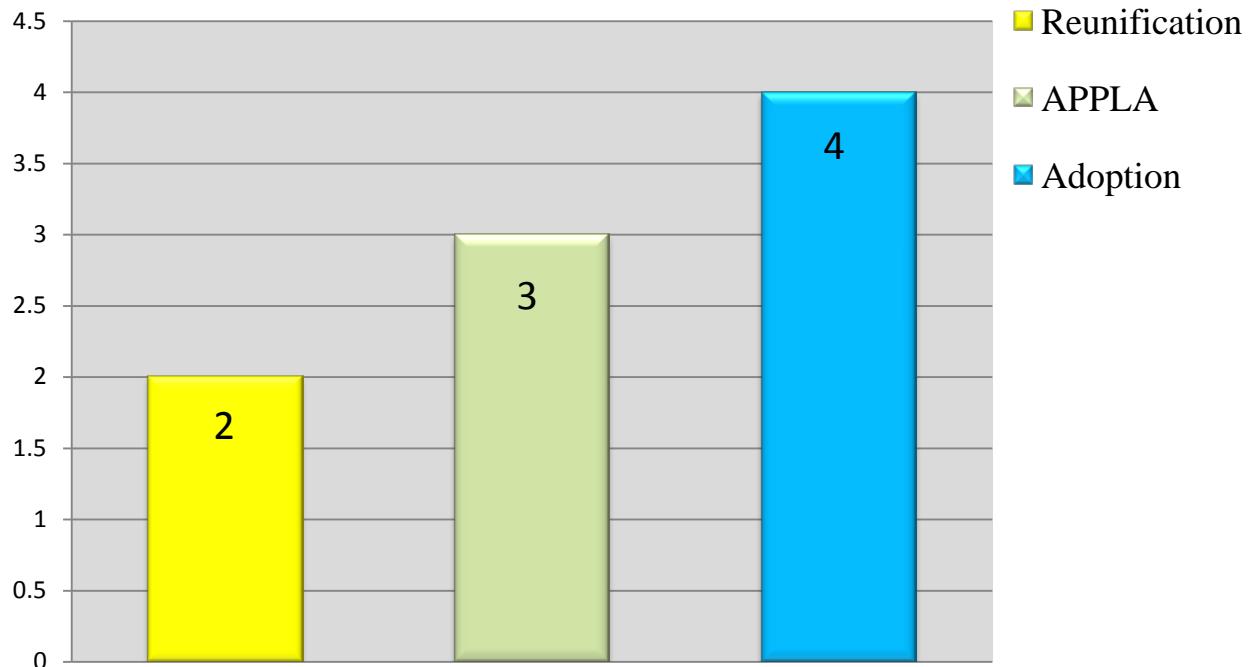


**St. Mary's County Reunification** case reviews made up 5 (7%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**St. Mary's County APPLA** case reviews made up 3 (4%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

## Washington County

There were a total of 9 youth cases reviews conducted in Washington County in the Second Quarter of FY15.



**Washington County Reunification** case reviews made up 2 (3%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Washington County APPLA** case reviews made up 3 (4%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Washington County Adoption** case reviews made up 4 (6%) of the 76 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Small Jurisdiction:**

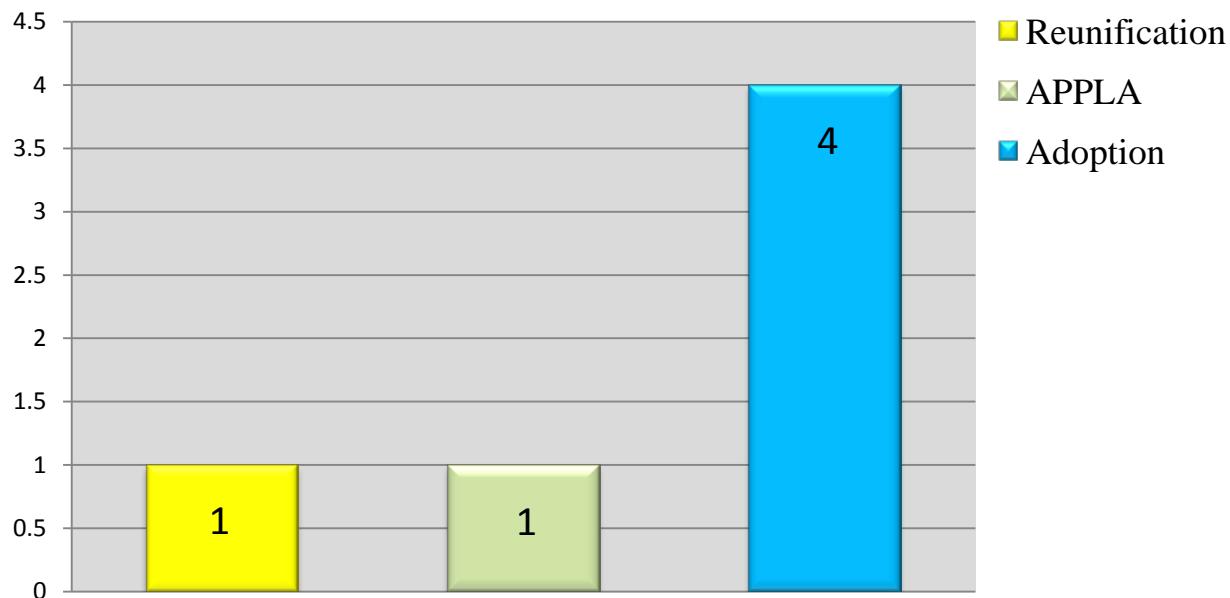
	Reunification	Adoption	APPLA	Guardianship	Total
<b>Calvert</b>	1	4	1	0	<b>6</b>
<b>Carroll</b>	4	0	4	0	<b>8</b>
<b>Howard</b>	5	0	3	0	<b>8</b>
<b>Talbot</b>	7	3	0	1	<b>11</b>
<b>Worcester</b>	0	2	3	0	<b>5</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>38</b>

Note: *Fewer than 100 cases*

There were a total of 38 (12%) out of the total 311 youth reviewed in the Second Quarter of FY15, who were placed within small jurisdiction.

**Calvert County**

There were a total of 6 youth cases reviews conducted in Calvert County in the Second Quarter of FY15.



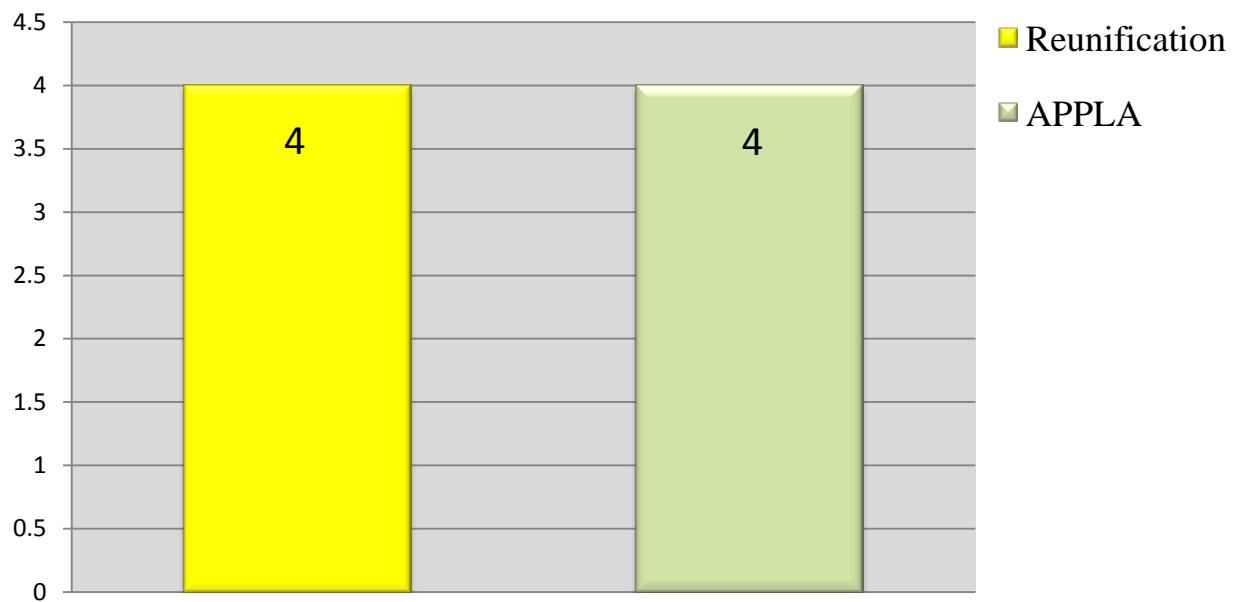
**Calvert County Reunification** case reviews made up 1 (3%) of the 38 cases reviewed in small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Calvert County APPLA** case reviews made up 4 (11%) of the 38 cases reviewed in the small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Calvert County Adoption** case reviews made up 1 (3%) of the 38 cases reviewed in small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

### **Carroll County**

There were a total of 8 youth cases reviews conducted in Carroll County in the Second Quarter of FY15.

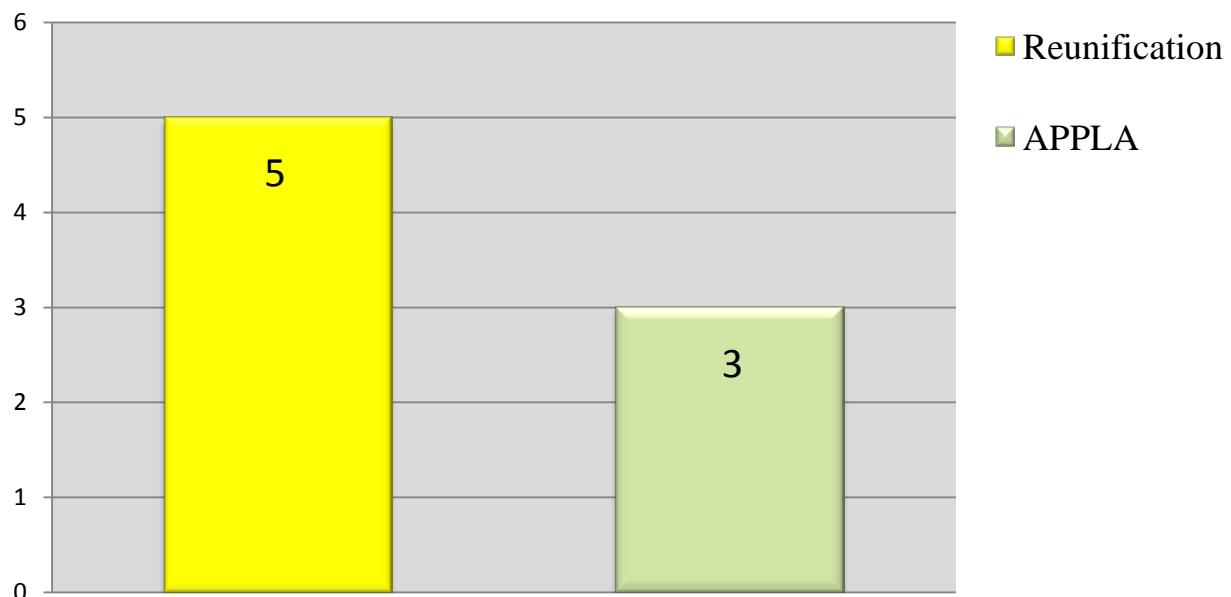


**Carroll County Reunification** case reviews made up 4 (11%) of the 38 cases reviewed in small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Carroll County APPLA** case reviews made up 4 (11%) of the 38 cases reviewed in the small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

### **Howard County**

There were a total of 8 youth cases reviews conducted in Howard County in the Second Quarter of FY15.

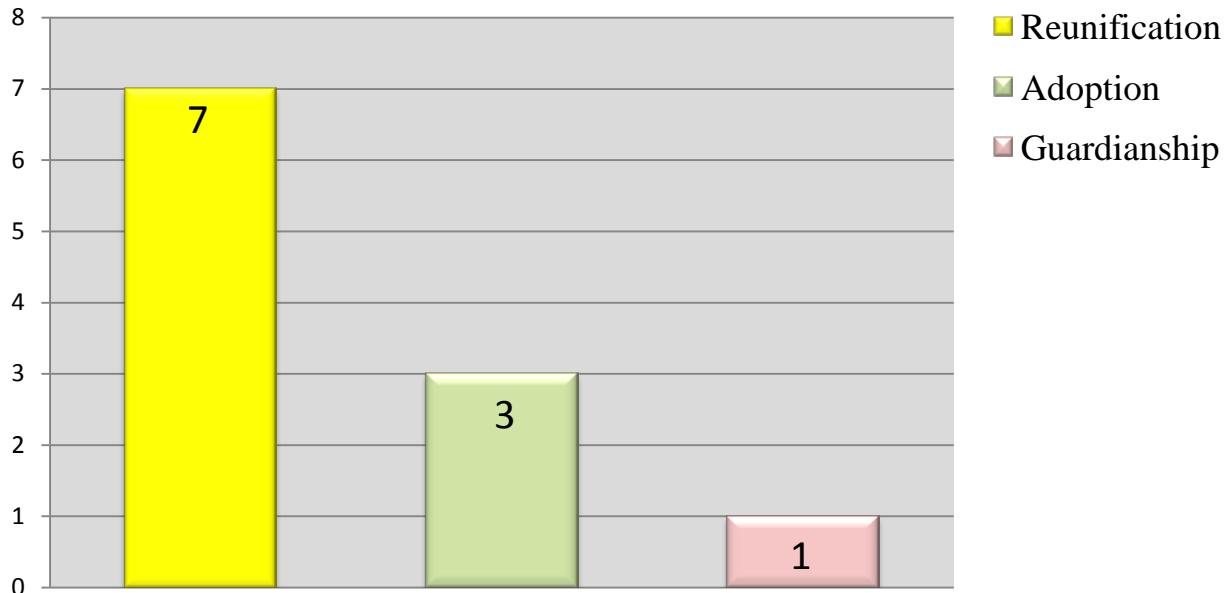


**Howard County Reunification** case reviews made up 5 (13%) of the 38 cases reviewed in small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Howard County APPLA** case reviews made up 3 (8%) of the 38 cases reviewed in the small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

## Talbot County

There were a total of 11 youth cases reviews conducted in Talbot County in the Second Quarter of FY15.



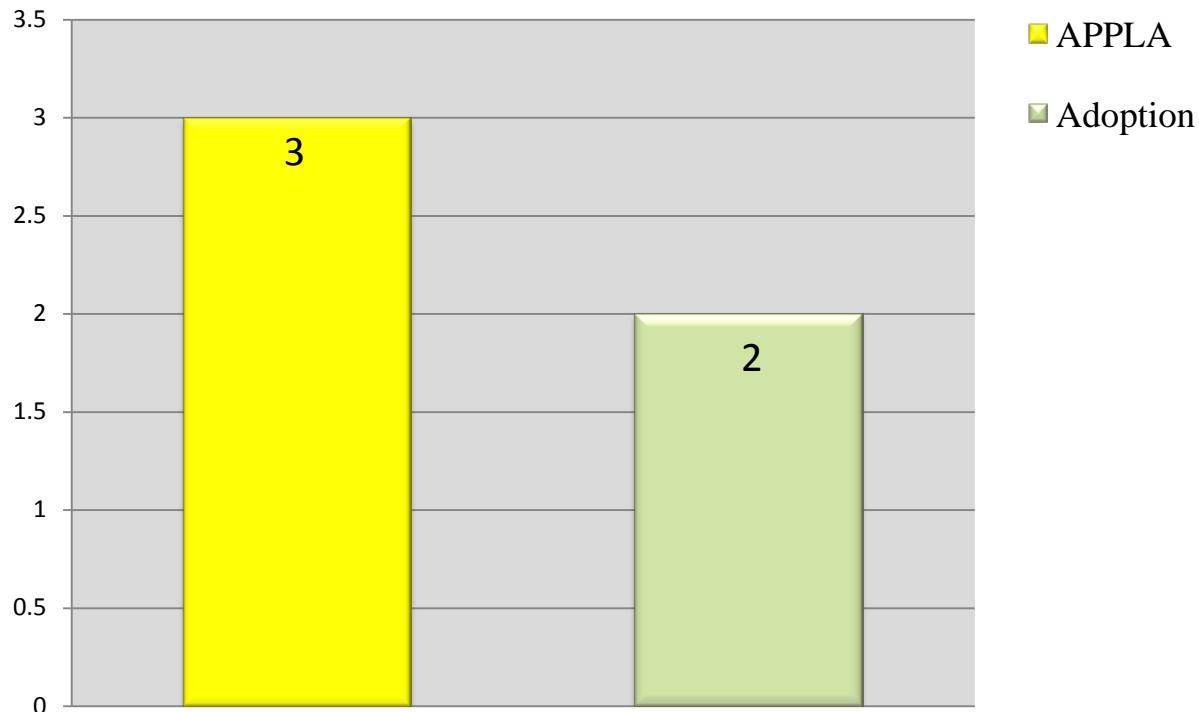
**Talbot County Reunification** case reviews made up 7 (18%) of the 38 cases reviewed in small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Talbot County Adoption** case reviews made up 3 (8%) of the 38 cases reviewed in the small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Talbot County Guardianship** case reviews made up 1 (1%) of the 38 cases reviewed in small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

## **Worcester County**

There were a total of 5 youth cases reviews conducted in Worcester County in the Second Quarter of FY15.



**Worcester County APPLA** case reviews made up 3 (8%) of the 38 cases reviewed in the small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Worcester County Adoption** case reviews made up 2 (5%) of the 38 cases reviewed in small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

## **Recommendations to All Local Jurisdictions**

The Citizens Review Board for Children (CRBC) continues to provide timely recommendations in an effort to improve the systemic provision of public child welfare services, and the CRBC case review process. Therefore, the Second Quarter FY15 recommendations to all local jurisdictions mirror the recommendations submitted in the previous quarter.

### CRBC Refresher:

- Each jurisdiction is being asked to be amenable to an upcoming CRBC request to be periodically placed on an All-Staff meeting agenda. The purpose of CRBC visiting each jurisdiction will be to provide a refresher/re-education about CRBC's mission, and how each local jurisdiction plays a crucial role in the case review process.

### CHESSIE Access:

- Each jurisdiction is encouraged to have a working computer with CHESSIE access for its local DSS caseworkers/social workers use in the designated CRBC case review room. This will allow the DSS caseworkers to have access to pertinent information relating to the case(s) being reviewed.

### Supportive Documentation:

- Each jurisdiction is encouraged to continue bringing case records and/or supportive documentation to *all CRBC case reviews*.
- Each jurisdiction is encouraged to improve their efforts with documenting a concurrent permanency plan.
- Each jurisdiction is encouraged to improve their efforts with getting parents to sign service agreements for those youth with a permanency plan of reunification.

### Interested Parties:

- Each jurisdiction is encouraged to continue supplying CRBC with the most recent and current contact information for all interested parties, including professionals and family members.
- Each jurisdiction is encouraged to include the paternal family members as possible resources for all youth who are in out-of-home care.

- Each jurisdiction is encouraged to have all youth who are 10 years of age and older to attend his/her scheduled CRBC case review.

Independent Living:

- Each jurisdiction is encouraged to have youth who are age appropriate assessed for independent living skills, and linked with identified needed life skills training.
- Each jurisdiction is encouraged to improve their efforts with preparing youth that have a plan of APPLA to meet their employment goals.

Permanent Connections:

- Each jurisdiction is encouraged to improve their efforts with identifying permanent connections for those youth with a plan of APPLA.

Adoption:

- Each jurisdiction are encouraged to have youth that are age appropriate with a permanency plan of Adoption linked with Adoption Counseling services.

## The State Board

Nettie Anderson-Burrs (Chairperson)  
*Representing Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties*

James Trent (Vice Chairperson)  
*Representing Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, and St. Mary's Counties*

Delores Alexander  
*Representing Baltimore and Harford Counties*

Heidi Busch  
*Representing Anne Arundel, Carroll, and Howard Counties*

Doretha Henry  
*Representing Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties*

Sheila Jessup, PhD  
*Representing Baltimore City*

Helen Diane Johnson, MSW  
*Representing Frederick and Montgomery Counties*

Sylvia Smith  
*Representing Baltimore City*

## **CRBC Staff**

George Randall, Ph.D., MSW, LGSW  
*Administrator*

Crystal Young, MSW  
*Assistant Administrator*

Denise Wheeler  
*Staff Assistant Supervisor*

Jerome Findlay  
IT Officer/Scheduler

Fran Barrow  
*Staff Assistant*

Michele Foster, MSW  
*Staff Assistant*

Eric Davis, MSW  
*Staff Assistant*

Marlo Palmer-Dixon  
*Volunteer Specialist*

Cindy Hunter-Gray  
*Lead Secretary*

Desiree Gold  
*Clerk*

Vacant  
*Volunteer Recruitment Coordinator*

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COMAR 07.02.11.08. *Out of Home Placement: Medical Care*. Title 07 Department of Human Resources.

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