

**CITIZENS REVIEW BOARD
FOR CHILDREN**

SECOND QUARTER REPORT – FY 2014



**Citizens Review Board for Children
Fiscal Year 2014 – Second Quarter Report**

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**Citizens Review Board for Children
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Our Mission

Volunteer reviewers monitor child welfare systems and review cases, make findings and

...Children will be safe; be placed in stable, permanent living arrangements without undue delay; enjoy continuity of relationships; and have the opportunity to develop to their full potential.

recommendations, and advocate improving the administration of the system and the management of individual cases. As a result, children will be safe; be placed in stable, permanent living arrangements without undue delay; enjoy continuity of relationships; and have the opportunity to develop to their full potential.

Our Vision

The child welfare community, General Assembly, other key decision-makers, and the public will

...Objective reports on vital child welfare programs and for consistent monitoring of safeguards for children...

look to the Citizens Review Board for Children for objective reports on vital child welfare programs and for consistent monitoring of safeguards for children. The State of Maryland will investigate child maltreatment allegations thoroughly, protect children from abuse and neglect, give families the help they need to stay intact, place children in out-of-home care only when necessary,

and provide placements that consider all the child's needs. Casework will combine effective family services with expeditious permanent placement of children.

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Introduction

The Citizens Review Board for Children (CRBC) continues to support all efforts to provide permanence for children in foster care. CRBC has two major components consisting of the review and monitoring of out-of-home care and child protection. CRBC consists of governor appointed volunteer representatives that serve on local boards in each county and Baltimore City.

During the Second Quarter review period of October 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013; CRBC local boards conducted 218 case reviews for children/youth in out-of-home placement with a primary permanency plan of Reunification, Adoption, or Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA).

Review Criteria

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.

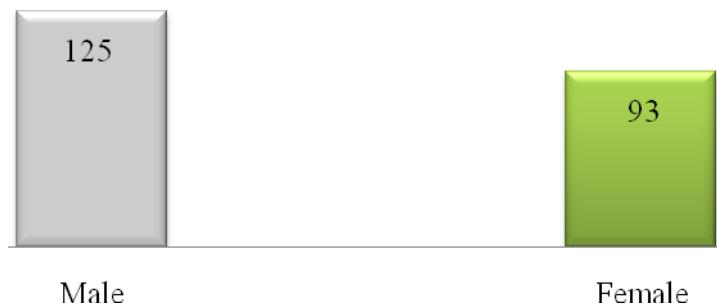
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Review Criteria continued

- *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.

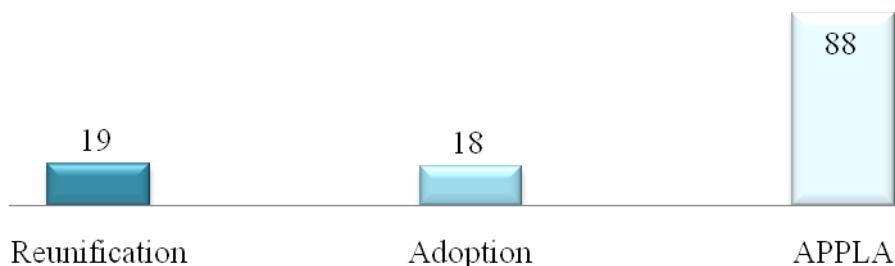
Demographics of Youth Reviewed

Gender – Overall:



There were a total of 218 children/youth reviewed in the FY14 Second Quarter overall, consisting of 93 (43%) females, and 125 (57%) males.

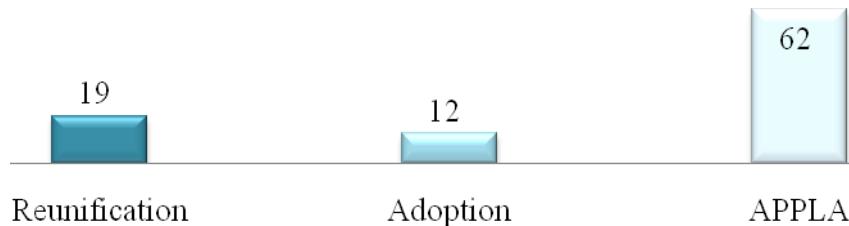
Male by Permanency Plan:



In FY14 Second Quarter, there were 125 children/youth reviewed who were male. These children/youth consisted of 88 males with a plan of APPLA, 19 males with a plan of Reunification, and 18 males with a plan of Adoption.

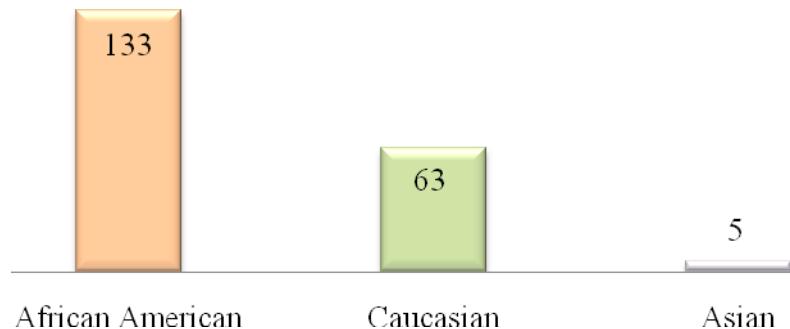
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Female by Permanency Plan:



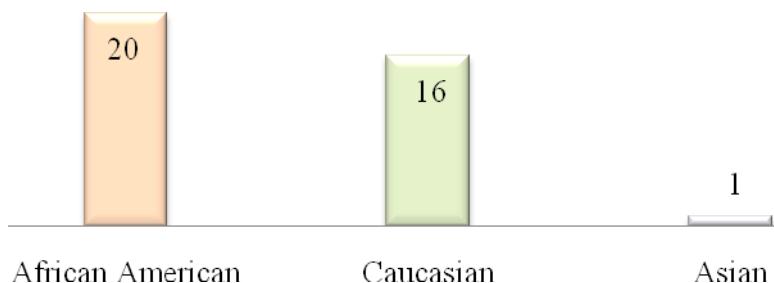
In FY14 Second Quarter, there were 93 children/youth reviewed who were female. These children/youth consisted of 62 females with a plan of APPLA, 19 females with a plan of Reunification, and 12 females with a plan of Adoption.

Ethnicity – Overall:



Of the 218 children reviewed in the FY14 Second Quarter, there were 133(61%) who were African American, 63(29%) who were Caucasian, and 5(2%) of the children/youth reviewed who were Asian.

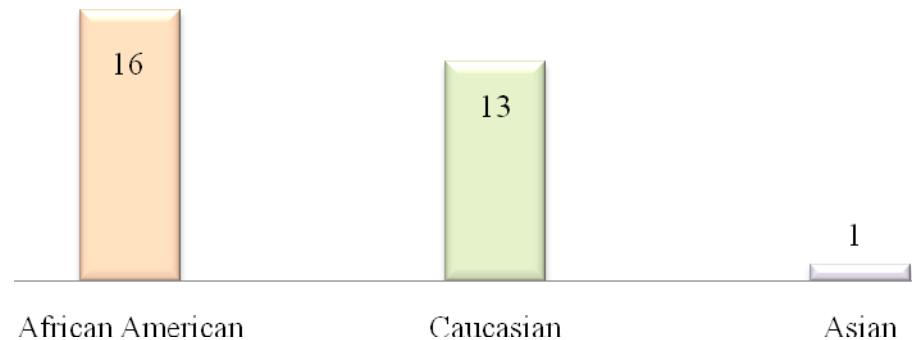
Reunification by Ethnicity:



In FY14 Second Quarter, there were a total of 38 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Reunification consisting of 20 (53%) who were African American, 16 (42%) who were Caucasian, and 1 (3%) who were Asian.

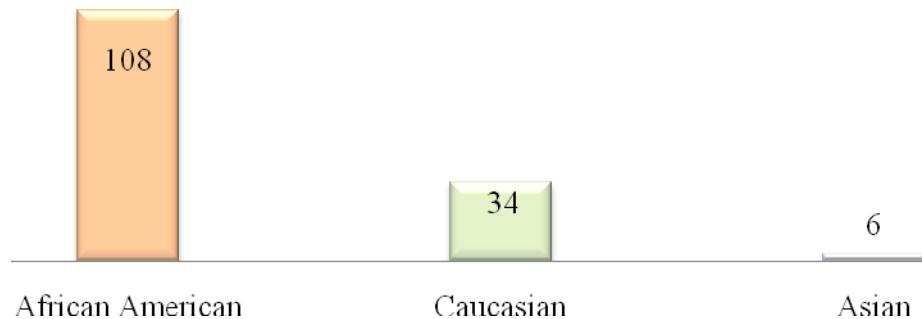
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Adoption by Ethnicity:



In FY14 Second Quarter, there were 30 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Adoption consisting of 16 (53%) who were African American, 13 (43%) who were Caucasian, and 1 (3%) who were Asian.

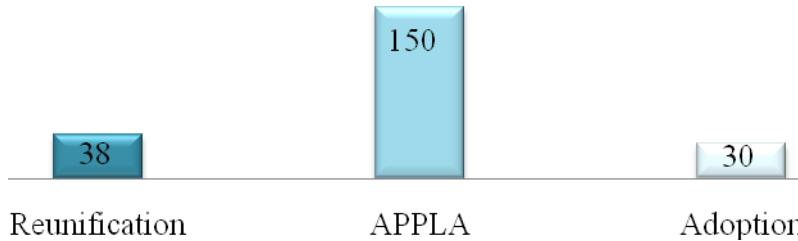
APPLA by Ethnicity:



In FY14 Second Quarter, there were 150 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA consisting of 108 (72%) who were African American, 34 (23%) who were Caucasian, and 6 (4%) who were Asian.

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Overall Permanency Plans Reviewed



During the Second Quarter (October 1st thru December 31st) CRBC conducted 218 reviews of children/youth with a permanency plan of Reunification, Adoption, and Another Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA).

Reunification Case Reviews Overall

Concurrent planning overall:

- There were only 9 (24%) out of the 38 cases reviewed with a plan of Reunification identified as having a concurrent plan.

Local boards permanency plan recommendations overall:

- The local boards did agree with the permanency plan of 29 (76%) out of the 38 cases with a permanency plan of Reunification.

The local boards recommended the permanency plan of the remaining cases be changed:

- APPLA (7)
- Relative Placement (3)
- Adoption (1)

The local boards agreed with the permanency plan of Reunification of 10 (31%) out of the 32 cases.

Length of permanency plan overall:

- There were 20 (53%) out of the 38 with a permanency plan of Reunification from 1 to 2 years.
- There were 10 (26%) out of the 38 cases reviewed with a permanency plan Reunification for 3 or more years.
- There were 3 (8%) out of the 38 cases reviewed with a plan of Reunification for 7 to 11 months.
- There were 4 (10%) out of the 38 cases reviewed with a plan of Reunification for 0 to 6 months.

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Reunification Case Reviews Overall continued

Worker visits with child overall:

- There were 97% worker visits with the children/youth at least once a month/less than twice a month for the 38 cases reviewed with a plan of Reunification.

Placement stability overall:

- There were 11 (29%) out of 38 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Reunification that had 1 placement change in the last 12 months.
- There were 5 (13%) out of the 38 children/youth reviewed that had 2 placement changes in the last 12 months.
- There were 2 (5%) out of the 38 children/youth reviewed that had 3 placement changes in the last 12 months.
- There were 1 (3%) out of the 38 children/youth reviewed that had 4 or more placement changes in the last 12 months.

Family Involvement Meeting:

- There were 22 cases that did not have placement changes.
- There were 8(50%) out of the 16 children/youth reviewed with a placement change in that had a FIM take place with the placement change.

Reason for placement change:

- There were 8 (50%) out of the 16 children/youth with a permanency plan of Reunification that had a placement change for a positive reason.
- There were 3 (19%) out of the 16 children/youth that had a placement change in the last 12 months due to behavioral issues of the children/youth being replaced.
- There were 2 (13%) out of the 16 children/youth that had a placement change due to being a runaway.

Matching children's needs overall:

- There was information indicating that 37 (97%) out of the 38 children/youth reviewed had current placements matching the needs of the children/youth with the provider's ability to meet those needs.

Local boards and placement plan overall:

- The local boards agreed with 37 (94%) out of the 38 children/youth cases with a permanency plan of Reunification placement plans.

Independence overall:

- There were 20 (53%) out of the 38 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Reunification that were age appropriate for independent living preparation, services, and assessment.
- There were 7 (35%) of the 20 children/youth who were age appropriate receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

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Reunification Case Reviews Overall continued

Local boards and life skills overall:

- The local boards agreed with 7 (35%) of the 20 children/youth cases reviewed with a permanency plan of Reunification that were age appropriate for independent living; were receiving required independent living skills.

Service agreements overall:

- There were 22 (58%) out of the 38 cases reviewed with a permanency plan of Reunification with a signed service agreement by the parents.
- There were 8 (21%) out of the 38 cases reviewed with an unsigned service agreement by the parents.
- There were 1 (3%) out of the 38 cases reviewed being reported that there was a signed service agreement by the parents without the required documentation.
- There were 7 (18%) out of the 38 cases reviewed that had a service agreement without a signature by the parents.

Physical and mental health overall:

- There were 21 (55%) out of the 38 cases reviewed with a plan of Reunification that had completed medical records in the file, including physical, dental, vision, and immunization.
- There were 36 (95%) of the children/youth with a permanency plan of Reunification had a comprehensive physical and mental health assessment.
- There were 24 (63%) out of the 38 children/youth reviewed that were prescribed medication.
- There were 4 (11%) out of the 38 children/youth reviewed that have a history of substance abuse problems and all 4 (100%) children/youth are having the substance abuse problem addressed.

Education overall:

- There were 33 (87%) out of 38 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Reunification that were enrolled in school.
- There were 10 (26%) out of the 38 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Reunification that had their school placement remain the same at entry.
- The local boards agreed that the education needs of 35 (92%) out of the 38 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Reunification were being met.

Board and permanency overall:

- The local boards agreed with the permanency plan of Reunification with 37 (97%) out of the 38 cases reviewed.

Re-reviewed:

- The local boards recommended that 26 (68%) out of the 38 cases with a permanency plan of Reunification overall should be re-reviewed.

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Reunification Case Reviews Overall continued

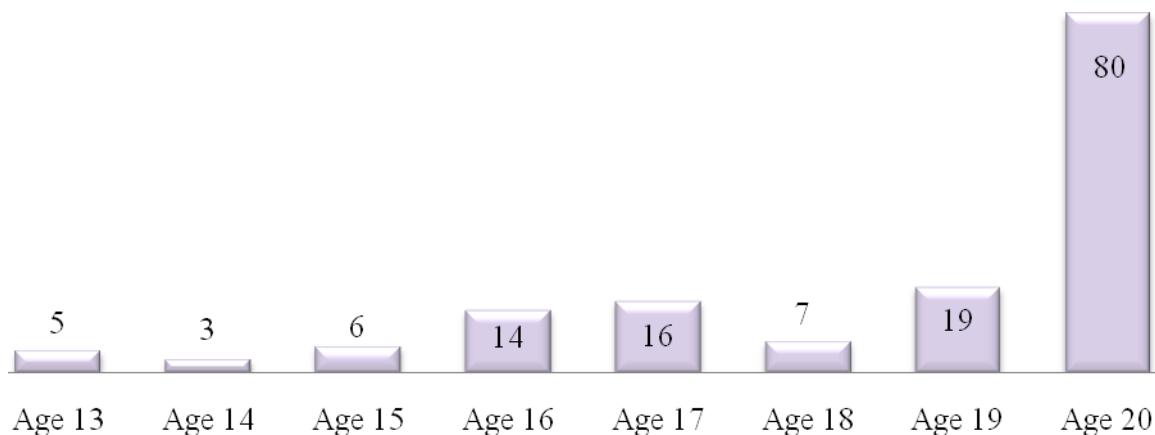
Reviewed timely overall:

- CRBC did review all of the 35(92%) children/youth cases with a permanency plan of Reunification in a timely manner.

APPLA Case Reviews Overall

Overall CRBC reviewed 150 children/youth that had a permanency plan of APPLA in the Second Quarter of FY14.

APPLA By Ages:



APPLA permanency plan overall:

- There were 127 (85%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA that are expected to remain in existing placement until they reaches the age of majority (emancipation/independence).
- There were 12 (8%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed that are in long-term out of home care with a non-relative.
- There were 7 (5%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed that were placed in a long-term care facility until transition to an adult facility.

Plan options overall:

- Reunification was considered for 138 (92%) out of the 150 cases reviewed.
- Relative placement was considered for 135 (90%).
- Adoption was considered for 116 (77%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA.

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APPLA Case Reviews Overall continued

Biological father overall:

- Unable or unwilling to work towards Reunification for 109 (73% cumulative) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA.
 - [including whereabouts unknown (31), or deceased (15)]
- Unable to meet the child/youth's needs for the remaining 41(27%) of the children/youth reviewed.

Biological mother overall:

- Unable or unwilling to work towards Reunification for 111 (74% cumulative) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA.
 - [including whereabouts unknown (15), or deceased (31)]
- Unable to meet the child/youth's needs for the remaining 39 (26%) of the children/youth reviewed.

Consent to adopt overall:

- There were 139 (93%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA did not want to be Adopted.

Length of plan overall:

- 14 (9%) 0 to 6 months
- 13 (9%) 7 to 11 months
- 58 (39%) 1 to 2 years
- 55 (37%) had a plan of APPLA for 3 or more years

Termination of parental rights overall:

- TPR was granted for 18 (12%) cases;
- TPR was not filed for 68 (45%) out of the 150 cases reviewed.

Why APPLA overall:

- 86 (57%) of the children/youth did not consent to Adoption;
- 34 (23%) of the children/youth have a lack of family resources;
- 9 (6%) of the children/youth had a plan of APPLA due to their behavior;
- 11 (7%) children/youth were medically or mentally fragile; and
- 6 (4%) of the children/youth were placed with a long term resources and does not want to adopt.

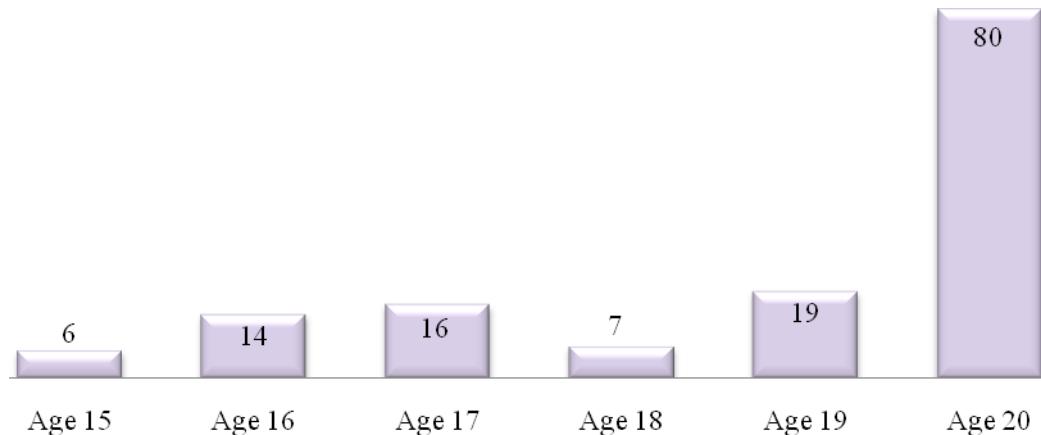
Life Skills overall:

- There were 96 (64%) out of the 150 children/youth cases reviewed were assessed for life skills and have the supportive documentation contained in the case files.
- There were 8 (5%) children/youth that were medically or mentally fragile and could not be assessed for life skills.
- There were 92 (61%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed receiving appropriate life skills services to prepare for independent living.

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APPLA Case Reviews Overall continued

Overall ages of Children with a plan of APPLA 15 years of age and older:



Independent living overall:

- There were 96 (64%) of the 150 children/youth who are age and circumstance appropriate that have been assessed for life skills with an assigned independent living caseworker.
- There were 92 (61%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA who are age and circumstance appropriate that are receiving required independent living skills.

Services needed for discharge overall:

- 90 (60%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed with a permanency of plan of APPLA need housing services;
- 87 (58%) need medical services;
- 75 (50%) need mental health services;
- 70 (47%) need educational services; and
- 67 (45%) need employment services for discharge.

Service Agreement overall: Overall

- There were 63 (52%) out of the 122 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA that had a signed service agreement.
- There were 22 children/youth that were either under age 16, medically fragile, or unable to function and a service agreement is non-applicable.

Case planning overall:

- There were efforts made to involve 108 (72%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA in the case planning process.

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APPLA Case Reviews Overall continued

Family involvement meeting overall:

- There were 84 (56%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed that had a FIM.

Placement overall:

- 42 (28%) independent living;
- 50 (33%) private treatment foster care;
- 2(1%) regular foster care;
- 19 (18%) therapeutic group homes;
- 5 (3%) formal kinship care;
- 6 (7%) residential treatment centers;
- 4 (3%) residential group homes; and
- 3 (2%) were placed in teen mother's programs.

Placement Stability overall:

- 68 (45%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA had 1 placement;
- 24 (16%) had 2 placements;
- 5 (3%) had 3 placements; and
- 1 child/youth had 4 placements.

Placement match with child needs overall:

- There was a match between the children/youth's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs for 142 (94%) out of the 150 cases reviewed with a plan of APPLA.

Board and placement plan overall:

- The local boards agreed with the placement plan of 143 (95%) out of 150 children/youth cases reviewed with a plan of APPLA.

Medical records overall:

- There were 97 (65%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed with completed medical records in the file.

Physical and mental health assessment overall:

- There were 135 (90%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed received comprehensive physical and mental health assessments in a timely manner.

Medication overall:

- There were 42 (28%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed with a plan of APPLA being prescribed psychotropic medications.

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APPLA Case Reviews Overall continued

Mental health care overall:

- There is an identified plan for 52 (35%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed to obtain mental health services in an adult mental health care system.

Board and physical and mental health overall:

- The local boards agreed with that physical and mental health needs are being met with 97 (65%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA.

Permanent connection overall:

- There was a permanent connection identified for 70 (47%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA.
-

Those individuals identified as a permanent connection were:

- 2 (1%) both parents;
- 7 (5%) biological mother,
- 4 (3%) biological father,
- 16 (11%) foster parents,
- 8 (5%) grandparent,
- 8 (5%) aunt or uncle,
- 10 (7%) sibling,
- 3 (2%) other kin, and
- 13 (9%) other.

Board and permanent connection overall:

- The local boards found the 69 out of the 70 identified permanent connections as being appropriate.
- There were 78 (52%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA without an identified permanent connection.

Caseworker visits overall:

- There were 82 (89%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed that were receiving caseworker visits less than twice a month, but at least once a month.
- There were 4 (4%) of the children/youth reviewed that were not receiving caseworker visits less than once a month.

Living wage (\$10 hour) overall:

- There were 10 (7%) out of the 150 children/youth reviewed earning a living wage.

Board and employment overall:

- The local boards agreed that 35 (23%) of the 150 children/youth reviewed were being prepared to meet employment goals.

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APPLA Case Reviews Overall continued

Housing overall:

- There were 53 (35%) out of the 50 children/youth reviewed that were transitioning that had housing identified.
- There were 40 (27%) out of the 50 children/youth transitioning that received information on alternative housing options.

Board and transitional housing plan overall:

- The local boards agreed with the transitional housing plans of 54 (36%) out of the 50 children/youth reviewed that were transitioning.

Re-review overall:

- The local boards recommend that 72 (48%) out of the 150 cases reviewed should be re-reviewed.

Board and permanency plan overall:

- The local boards agreed with the permanency plan of APPLA of 131 (87%) out of the 150 cases reviewed.

Reviewed timely:

- CRBC reviewed 144 (96%) out of the 150 cases in a timely manner.

Adoption Case Reviews Overall

Overall CRBC reviewed 30 children/youth cases that had a permanency plan of Adoption in the Second Quarter of FY14.

Permanency overall:

- The permanency plan of Adoption was established in a timely manner for 28 (93%) out of the 30 children/youth cases reviewed.

Length of plan overall:

- 4 (13%) 0 to 6 months,
- 8 (27%) 7 to 11 months,
- 5 (16%) 1 to 2 years, and
- 13 (43%) for 3 or more years.

Board and concurrent planning overall:

- The local boards agreed that concurrent planning took place for 27 (90%) out of the 30 children/youth reviewed.

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Adoption Case Reviews Overall continued

Termination of parental rights overall:

- There were 22 (73%) out of the 30 cases reviewed that had TPR filed.
- There were 24 (80%) out of the 30 TPR filed were done in a timely manner.

Appeal delay overall:

- There were 4 (13%) out of the 30 cases reviewed and filed for TPR that were delayed by appeal.

Child consent overall:

- There were 14 (47%) out of the 30 children/youth reviewed that consented to being adopted.
- There were 9 (30%) out of the 30 children/youth with a permanency plan of Adoption that were not at legal age to consent.
- There were 4 (13%) that were medically fragile or had mental health issues preventing to consent.

Adoption counseling overall:

- There were 7 (50%) out of the 14 children/youth reviewed that consented to being adopted that received counseling services around Adoption.

Board and TPR overall:

- The local boards agreed that 17 (57%) of the TPR's were done in a timely manner.

Placement overall:

- 9 (30%) had 1 placement,
- 4 (13%) had 2 placements,
- 2 (7%) had 3 placements, and
- 1 (3%) had 4 placements.

Board placement recommendation overall:

- The local boards agreed with 29 (97%) out of the 30 children/youth reviewed placement plan.

Pre-adoptive home overall:

- There were 15 (50%) out of the 30 children/youth reviewed placed in a pre-adoptive home.

Health needs overall:

- There were appropriate efforts to meet the health needs of all 30 (100%) of the children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Adoption.

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Adoption Case Reviews Overall continued

Education needs overall:

- There were appropriate efforts to meet the education needs of 28 (93%) out of the 30 children/youth reviewed.

Medication overall:

- There were 12 (40%) out of the 30 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Adoption that were prescribed non-psychotropic medications.
- There were 14 (47%) out of the 30 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Adoption that were prescribed psychotropic medications.

Behavioral issues:

- There were 16 (53%) out of the 30 children/youth reviewed that had behavioral issues.

Caseworker visits overall:

- There were 29 (97%) out of the 30 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Adoption that received a caseworker visit less than twice a month, but at least once a month.

Agency related Adoption barriers overall:

- There were 8 (27%) out of the 30 children/youth had no pre-adoptive resource identified.
- There were 2 (7%) out of the 30 children/youth with a lack of concurrent planning.
- There were 1 (3%) child/youth with an inadequate pool of prospective adoptive families.
- There were 2 (7%) out of the 30 children/youth with the notification not published.
- There were 3 (10%) out of the 30 children/youth with permanency goals not established timely.

Court related Adoption barriers overall:

- There were 6 (20%) out of the 30 children/youth had TPR denied.
- There were 2 (7%) out of the 30 children/youth with parents appealing TPR.
- There were 4 (13%) out of the 30 children/youth without a finalized pre-adoptive home.

Child related Adoption barriers overall:

- There were 3 (10%) out of the 30 children/youth did not consent to adoption.
- There were 4 (13%) out of the 30 children/youth had behavior problems in the home.

Family related Adoption barriers overall:

- There was 1 (3%) out of the 30 children/youth's had an identified resource but the family wanted a child with little special needs.
- There were 2 (7%) out of the 30 children/youth had pre-adoptive foster parents that couldn't decide to adopt.

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Adoption Case Reviews Overall continued

Re-reviewed overall:

- The local boards recommends 24 (80%) of the 30 Adoption cases reviewed should be re-reviewed.

Board and permanency plan overall:

- The local boards agreed with the permanency plan of Adoption with 20 (67%) of the 30 cases reviewed.

Reviewed timely:

- CRBC reviewed 29 (97%) out of the 30 cases in a timely manner.

Jurisdictions

Maryland is comprised of 23 counties and Baltimore City. The Department of Human Resources (DHR) identifies jurisdictions according to caseload size such as large, medium, and small.

Large Jurisdictions:

	Reunification	Adoption	APPLA	Total Cases
Baltimore City	15	7	61	83
Baltimore County	4		25	29
Montgomery County	4	2	9	15
Prince Georges County	2	5	22	29
Total	25	14	117	156

*Large: 500 cases or more

Out of the 218 children/youth reviewed in the Second Quarter of FY14, there were a total of 156 (72%) who were placed within large jurisdictions.

Reunification within large jurisdiction cases made up 25 (16%) of the 156 children/youth reviewed in the Second Quarter.

- There are plans to return 20 (80%) of the 25 children/youth to the biological mothers.
- There are plans to return 2(8%) of the 25 children/youth to the biological fathers.
- There are plans to return 2 (8%) of the 25 children/youth to both biological parents.

APPLA within large jurisdiction cases made up 117 (75%) of the 156 children/youth reviewed.

**Citizens Review Board for Children
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Large Jurisdictions continued:

Length of APPLA plan within large jurisdiction:

- There were 13 (11%) children/youth reviewed who had a permanency plan of APPLA from 0 to 6 months.
- There were 11(9%) children/youth reviewed who had a permanency plan of APPLA from 7-11 months.
- There were 46 (39%) children/youth reviewed who had a permanency plan of APPLA from 1 to 2 years.
- There were 38(32%) children/youth reviewed who had a permanency plan of APPLA for 3 or more years.

Permanent connections within large jurisdiction:

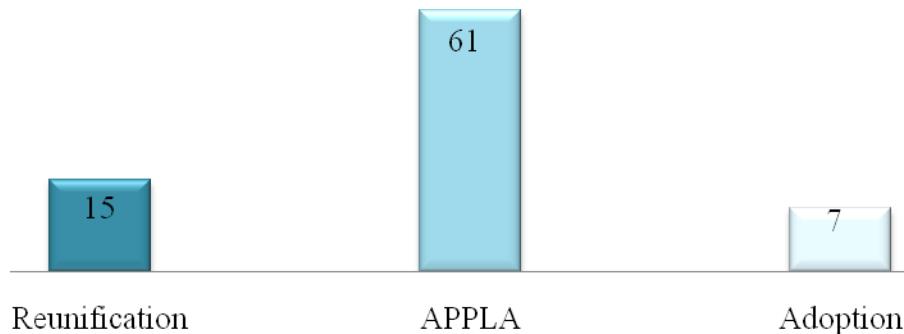
- There were 52 (44%) of the 117 children/youth identified with permanent connections.
- There were 65 (56%) of the 75 children/youth who were not identified as having a permanent connection.

Adoption within large jurisdiction cases made up 14 (9%) of the 156 children/youth reviewed.

- All of the 14 (100%) of the children/youth reviewed were granted TPR.
- The local board agreed with the permanency plan of Adoption with 11 (79%) of the 14 cases reviewed.

Baltimore City

There were a total of 83 children/youth cases reviews conducted in Baltimore City in the Second Quarter of FY14.



Reunification case reviews in Baltimore City made up 15 (10%) of the 156 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Citizens Review Board for Children
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Baltimore City continued

Reunification Family Involvement Meeting:

- There were 13 (87%) of 15 children/youth cases reviewed was held prior to entering into care.
- There were appropriate services are being offered to the birth families in 6 (40%) out of the 15 cases.

Length of Reunification plan:

- There were 3 (20%) out of the 15 cases with a plan in place for 0 to 6 months.
- There were 3 (20%) out of the 15 cases with a plan in place for 7 to 11 months.
- There were 6 (43%) out of the 15 cases with a plan in place for 1 to 2 years.
- There were 2 (13%) out of the 15 cases with a plan in place for 3 years or more.
- The local board agreed with the current permanency plan of reunification in 11 (73%) of the 15 reviewed cases.

APPLA case reviews in Baltimore City made up 61 (39%) of the 156 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Permanent connection:

- There were 29 (48%) out of the 61 cases reviewed with an identified permanent connection:
 - biological mother (3 cases),
 - biological father (2 case),
 - foster parent (4 cases),
 - grandparent (5 cases),
 - aunt or uncle (4 case),
 - sibling (4 cases), and
 - other (7 cases).
- The local board was in agreement with the identified permanent connections.
- There were 31 cases reviewed in Baltimore City with a plan of APPLA without an identified permanent connection.

Local board:

- The local board agreed that 21 (34%) out of the 61 children/youth were with a plan of APPLA were prepared to meet employment goals.
- The local board also agreed with 34 (56%) out of the 61 children/youth's transitional housing plan.
- The local board agreed that 32 (53%) out of the 61 children/youth reviewed were prepared to transition out of care.

Adoption case reviews in Baltimore City made up 7 (4%) of the 156 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Citizens Review Board for Children
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Baltimore City continued

Adoption current placements:

- 1 placement in a residential treatment center; and
- 5 placements in private treatment foster homes.
- 4 placements in a pre-adoptive home.
- The local board agreed with the placement plan 6 (86%) out of the 7 cases reviewed.

Post-adoptive services:

- There were 5 (71%) out of the 7 children/youth reviewed that needed post-adoptive medical and mental health services.
- There were 4 (57%) out of the 7 children/youth that need post-adoptive educational services.

Psychotropic medication:

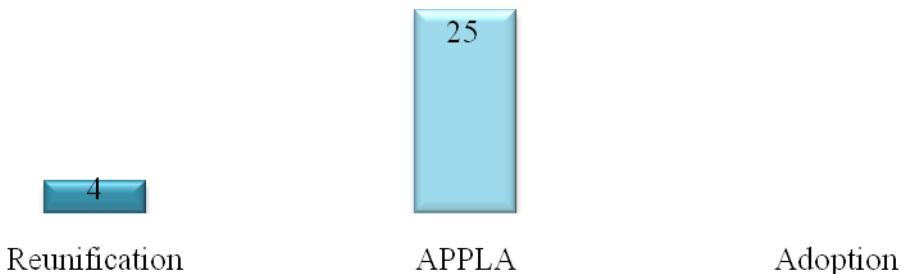
- There were 4 (57%) out of the 7 children/youth reviewed that were being prescribed psychotropic medication.

Court related barriers to Adoption:

- There were 2 (29%) out of the 7 cases reviewed with court related barriers to adoption.
- There were 2 (29%) out of the 7 children/youth that did not consent to adoption.
- There were 1 (14%) out of 7 children/youth with a plan of Adoption that received adoption counseling.
- There were 1(14%) out of the 7 children/youth reviewed that were not at legal age to consent to adoption.
- There was 2 (29%) out of the 7 children/youth that was medically fragile or had mental health issues preventing from consenting to adoption.

Baltimore County

There were a total of 29 children/youth cases reviews conducted in Baltimore County in the Second Quarter of FY14.



Reunification case reviews in Baltimore County made up 4 (3%) of the 156 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Citizens Review Board for Children
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Baltimore County continued

Reunification Family Involvement Meeting:

- A Family Involvement Meeting was not held prior to entering into care with all 4 (100%) of the children/youth cases reviewed.
- Appropriate services are being offered to all of the children/youth and their birth families.

Length of Reunification plan:

- There were 3 (75%) out of the 4 cases the plan of Reunification has been in place for 1 to 2 years.
- There was 1(25%) out of the 4 cases the plan of Reunification has been in place for 3 years or more.
- The local board agreed with the current permanency plan of reunification for all 4 (100%) of the cases reviewed.

APPLA case reviews in Baltimore County made up 25 (16%) of the 156 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Permanent connection :

- There were 5 (20%) out of the 25 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA with an identified permanent connection.
 - 1 father,
 - 2 foster parents,
 - 1 aunt or uncle, and
 - 1 other.
- The other 20 (80%) cases reviewed with a plan of APPLA did not have an identified permanent connection.

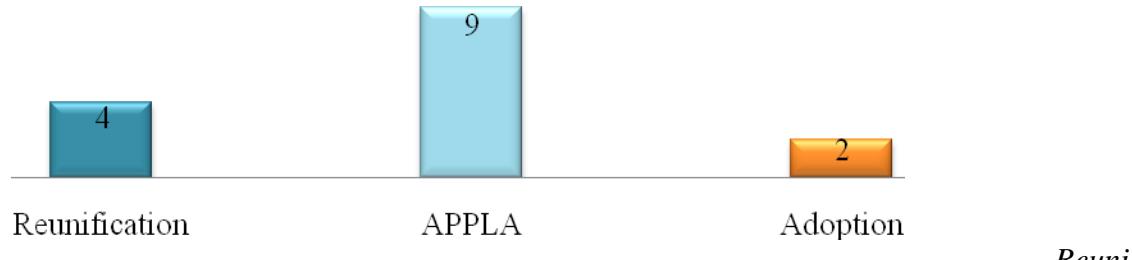
Local board:

- The local board did not agree with 3 (12%) out of the 25 children/youth's transitional housing plan.
- The local board does not agree with 23 (92%) out of the 25 children/youth were prepared to meet employment goals.

**Citizens Review Board for Children
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Montgomery County

There were a total of 15 children/youth cases reviews conducted in Montgomery County in the Second Quarter of FY14.



Reunification case reviews in Montgomery County made up 4 (3%) of the 156 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Reunification Family Involvement Meeting:

- There were 2 (50%) out of the 4 children/youth cases reviewed that had a Family Involvement Meeting prior to entering into care for.
- There were appropriate services are being offered to all of the children/youth and their birth families.

Length of Reunification plan:

- There were 2 (50%) out of the 4 cases the plan of Reunification has been in place for 1 to 2 years.
- There were 2 (50%) out of the 4 cases the plan of Reunification has been in place for 3 or more years.
- The local board agreed with 2 (50%) out of the 4 cases reviewed with a permanency plan of reunification.

Adoption reviews in Montgomery County made up 2 (1%) of the 156 children/youth reviewed.

Both of the children/youth cases reviewed were granted TPR.

The local board agreed both permanency plans of Adoption for cases reviewed.

APPLA case reviews in Montgomery County made up 9 (6%) of the 156 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Permanent connection:

- There were 8 (89%) of the 9 children/youth reviewed with a plan of APPLA that had an identified permanent connection:
 - foster parent (4 case),
 - grandparent (1 case),
 - sibling (1 case), and
 - other (2 cases).

**Citizens Review Board for Children
Fiscal Year 2014 – Second Quarter Report**

Montgomery County continued

Length of APPLA plan:

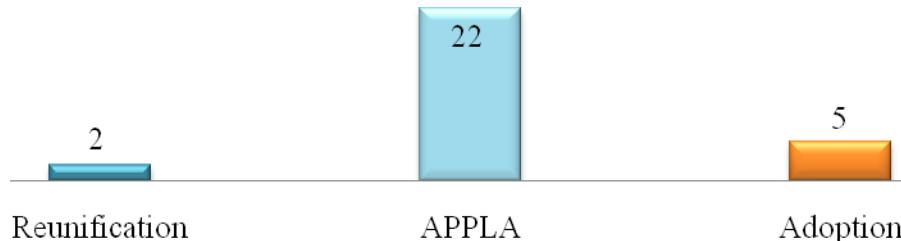
- There were 2 (22%) children/youth reviewed who had a permanency plan of APPLA from 0 to 6 months.
- There were 4 (44%) children/youth reviewed that had a permanency plan of APPLA for 1 to 2 years.
- There were 3 (33%) children/youth reviewed that had a permanency plan of APPLA for 3 or more years.

Local board:

- The local board did not agree that 8(89%) out of the 9 children/youth were prepared to meet employment goals.
- The local board agreed that 7 (78%) out of the 9 children/youth reviewed were being prepared to meet the educational goals.

Prince Georges County

There were a total of 29 children/youth cases reviews conducted in Prince Georges County in the Second Quarter of FY14.



Reunification case reviews in Prince Georges County made up 2 (1%) of the 156 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Reunification Family Involvement Meeting:

- A Family Involvement Meeting was held for both of the children/youth cases reviewed prior to entering into care for.
- Appropriate services are being offered to both of the children/youth and the birth family.

Length of Reunification plan:

- 1 to 2 years for 1 (50%) of the children/youth reviewed.
- 0 to 6 months for 1 (50%) of the children/youth reviewed.
- The local board agreed with both permanency plans of reunification for cases reviewed.

APPLA case reviews in Prince Georges County made up 22 (14%) of the 156 cases reviewed in large jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Citizens Review Board for Children
Fiscal Year 2014 – Second Quarter Report**

Prince Georges County continued

Permanent connection:

- There were permanent connections identified for 10 (46%) of the 22 youth reviewed.
 - biological mother (1 case),
 - biological father (1 case),
 - foster parent (2 cases),
 - aunt or uncle (3 cases),
 - sibling (1 case), and
 - other (2 cases).
- There were 12 (56%) cases reviewed with a plan of APPLA that did not have an identified permanent connection.

Local board:

- The local board agreed that 6 (27%) out of the 22 children/youth were prepared to meet employment goals.
- The local board agreed with 7 (32%) out of the 22 children/youth's transitional housing plan.
- The local board agreed that 2 (23%) out of the 22 children/youth reviewed were prepared to transition out of care

Medium Jurisdiction

	Reunification	Adoption	APPLA	Total Cases
Anne Arundel County	1	5	5	11
Cecil County	1		5	6
Frederick County	1		5	6
Harford County	2		7	9
St. Mary's County	1	1	1	3
Total	6	6	23	35

** Medium: 300-500 cases

Out of the total 218 children/youth reviewed in the Second Quarter of FY14, there were a total of 35 (16%) who were placed within medium jurisdictions.

Reunification within medium jurisdiction cases made up 6 (17%) of the 35 children/youth reviewed in the Second Quarter.

- There are plans to return 2 (29%) of the 7 children/youth to the biological mothers.
- There are plans to return 2 (29%) of the 7 children/youth to the biological fathers.
- There are plans to return 2 (29%) of the 7 children/youth to both biological parents.

**Citizens Review Board for Children
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Medium Jurisdiction continued

APPLA within medium jurisdiction cases made up 23 (66%) of the total 35 children/youth reviewed.

Length of plan:

- There were 2 (9%) children/youth reviewed that had a permanency plan of APPLA from 7 to 11 months.
- There were 10 (43%) children/youth reviewed that had a permanency plan of APPLA from 1 to 2 years.
- There were 11 (48%) children/youth reviewed who had a permanency plan of APPLA for 3 or more years.

Permanent connection:

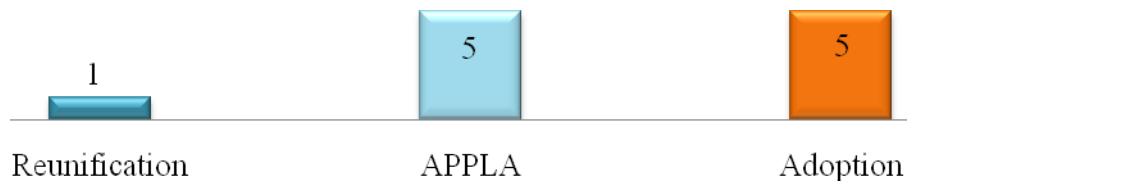
- There were 17 (74%) of the 23 children/youth identified with permanent connections.
- There were 6 (26%) of the 17 children/youth who were not identified as having a permanent connection.

Adoption within medium jurisdiction cases made up 6 (26%) of the 35 children/youth reviewed.

- There were 5 (83%) of the 6 children/youth granted TPR.
- The local board agreed with the permanency plan of Adoption for 4 (66%) out of the 6 cases reviewed.

Anne Arundel County

There was a total of 11 children/youth case reviews conducted in Anne Arundel County in the Second Quarter of FY14.



Reunification case reviews in Anne Arundel County made up 1 (3%) of the 35 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

- A Family Involvement Meeting was held prior to entering into care for the child/youth case reviewed.
- There were appropriate services are being offered to both of the child/youth and the birth family.
- The plan of Reunification has been in place for 3 or more years.

**Citizens Review Board for Children
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Anne Arundel County continued

- The local board agreed with the current permanency plan of reunification.

APPLA case reviews in Anne Arundel County made up 5 (14%) of the 35 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Permanent connection:

- There were permanent connections identified for all 5 (100%) of the youth reviewed.
 - mother (2 cases),
 - sibling (1 case), and
 - other (2 cases).
- The local board agreed that 4 (80%) out of the 5 children/youth were being prepared to meet educational goals.

Length of plan:

- There were 2 (40%) of the 5 cases reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA for 1 to 2 years.
- There was 3 (60%) case reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA for 3 or more years.
- The local board agreed with the permanency plan of APPLA for all 5 (100%) cases reviewed.

Adoption case reviews in Anne Arundel County made up 5 (14%) of the 35 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

TPR:

- There was TPR granted for all 5 (100%) of the cases reviewed.

Length of plan:

- There were 2 (40%) out of the 5 children/youth with a permanency plan of Adoption for 7 to 11 months.
- There were 3 (60%) out of the 5 children/youth with a permanency plan of Adoption for 1 to 2 years.
- There were 2 (40%) out of the 5 child/youth reviewed placed in a regular foster home.
- There were 3 (60%) out of the 5 child/youth reviewed placed in a private treatment foster home.
- The local board agreed with the permanency plan of Adoption for all 5 children/youth cases reviewed.

Post-adoptive services:

- All 5 (100%) of the children/youth reviewed needed post-adoptive medical services.
- There were 2 (40%) out of 5 children/youth reviewed needed post-adoptive educational services.

**Citizens Review Board for Children
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Anne Arundel County continued

Psychotropic medication:

- There were 1 (20%) out of 5 children/youth reviewed prescribed psychotropic medication.

Consent to Adoption:

- There were 1 (20%) out of 5 children/youth reviewed that consented to being adopted.
- There were 3 (60%) out of 5 children/youth reviewed not at legal age to consent.
- There were 1 (20%) out of 5 children/youth reviewed medically fragile.

Adoption counseling:

- The child who consented to being adopted did not receive adoption counseling.

Agency related barriers to Adoption:

- There was 1 (20%) child/youth case reviewed with agency barrier (inadequate pool of prospective adoptive resources).

Court related barriers to Adoption:

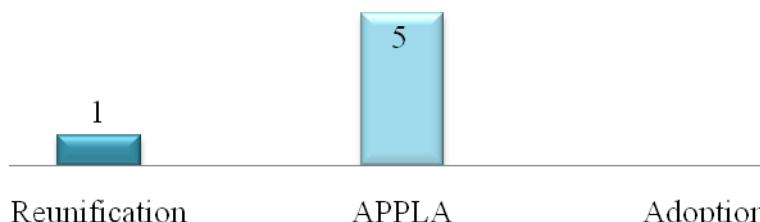
- There were 1 (20%) child/youth reviewed with court related barrier (appeal by parent).

Child related barriers to Adoption:

- There were 2 (40%) children/youth cases review with child related barriers (behavioral problems in the home).

Cecil County

There were a total of 6 children/youth cases reviews conducted in Cecil County in the Second Quarter of FY14.



Reunification case reviews in Cecil County made up 1 (3%) of the 35 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

- A Family Involvement Meeting was held prior to entering into care for the child/youth case reviewed.
- The plan of Reunification has been in place for 3 or more years.
- The local board agreed with the current permanency plan of reunification.

**Citizens Review Board for Children
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Cecil County continued

APPLA case reviews in Cecil County made up 5 (14%) of the 35 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Permanent connection:

- There were permanent connections identified for 2 (40%) out of 5 of the youth reviewed.
 - sibling (2 case).

Local board:

- The local board agreed that all 5 (100%) of the children/youth were being prepared to meet educational goals.

Length of plan:

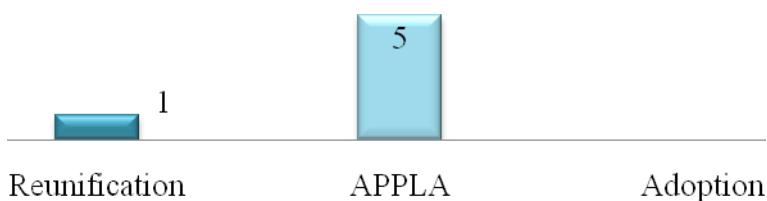
- There were 1 (20%) of the 5 cases reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA for 7 to 11 months.
- There were 4 (80%) case reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA for 3 or more years.

Local board:

- The local board agreed with 4 (80%) out of the 5 cases reviewed permanency plan of APPLA.

Frederick County

There were a total of 6 children/youth cases reviews conducted in Frederick County in the Second Quarter of FY14.



Reunification case reviews in Frederick County made up 1 (3%) of the 35 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Family Involvement Meeting:

- A Family Involvement Meeting was not held prior to entering into care for the child/youth case reviewed.
- Appropriate services are being offered to both of the child/youth and the birth family.

**Citizens Review Board for Children
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Frederick County continued

Length of plan:

- The plan of Reunification has been in place for 3 or more years.

Local board:

- The local board does not agree with the current permanency plan of reunification.
- The local board had recommended relative placement as an alternative permanency plan.

APPLA case reviews in Frederick County made up 5 (14%) of the 35 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Permanent connection:

- There were permanent connections identified for the 4 (80%) out of the 5 youth reviewed.
 - both parents (1case),
 - mother (1 case),
 - foster parents (2 cases).

Length of plan:

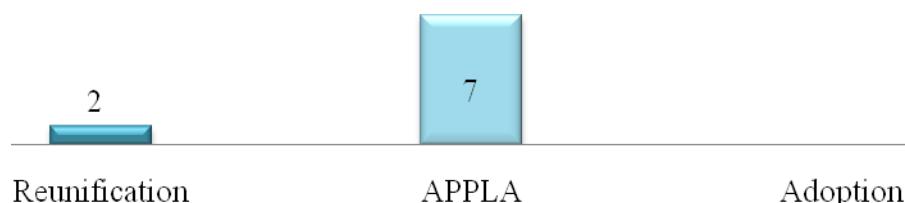
- There were 1 (20%) child/youth with a permanency plan of APPLA for 7 to 11 months.
- There were 3 (60%) of the children/youth with a permanency plan of APPLA for 1 to 2 years.
- There was 1 (20%) child/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA for 3 or more years.

Local board:

- The local board agreed with the permanency plan of APPLA for all 5 (100%) cases reviewed.
- The local board agreed that all 5 (100%) of the children/youth were being prepared to meet educational goals.
- The local board agreed that 1 (20%) out of the 5 children/youth were prepared to transition out of care.

Harford County

There were a total of 9 children/youth cases reviews conducted in Harford County in the Second Quarter of FY14.



**Citizens Review Board for Children
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Harford County continued

Reunification case reviews in Harford County made up 2 (6%) of the 35 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Family involvement meeting:

- A Family Involvement Meeting was held for 1 (50%) out of the children/youth cases reviewed prior to entering into care.

Length of plan:

- There were 1 (50%) of the children/youth review with a plan of Reunification in place for 1 to 2 years. There were 1 (50%) of the children/youth review with a plan of Reunification in place for 3 or more years.

APPLA case reviews in Harford County made up 7 (20%) of the 35 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Permanent connection:

- There was 1 (14%) out of the 7 children/youth that had a permanent connection identified.
 - The permanent connection for the 1 child/youth was the foster parents.

Length of plan:

- There were 5 (71%) out of the 7 child/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA for 1 to 2 years.
- There were 2 (29%) child/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of APPLA for 3 or more years.

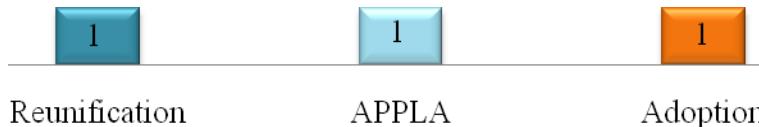
Local board:

- The local board agreed with the permanency plan of APPLA for 6 (86%) out of the 7 cases reviewed.
- The local board agreed that all 7(100%) of the children/youth were being prepared to meet educational goals.
- The local board agreed that 2 (29%) out of the 7 children/youth were prepared to transition out of care.

**Citizens Review Board for Children
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St. Mary's County

There were a total of 3 children/youth cases reviews conducted in St. Mary's County in the Second Quarter of FY14.



Reunification case reviews in St. Mary's County made up 1 (3%) of the 35 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Length of plan:

- The plan of Reunification has been in place for the child/youth reviewed for 3 or more years.

Family involvement meeting:

- A Family Involvement Meeting was not held for the child/youth case reviewed prior to entering into care.
- Appropriate services are being offered to the child/youth.

Local board:

- The local board agreed with the current permanency plan of reunification for the child/youth case reviewed.

APPLA case reviews in St. Mary's County made up 1 (3%) of the 35 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Permanent connection:

- There was no permanent connection identified for the child/youth reviewed.

Local board:

- The local board agreed that the child/youth was being prepared to meet educational goals.

Length of plan:

- The child/youth has had a permanency plan of APPLA for 3 or more years.

Local board:

- The local board agreed with the permanency plan of the child/youth case reviewed.

Adoption case reviews in St. Mary's County made up 1 (3%) of the 35 cases reviewed in medium jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

**Citizens Review Board for Children
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St. Mary's County continued

TPR:

- TPR was filed for the child/youth case reviewed.

Length of plan:

- The child/youth has had a permanency plan of Adoption for 0 to 6 months.

Current placement:

- The child/youth reviewed is placed in a therapeutic group home.

Local board:

- The local board agreed with the permanency plan of Adoption.

Post adoptive services:

- The child/youth reviewed needed post-adoptive educational services.

Psychotropic medication:

- The child/youth reviewed was prescribed psychotropic medication.

Consent to Adoption:

- The child/youth reviewed did not consent to being adopted.
- The child/youth case reviewed did not receive adoption counseling.

Agency related barrier to Adoption:

- There was an agency barrier (inadequate pool of prospective adoptive resources).

Small Jurisdiction

	Reunification	Adoption	APPLA	Total Cases
Calvert County		6	3	9
Carroll County	3	2		5
Howard County	3		5	8
Talbot County	1	2	2	5
Total	7	10	10	27

Note: Fewer than 100 cases

Out of the total 218 children/youth reviewed in the Second Quarter of FY14, there were a total of 27 (12%) who were placed within medium jurisdictions.

Reunification within small jurisdiction cases made up 9 (33%) of the 27 children/youth reviewed in the Second Quarter.

**Citizens Review Board for Children
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Small Jurisdiction continued

Plans to return:

There were plans to return 2 (22%) of the 9 children/youth to the biological mothers.

There were plans to return 1 (11%) of the 9 children/youth to the biological fathers.

There are plans to return 2 (22%) of the 9 children/youth to both biological parents.

There are plans to return 1 (11%) of the 9 children/youth to relatives.

APPLA within small jurisdiction cases made up 10 (37%) of the total 27 children/youth reviewed.

Length of plan:

There were 1 (10%) child/youth reviewed that had a permanency plan of APPLA from 0 to 6 months.

There were 2 (20%) child/youth reviewed that had a permanency plan of APPLA from 1 to 2 years.

There were 7 (70%) children/youth reviewed who had a permanency plan of APPLA for 3 or more years.

Permanent connection:

There were 6 (60%) of the 10 children/youth identified with permanent connections.

There were 4 (40%) of the 10 children/youth who were not identified as having a permanent connection.

Adoption within small jurisdiction cases made up 10 (37%) of the 27 children/youth reviewed.

TPR:

- There were 3 (30%) out of 10 children/youth cases reviewed with a permanency plan of Adoption that had TPR granted.

Length of plan:

- There were 3 (30%) out of 10 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Adoption for 0 to 6 months.
- There were 4 (40%) out of 10 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Adoption for 7 to 11 months.
- There were 3 (30%) out of 10 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Adoption for 3 or more years.

Current placement:

- There were 3 (30%) out of 10 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Adoption placed in formal kinship care.
- There were 3 (30%) out of 10 children/youth reviewed placed in regular foster care.
- There was 1 (10%) out of 10 children/youth reviewed placed in private treatment foster care.

**Citizens Review Board for Children
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Small Jurisdiction continued

- There were 2 (20%) out of 10 children/youth reviewed placed in therapeutic group homes.
- There was 1 (10%) out of 10 children/youth reviewed placed in an independent living residential program.
- The local boards agreed with all 10 (100%) of the permanency plans of Adoption.

Post adoptive service:

- There were 8 (80%) out of 10 children/youth reviewed needed post-adoptive medical services.
- There were 6 (60%) out of 10 children/youth reviewed needed post-adoptive mental health services.
- There were 8 (80%) out of 10 children/youth reviewed needed post-adoptive educational services.

Psychotropic medication:

- There were 3 (30%) out of 10 child/youth reviewed being prescribed psychotropic medication.

Consent to Adoption:

- There were 6 (60%) out of 10 children/youth reviewed with a permanency plan of Adoption that did consent to being adopted.
- There were 4 (40%) out of 10 children/youth with a plan of Adoption not at legal age to consent.

Adoptive counseling:

- There were 4 (40%) out of 10 children/youth cases reviewed that did receive adoption counseling.

Agency related barriers to Adoption:

- There were 3 pre-adoptive resources not identified.
- There was 1 permanency goal not established timely.
- There were 2 notifications not published.

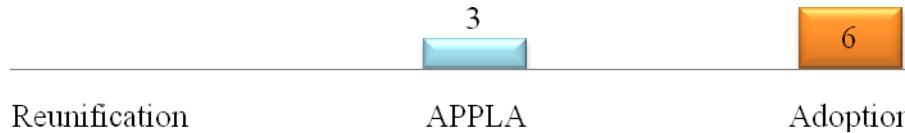
Court related barriers to Adoption:

- There were 6 TPR denies.
- There was 1 Appeal by birth parents.

**Citizens Review Board for Children
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Calvert County

There were a total of 9 children/youth cases reviews conducted in Calvert County in the Second Quarter of FY14.



APPLA case reviews in Calvert County made up 3 (11%) of the 27 cases reviewed in the small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Permanent connection:

- There were permanent connections identified for 2 (67%) out of the 3 children/youth cases reviewed.
- foster parent (1 case),
- other (1 case).

Local board:

- The local board was in agreement with 2 (67%) out of the 3 reviewed cases with an identified permanent connection.
- The local board did not agree that any of the 3 children/youth cases reviewed with a plan of APPLA were prepared to meet employment goals.
- The local board agreed with 1 (33%) out of the 3 children/youth's transitional housing plan.
- The local board agreed that 1(33%) out of the 3 children/youth reviewed were prepared to transition out of care.

Adoption case reviews in Calvert County made up 6 (22%) of the 27 cases reviewed in small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Current placement:

- 3 placements in formal kinship care.
- 1 placement in regular foster home care.
- 1 placement in a treatment foster care private.
- 1 placement in an independent living residential program.

Local board:

- The local board agreed with the placement plan of all 6 (100%) of cases reviewed.

Post adoptive service:

- All 6 of the children/youth reviewed needed post-adoptive medical and educational services.

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Calvert County continued

- There were 3 (50%) out of the 6 children/youth that need post-adoptive mental health services.

Psychotropic medication:

- There were 1 (17%) out of the 6 children/youth reviewed that were being prescribed psychotropic medication.

Agency related barriers to Adoption:

- There were 3 (50%) out of the 6 children/youth that did have an identified pre-adoptive resource.
- There were 1 (17%) out of 6 children/youth with a plan of Adoption with a permanency goal not established timely.

Court related barriers to Adoption:

- There were 5 (83%) out of the 6 children/youth reviewed with court related barriers to adoption.
- There were 4 (67%) out of the 6 children/youth that had TPR denied.
- There was 1 child with an appeal by birth parents.

Carroll County

There were a total of 5 children/youth cases reviews conducted in Carroll County in the Second Quarter of FY14.



Reunification case reviews in Carroll County made up 3 (60%) of the 5 cases reviewed in small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Family involvement meeting:

- A Family Involvement Meeting was not held prior to entering into care with 2 (67%) of 3 children/youth cases reviewed.
- There were appropriate services are being offered to the children/youth and their birth families in all 3 (100%).

Length of plan:

- In all 3 of the cases with the plan of Reunification has been in place for 1 to 2 years.

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Carroll County continued

Local board:

- The local board agreed with the current permanency plan of reunification for all 3 (100%) of the reviewed cases.

Adoption case reviews in Carroll County made up 2 (40%) of the 5 cases reviewed in small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Current placement:

- The current placements of the 2 children/youth reviewed with a plan of Adoption are a regular foster home placement.

Local board:

- The local board agreed with the placement plan of both (100%) cases reviewed.

Post adoptive service:

- The 2 (100%) of the children/youth reviewed needed post-adoptive educational, medical and mental health services.

Court related barriers to Adoption:

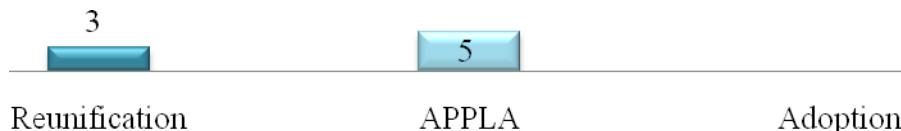
- There were no notifications posted for both children/youth reviewed.
- TPR was denied for both (100%) of the cases reviewed.

Consent to Adoption:

- The 2 (100%) children/youth cases reviewed with a permanency plan of Adoption did consent to adoption.
- Neither of the 2 children/youth received adoption counseling.

Howard County

There were a total of 8 children/youth cases reviews conducted in Howard County in the Second Quarter of FY14.



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

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Howard County continued

Family involvement meeting:

- A Family Involvement Meeting was not held prior to entering into care with 1 (33%) of 3 children/youth cases reviewed.
- There were appropriate services are being offered to the birth families in all 3 (100%) of the reviewed cases.

Length of plan:

- In all 3 (100%) of the children/youth cases with the plan of Reunification, has been in place for 1 to 2 years.

Local board:

- The local board agreed with the current permanency plan of reunification in all 3 (100%) of the cases reviewed.

APPLA case reviews in Howard County made up 5 (62%) of the 8 cases reviewed in small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Permanent connection:

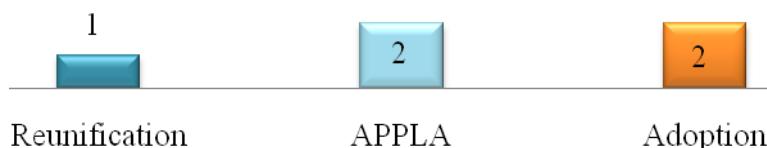
- The permanent connection identified for 4 (80%) out of the 5 cases reviewed in Howard County.
 - grandparent (2 cases),
 - sibling (1case),
 - other (1 case).

Local board:

- The local board was in agreement with the 4 (80%) identified permanent connections.
- The local board agreed with all 5 (100%) of the children/youth cases reviewed with a plan of APPLA.
- The local board did not agree with any of the 5 (100%) of the children/youth cases review were being prepared to meet employment goals.

Talbot County

There were a total of 5 children/youth cases reviews conducted in Talbot County in the Second Quarter of FY14.



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Talbot County continued

Reunification case reviews in Talbot County made up 1 (20%) of the 5 cases reviewed in small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Family involvement meeting:

- A Family Involvement Meeting was not held prior to entering into care with 1 children/youth case reviewed.

Length of plan:

- The 1 child/youth reviewed with a plan of Reunification has been in place for 1 to 2 years.

Local board:

The local board agreed with the current permanency plan of reunification for the 1 child/youth case reviewed.

APPLA case reviews in Talbot made up 2 (40%) of the 5 cases reviewed in small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Permanent connection:

- There were no permanent connection identified for the 2 (100%) of the cases reviewed in Talbot County with a permanency plan of APPLA.

Local board:

- The local board agreed that the 2 (100%) children/youth were with a plan of APPLA were prepared to meet employment goals.
- The local board also agreed with the 2 (100%) of the children/youth's transitional housing plan and were prepared to transition out of care.

Adoption case reviews in Talbot County made up 2 (40%) of the 5 cases reviewed in small jurisdictions within the Second Quarter.

Current placement:

- The current placements of the 2 children/youth reviewed with a plan of Adoption were in placements in a therapeutic group home.

Local board:

- The local board agreed with the placement plan of the 2 (100%) children/youth cases reviewed.

Post adoptive service:

- There were 1 (50%) out of the 2 children/youth reviewed that needed post-adoptive mental health and DDA services.

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Talbot County continued

Psychotropic medication:

- There were 2 (100%) of the children/youth reviewed that were being prescribed psychotropic medication.

Agency related barriers to Adoption:

- There were 2 (100%) of the children/youth reviewed without an identified pre-adoptive resource.
- There were 2 (100%) of the children/youth reviewed that received adoption counseling; received adoption counseling; and TPR was granted.

Child Protection Panel Reviews

A local Child Protection Panel may be established in each jurisdiction. There are currently child protection panels in seven (6) jurisdictions including Baltimore City, and Allegany, Baltimore, Montgomery, Queen Anne's, and Worcester Counties. The child protection reviews address two child welfare outcomes for safety and three child welfare outcomes for well being, that are aligned with the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR).

The child welfare safety outcomes are 1) Protection from child abuse and neglect; and 2) Safety in their homes. The child welfare well being outcomes are 1) Family's capacity to provide for the child(ren) needs; 2) Child(ren) receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs; and 3) Child(ren) receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

Baltimore City Panel

Baltimore City Panel conducted 2 case reviews in the Second Quarter of FY14. The 2 cases reviewed had 50 % not achieved for the following safety and child and family well-being outcomes:

- Safety Outcome 2: Children are safely maintained in their home whenever possible and appropriate.
- Well Being Outcome 1: Family has enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.
- Well-Being Outcome 3: Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

The 2 cases reviewed by Baltimore City Panel also had 100% substantially achieved for the following safety and child and family well-being outcomes:

- Safety Outcome 1: Children are first and foremost protected from abuse and neglect.
- Well-Being Outcome 2: Child receives appropriate services to meet their educational needs.

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Baltimore City Panel Findings and Recommendations

1. Baltimore City panel finds there is a breakdown with receiving case records and receiving incomplete case records. The panel recommends receiving all case activity 1 year prior to panel review.
2. Baltimore City panel finds there is a lack of supporting documentation pertaining to engaging paternal family members, CPS and criminal background checks of other family and household members within the CPS case files. The panel recommends an increased effort in placing supportive documentation pertaining to paternal family member's engagement, and CPS and criminal background checks in the case records.
3. Baltimore City panel finds there is a lack of supportive documentation of services to the family in the case records. The panel recommends an increased effort to document all services provided to the child and family.
4. Baltimore City panel finds there is a lack of follow-up from the agency about the panel's concerns with issues pertaining to high-risk cases. The panel recommends an increased effort to appropriately follow-up in regards to high-risk case concerns.
5. Baltimore City panel finds that they are receiving 4 to 5 egregious safety cases a year. The panel suggests this may be contributed to children being sent back home once minimal parent compliance is adhered to, and inappropriate monitoring once the children are reunited. The panel recommends higher parent compliance before returning children home, and closer monitoring once the child is returned home.
6. Baltimore City panel has educational concerns with children in out-of-home care utilizing services at the "Crooked Lives Made Straight Christian Academy" in Philadelphia, PA. The panels concerns are centered on their challenges with receiving additional information about how Baltimore City's out-of-home placement youth are benefitting from this service. The panel recommends an increased effort to supply the panel with additional information about this educational service provider.
7. Baltimore City panel recommends that CRBC be given re-entry cases to review.

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Allegany County Panel

Allegany County Panel conducted 1 case reviewed during the Second Quarter of FY14. The 1 case reviewed had 100 % substantially achieved the following safety and child and family well-being outcomes:

- Safety Outcome 1: Child is first and foremost protected from abuse and neglect.
- Safety Outcome 2: Child is safely maintained in their home whenever possible and appropriate.
- Well Being Outcome 1: Family has enhanced capacity to provide for their child's needs.
- Well-Being Outcome 2: Child receives appropriate services to meet their educational needs.
- Well-Being Outcome 3: Child receives adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

CRBC Case Review Overall Highlights

- Overall CRBC has reviewed 92% of cases with a permanency plan of Reunification in a timely manner in the Second Quarter.
- Overall local boards agreed with 94% of children/youth cases with the permanency plan of Reunification.
- Overall in 97% of the cases reviewed in the Second Quarter with a permanency plan of Reunification, worker visited with the children/youth at least once a month/less than twice a month.
- Overall in 95% of the cases reviewed in the Second Quarter with a permanency plan of Reunification, there were comprehensive physical and mental health assessments completed.
- Overall in 97% of the cases reviewed in the Second Quarter with a permanency plan of Reunification, there was information indicating children/youth had current placements matching the needs of the child with the provider's ability to meet those needs.
- Overall in 94% of the cases reviewed in the Second Quarter with a permanency plan of APPLA there was information that indicated a match between the child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs.
- Overall in 90% of the cases reviewed in the Second Quarter with a permanency plan of APPLA there were timely physical and mental health assessments completed.
- Overall in 97% of the cases reviewed in the Second Quarter with a permanency plan of Adoption, worker visited with the children/youth at least once a month/less than twice a month.
- Overall in 93% of the cases reviewed in the Second Quarter the permanency plan of Adoption was established in a timely manner.

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CRBC Case Review Overall Recommendations

- Jurisdictions are encouraged to continue bringing case records and/or supportive documentation to all CRBC case reviews.
- Jurisdictions are encouraged to include the paternal family members as possible resources for all children who are in out-of-home care.
- Jurisdictions are encouraged to continue getting parents to sign service agreements for those children/youth with a permanency plan of reunification.
- Jurisdictions are encouraged to continue documenting a concurrent permanency plan.
- Jurisdictions are encouraged to continue to have children/youth who are age appropriate assessed for independent living skills, and linked with identified needed life skills training.
- Jurisdictions are encouraged to continue to have youth that have a plan of APPLA to be prepared to meet their employment goals.
- Jurisdictions are encouraged to continue their efforts with identifying permanent connections for those children/youth with a plan of APPLA.
- Jurisdictions are encouraged to continue to have children/youth that are age appropriate with a permanency plan of Adoption linked with Adoption Counseling services.

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CRBC Volunteer Recruitment

CRBC is continuously recruiting new volunteers to be a part of our local boards across the entire state of Maryland. There are some jurisdictions currently experiencing volunteer shortages. Those identified jurisdictions are:

- Allegany County
- Baltimore City
- Caroline County
- Carroll County
- Cecil County
- Dorchester County
- Howard County
- Kent County
- Montgomery County
- Prince George's County
- Queen Anne's County
- Somerset County
- Talbot County
- Wicomico County
- Worcester County

CRBC Activities (October 1st thru December 31st, 2013)

- On October 11th the State Board held its meeting at Calvert County DSS.
- On October 23rd Administrator Sabrena Barnes-McAllister and Assistant Administrator George Randall attended the DHR Community Forum for Alternative Response in Salisbury, Maryland.
- On October 30th, Administrator Sabrena Barnes-McAllister, Assistant Administrator George Randall, and Unit Supervisor Denise Wheeler met with members of the Baltimore City Child Protection Panel to discuss findings and recommendations from reviews conducted.
- On December 13th CRBC held its official Open House at its new location (1100 Eastern Boulevard, Essex Maryland, 21221).
- In December CRBC held its annual Can Good Drive. The proceeds of CRBC's Can Good Drive were distributed locally in Baltimore City.
- In December, CRBC hired new Staff Assistant, responsible for covering Baltimore, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, St. Mary's counties, and Baltimore City.

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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

Mary MacClelland
Representing Caroline, Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot Counties

Sylvia Smith
Representing Baltimore City

George Randall, PhD Candidate, LGSW
Interim Administrator