

# Let's Talk About CRBC

## GREETINGS FROM THE CITIZENS REVIEW BOARD FOR CHILDREN (CRBC)



Another transitional season, **spring** is a time of phenomenal renewal. The earth reawakens from her slumber, and explodes with new life. In our own lives, **Spring** can be symbolic of starting new projects, sewing new seeds and coming forth with new ideas. This is also a time to contemplate health and physical well-being too. Be refreshed and prepare for your soulful debut!

# CRBC Insider

## 2015-2016 State Board

**Circuit I:** Doretha “Dee” Henry (Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico & Worcester)

**Circuit II:** **Vacant** (Caroline, Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne’s & Talbot)

**Circuit III:** Delores Alexander, Vice Chairperson ( Baltimore & Harford)

**Circuit IV:** Nettie Anderson-Burr, Chairperson (Allegany, Garrett & Washington)

**Circuit V:** **Vacant** (Anne Arundel, Carroll & Howard)

**Circuit VI:** Susan Gross (Frederick & Montgomery)

**Circuit VII:** Denise Joseph (Calvert, Charles, Prince George’s & Saint Mary’s)

**Circuit VIII:** Sheila Jessup (Baltimore City)

**Circuit VIII:** Sarah Boyd-Walker (Baltimore City)

**Circuit VIII:** Sylvia Smith (Baltimore City)

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### State Board News

*Next State Board Meeting*

**Friday,**

**August 12, 2016**

The meeting will be held at CRBC in the conference room. This meeting is open to all board members.

# Legislative Wrap Up: 2016 Session Summary

Outcome of bills CRBC supported (written/oral testimony): 17 bills

Passed: 10

Failed to Pass: 7

Passed both chambers, but amendments not accepted: 1

Passed one chamber: 2

Favorable Committee, No floor vote: 1

Unfavorable Committee vote: 3

Outcome of bills CPMC supported (with CRBC agreement): 24 bills

Passed: 7

Failed to Pass: 17

Passed one chamber: 3

Unfavorable Committee vote: 8

No Committee Vote: 6

## Successful Bills:

**HB 72:** Requires school systems and certain private schools to develop curriculum on sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention. July 1, 2016 effective date.

**HB0192/SB 360:** Restricts use of APPLA as a permanency plan to youth over age 16. Senate version incorporating language relating to specific findings about “prudent parenting standard” and requirement that the Court make findings about LDSS efforts to continue pursuing permanency options for youth with APPLA plan were not accepted by House. October 1, 2016 effective date.

**HB 245/SB310:** Requires that employers and licensing boards are informed when a mandated reporter fails to report Child abuse or neglect. October 1, 2016 effective date.

**HB 360:** Establishes Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Foster Care recipients. Provides loan assistance for youth who were in foster care at least 3 years; employed at least 20 hrs per week by state, county or municipality of Maryland; and received undergraduate or graduate degree from school in Maryland. Provides annual award of 10% of the loan, cannot exceed \$5000. Applicant can receive up to 3 years of award, must remain employed for full year after the expiration of the award. July 1, 2016 effective date to help promote financial savings to support individuals with disabilities in maintaining health, independence, and quality of life. July 1, 2016 effective date.

**HB 400:** Tuition Waiver changes - Removes barriers that that prevented youth from being eligible for the waiver, such as residing in the state (foster youth are placed out of state by LDSS) and graduating or getting GED before they leave foster care. Still requires youth to do the FAFSA, but removes March 1st deadline. Higher

Education is required to track statistics on recipients. July 1, 2016 effective date

**HB 431:** Requiring the College Savings Plans of Maryland Board to establish the Maryland ABLE Program

**HB 511/SB 252:** Adding dental coverage to Maryland Medical Assistance Program for former foster youth who were in state custody on their 18th birthday. Feds have to approve waiver in order to coverage to begin. July 1, 2016 effective date.

**HB 1162/SB 785:** Makes the Foster Youth Summer Intern program permanent. Program has been in place since Jan 2014 and provides internship opportunities for youth in state government. Program open to current and former foster youth up to age 26. Jan 1, 2017 effective date.

**HB 1288:** Tuition Waiver edits. Added new group for eligibility - children in care for at least one year after age 13 who returned home to parent. Defined vocational certificate program to include non-credit courses. Eligibility begins if in care at age 18. July 1, 2016 effective date.

**SB 31:** Changes to child protective services expungement, Ruled Out expungement from 120 days to 2 years. SB 31 was amended by House (5 to 2 years) and accepted by Senate. October 1, 2016 effective date.

**SB 77:** Changed age from 16 to 14 when the Court and DHR must determine services needed to transition youth to "successful adulthood"; replacing term "independent living with "successful adulthood" in CRBC statute. June 1, 2016 effective date.

**SB 79:** Housekeeping bill to replace "Special Secretary for Children, Youth, and Families" with DHR Secretary. There is no special secretary for CYF. October 1, 2016 effective date.



## Bills That Did Not Pass:

**HB 292:** Requires training for police personnel on human trafficking - identification and treatment of victims. Unfavorable report by Judiciary.

**HB 574:** Establishment of the Ji'Aire Lee Workgroup on the Protection of Adults with Mental Illness and Their Children, HG&O did not take vote.

**HB 579/SB 858:** Wraparound services for 300 children with intensive mental health needs who are not eligible for services under Medicaid state plan and without services are at risk of out of home placement or unable to return home from out of home placement. Unfavorable HG&O committee report, Withdrawn. Senate version also unfavorable report and withdrawn.

**HB 580/SB 472:** Labor and Employment - Maryland Healthy Working Families Act, Sick leave act. Passed House with Amendments, no vote in Senate Finance. Senate version did not come out of Finance committee.

**HB 683/SB 448:** Extends the Court's jurisdiction to order the Department to provide specified services after the Court's jurisdiction has ended per Dustin R appellate decision. House version passed with amendments limiting applicability of Dustin R to youth with disabilities. Didn't come out of Senate committee. Senate version was amended by House and Senate refused to accept amendments.

**HB 772/SB 262:** Provided for conservation of social security funds for youth 17 and older. Senate Judicial Proceedings gave favorable report with amendments. Did not proceed to Senate vote. HB 772 got unfavorable report from House Judiciary and was withdrawn.

**HB 825/SB 577:** Authorizing Departmental action when a credible threat of serious bodily injury or death has been made against a child. Unfavorable report by Judiciary. Senate version received unfavorable Judicial Proceedings report.

**HB 1047/SB 294:** Altering the percentage of the federal earned income credit. Passed House; No Senate Finance Committee Vote. Senate version did not come out of Finance committee.

**HB 1184:** Workgroup to Study the Effect of Poverty on the Behavioral Health of Children. No HG&O committee vote.

**HB 1215/SB 69:** Changing statute of limitations to bring civil suit for damages arising out of alleged sexual abuse that occurred while victim was a minor from 7 years to 20 years after victim reaches age of majority. No Judiciary Committee Vote. No Judicial Proceedings vote.

**HB 1465:** Foster Care - Standards for Foster Parents, Passed House, No Senate Committee Vote

**HB 1484/SB15:** Prohibits "Rehoming" - transfer of physical custody of a minor subject to guardianship or adoption order to a person not related by blood or marriage; adding criminal penalties and requires report to LDSS or law enforcement. HB 1484 received unfavorable Judiciary report and was withdrawn. Senate version received unfavorable Judicial Proceedings report.

**HB 1501:** Establishing the Family Navigators Program in the Governor's Office for Children to support parents and other caregivers of children or youth with mental or behavioral health needs or developmental disabilities and to address specified other priorities concerning children and youth. Unfavorable Appropriations Report.

**SB 1097:** Amendments to Birth Match law, unfavorable Judicial Proceedings report and withdrawn.

# “Teamwork is Success”

CRBC continues to work earnestly to implement Moving Forward plans. On behalf of the State Board and CRBC staff we commend our board members for their volunteer service. Recruitment of members remains a priority. The vacant Volunteer Activities Coordinator position was filled. Sandy Colea is the newest CRBC team member. Also, Marlo Palmer-Dixon was promoted to Volunteer Activities Coordinator Supervisor. The Volunteer Management Team and the Recruitment, Retention and Training committee has focused on statewide recruitment and retention activities.

We currently have 8 prospective members who have been selected, and still waiting for appointment from the Governor’s Office and 7 applications in process. We are working to enhance the process of appointments and reappointments. However, CRBC does not have authority over appointments.

In addition to volunteer appreciation and recruitment events statewide Denise Wheeler met with CRBC Staff Assistants, Local Review Board Members and Local Department of Social Services Administrators in Montgomery, Frederick, and Carroll Counties to update on CRBC’s mission, vision and goals, and to initiate regularly scheduled meetings for ongoing communication, collaboration and advocacy.

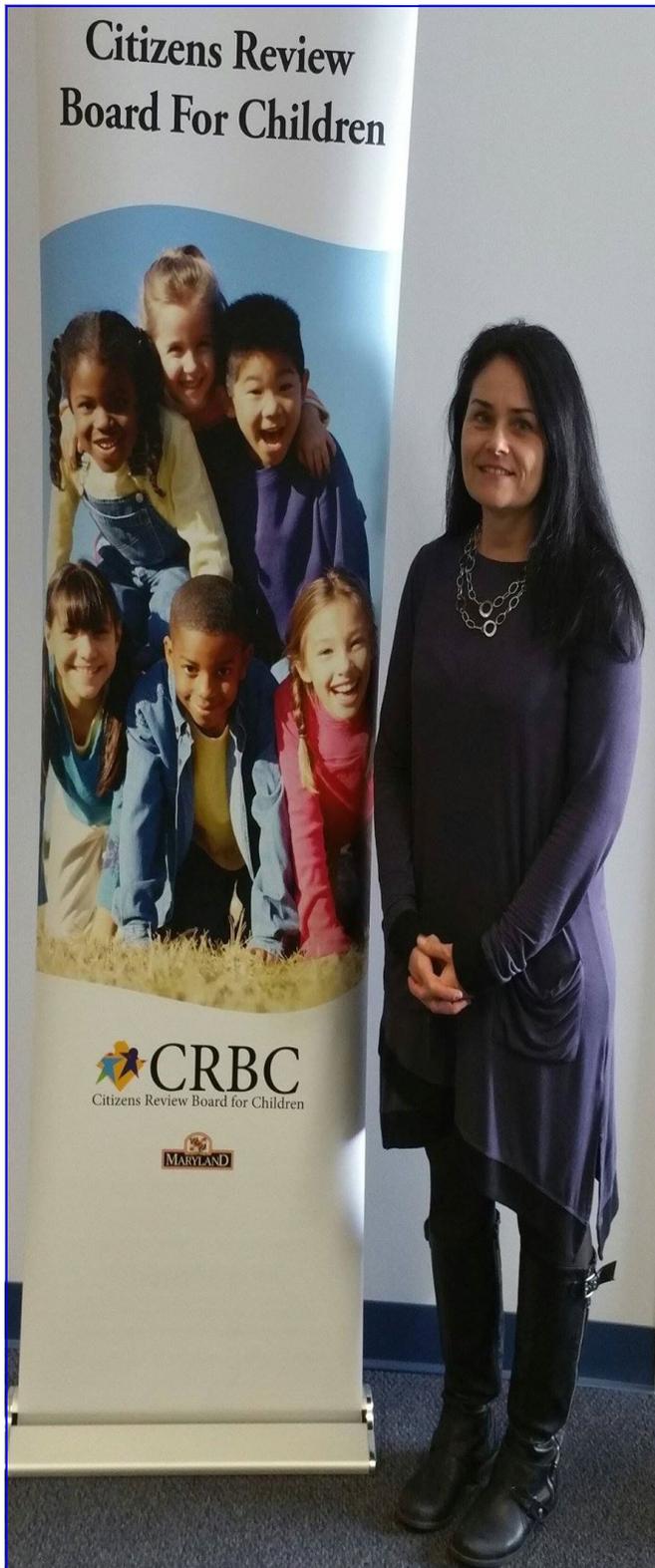
As a result of the Montgomery County meeting, several Montgomery County Local Review Board Members participated in a focus group with Montgomery County Department of Social Services in May.

Volunteer appreciation events will continue through June in jurisdictions and circuits that have not had one thus far. We look forward to future meetings statewide.

Nettie Anderson-Burrs,  
State Board Chair

Denise E. Wheeler,  
CRBC Administrator

# CRBC Welcomes Sandy Colea, CRBC Volunteer Coordinator



Sandy Colea was excited to join CRBC on Thursday, March 31, 2016 as the Volunteer Activities Coordinator.

She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Management and Community Studies from the University of Maryland. Ms. Colea is a long time advocate of volunteerism and testified at a congressional hearing in support of the National and Community Service Act while participating in Volunteer Maryland, a pilot program for National and Community Service. She has managed volunteer programs for such organizations as The City of Takoma Park, the National Center for Children and Families, and Star Ltd and has received Mayoral and Governor Proclamations for her dedication to promoting volunteerism in the state of Maryland.

**WELCOME ABOARD**

# CRBC Congratulates Marlo Palmer-Dixon, CRBC Volunteer Coordinator Supervisor



CRBC is pleased to announce the promotion of Marlo Palmer-Dixon to Volunteer Activities Coordinator Supervisor. In addition to now being a member of the CRBC Administrative Team, Marlo's new work duties will include leading the Volunteer Management Team, developing and cultivating partnerships and relationships, managing social media and webpage, supervision of Sandy Colea (Volunteer Activities Coordinator) and any assigned volunteer team support staff .

Marlo is coming up on her 20th year with CRBC/State of Maryland. For the past 8 years in addition to office secretary duties, Marlo worked closely with the Administrative Team and the Information Technology department to develop and manage the volunteer member database including the selection, appointment and reappointment process.

Marlo assumed the role of CRBC liaison for the Governor's Office of Appointments and Volunteer Specialist duties which included providing support to the CRBC Administrator and State Board, handling CRBC inquiries, managing the Governor's 50% attendance process, collaboration with DHR Secretary's Office, outreach and assisting with coordination of new member training and orientation.

Since May 2015, Marlo assumed additional responsibilities which included volunteer recruitment, staff lead on the recruitment, retention and training committee, and acting as Volunteer Activities Coordinator. She did an exceptional job working with staff and helping to expedite an impressive number of volunteer recruits in a short span of time, coordinated and helped to facilitate 3 new member training and orientation sessions in the past year.

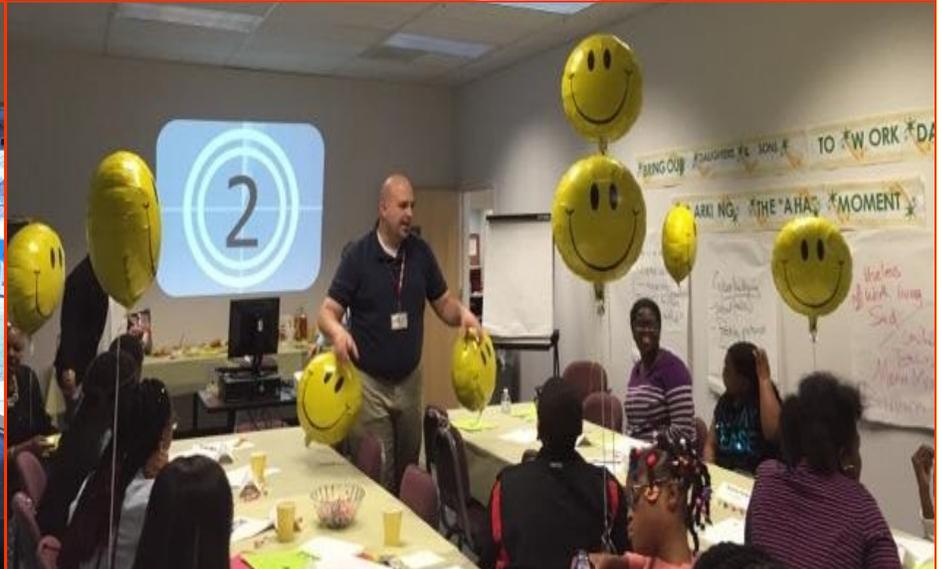
Marlo worked diligently to obtain an Associate's degree, Bachelor of Human Service Management and in February 2015 a Masters in Public Administration earning a 3.5 GPA. She was selected from over 100 candidates to participate in the Department of Human Resources (DHR) Leadership Development Initiative (LDI), a rigorous session and she worked with the team that developed the customer service training. Marlo successfully completed the program and met the requirements for graduation. Marlo also reached the Gold Leadership Level in DHR-U Leaders.

# Citizens Review Board for Children's Take Our Daughters & Sons to Work Day 2016



## Annual Take Our Daughters & Sons to Work Day

Friday, April 1, 2016



Youth participated in an Anti-Bullying Session, Team Building exercises, Self Awareness exercises and ended the day with a game of Family Feud. Rosa Uddeme and Mark Button from Department of Human Resources—Human Resources Development and Training were the guest presenters.

# BALTIMORE CITY

## Make a Difference in the Life of a Child Meet & Greet

Friday, April 8, 2016



### Make a Difference in the Life of a Child Meet & Greet

On Friday, April 8, 2016 Citizens Review Board for Children hosted a Meet & Greet at the Baltimore City Department of Social Services. Baltimore City members, CRBC staff and potential volunteer members participated. Current members invited potential volunteers and they had an opportunity to learn more about CRBC and the work that CRBC does. Several current volunteers discussed their volunteer experience, a mock review was presented by CRBC staff and current volunteers, and there was an information table.

Special Thanks to Sarah Walker, Baltimore City State Board Representative, Recruitment, Retention & Training Chairperson and Baltimore City Northwest Region #4 Local Review Board Member for organizing such a successful meet & greet.

# Citizens Review Board for Children

## Volunteer Appreciation Night @ Camden Yards

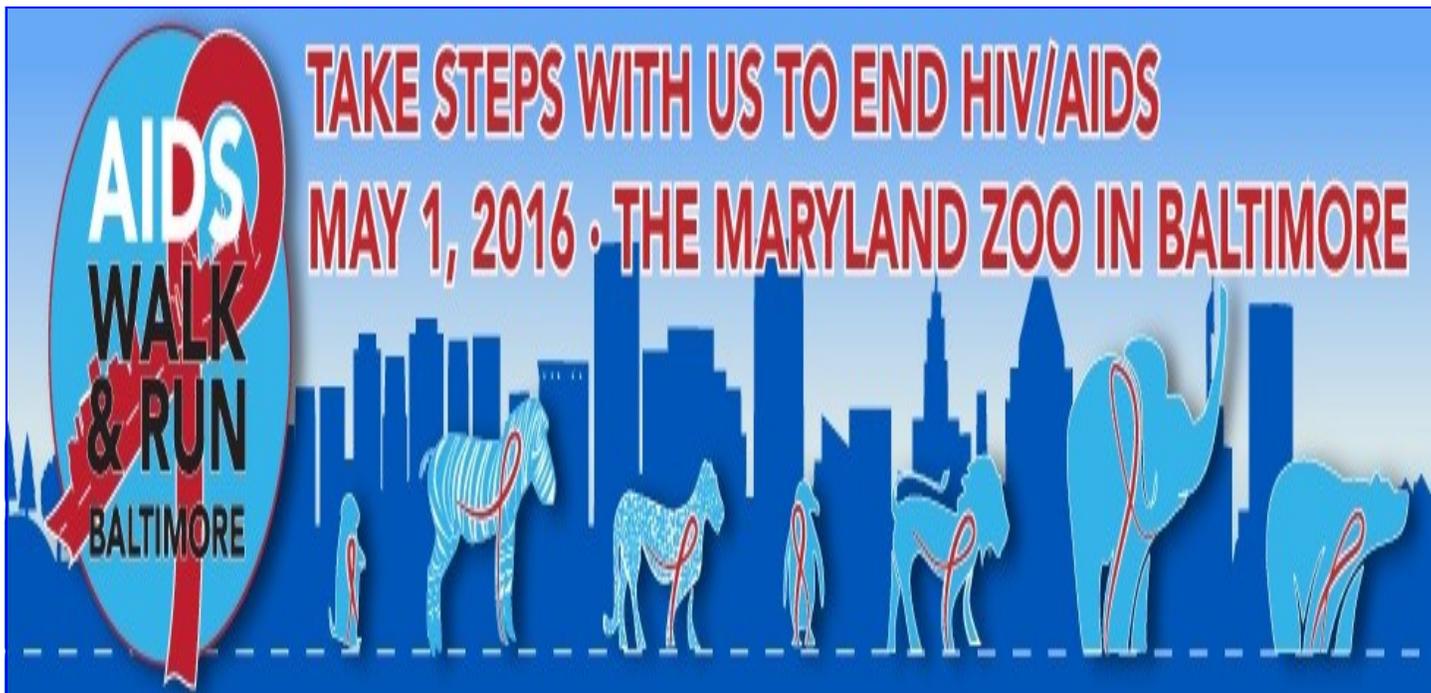
Thursday, April 28, 2016  
Game Time: 7:05 p.m.



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# Aids Run & Walk



Citizens Review Board for Children hosted a information table at the Chase Braxton Heath Care 2nd Annual Aids Walk & Run on Sunday, May 1st, 2016 at the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore.

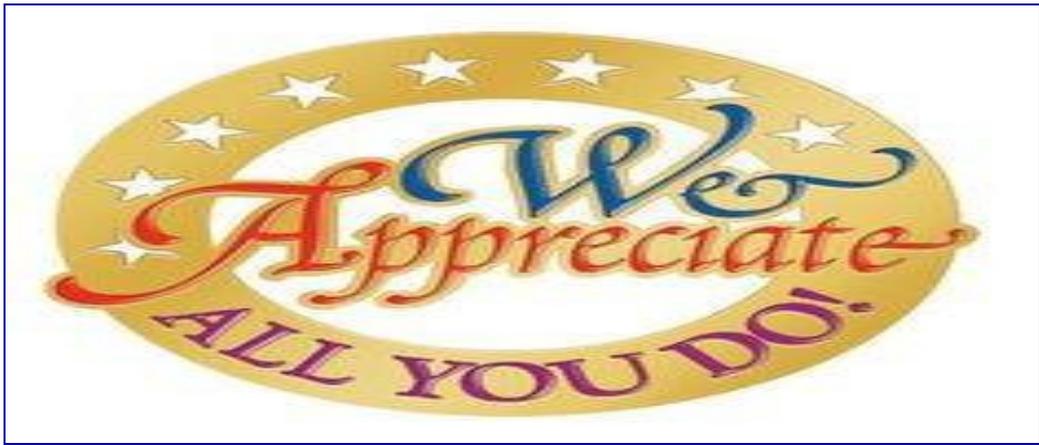


Citizens Review Board for Children (CRBC) is excited to introduce three members from Baltimore County Board #2 who will be kicking off our video series. "Tell Us Your Story" beginning May 2016.

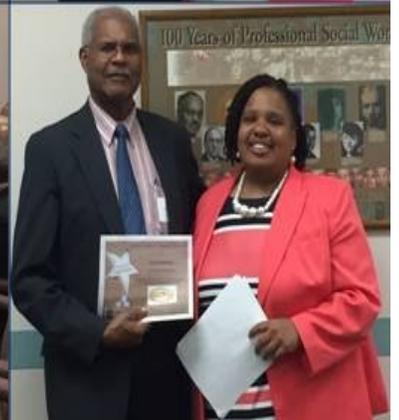


{Pictured Left to Right}: Juanita Bellamy (CRBC Volunteer), Norma Lee Young (CRBC Volunteer) & Charlotte Williams (CRBC Volunteer).

Volunteer Stories will be featured on CRBC social media (Facebook, Twitter)



**Charles Calvert & St. Mary's County**



**Volunteer Appreciation Board & Lunch**



Baltimore City Volunteer Appreciation Lunch & Board Meeting



Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 @ Baltimore City DSS

Prince George's County Volunteer Appreciation Lunch & Board Meeting



Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 @ Prince George's County DSS

**Baltimore County Volunteer Appreciation  
Lunch & Board Meeting**



**Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 @ Baltimore County DSS**

On Wednesday, May 18, 2016 CRBC participated a recruitment fair in Frederick County. Great day attending Medimmune AstraZeneca's very first volunteer fair. Wonderful opportunity to talk with potential volunteers and spread the word about the incredible work accomplished by the Citizens Review Board for Children volunteers. Thanks to [Jennifer Grimes](#) (pictured below) for inviting CRBC to the fair and for her efforts on the Frederick County Board!



# Help Wanted

Citizens Review Board for Children is currently seeking current volunteers available to assist at the CRBC main office. Please contact our office if you are available to volunteer in the office a few hours a week to inquire about volunteer opportunities in the office.

**Citizens Review Board for Children**  
1100 Eastern Blvd.  
Essex MD 21221  
(410) 238-1320 (Office Number)



# Join A Committee

## Recruitment & Retention

**The Recruitment & Retention committee recruits, plans and coordinates activities for CRBC members**

## Children's Legislative Action Committee (CLAC)

**CLAC makes recommendations to the State Board regarding legislation.**

## Training Team

**The training team provides new member orientation and pre service training.**

# Moving Forward



**Contact the Volunteer Management Team or your Staff Assistant to request recruitment materials to recruit Potential volunteers in your circuit. The volunteer who recruits the most volunteers will be highlighted in the CRBC Insider.....**

**BE the CHANGE that YOU wish to see in the WORLD...**

# **TAKE ACTION!**



## **Action Alerts**

### **50% Board Attendance for 2015 - 6 Month Alert**

Each Year in December, the Governor's Appointments Office sends us a written directive to submit the names of individuals serving on the boards who have missed more than 50% of their local board meetings during that year. When we reach the 6 month mark 50% attendance will be reviewed.

You can alternate or substitute on local boards in the jurisdiction/circuit in which you are appointed to make up for missed review dates.

**For more information contact your Staff Assistant.**

### **Reappointments for 2016**

Each fiscal year there are local board members that have appointments expiring on June 30th, you are notified by mail and sent a reappointment package. Your Staff Assistant will follow up with you at your board review in reference to your reappointment packet. Please complete the necessary forms and return to CRBC by the date indicated. Board members may serve until reappointed.

If you have any questions about the Reappointment Process you can contact the Volunteer Activities Coordinator Supervisor @ (410) 238-1338 or via email [Marlo.Palmer-Dixon@maryland.gov](mailto:Marlo.Palmer-Dixon@maryland.gov)

# State Board Meeting

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## State Board Meeting Dates

- ⇒ August 12, 2016
- ⇒ October 14, 2016
- ⇒ December 9, 2016

# Strategy Committee Meeting

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## Strategy Committee Meeting Dates

- ⇒ The Strategy Committee meets every 1st First of each Month excluding holidays.

# Additional Information

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## Note:

- \* Please be advised that State Board Executive Sessions are closed to the public.
- \* State Board does not meet the following months: January, March, May, July, September and November.
- \* All meeting dates are subject to change. Please contact office to confirm.

## Upcoming Pre-Service Trainings

### Citizens Review Board for Children Pre-Service Training

#### 2016 Trainings

Friday, July 22, 2016 (CRBC)

Friday, September 16, 2016 (CRBC)

Friday, November 18, 2016 (CRBC)

Training Dates are subject to change

10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Citizens Review Board for Children

1100 Eastern Blvd.

Essex MD 21221

To register or **R.S.V.P.** contact:

Marlo Palmer-Dixon, Volunteer Activities Coordinator Supervisor.

(410) 238-1338 **Voice** or [Marlo.Palmer-Dixon@maryland.gov](mailto:Marlo.Palmer-Dixon@maryland.gov) **Email**

**The purpose of the CRBC Pre Service Training is to train newly Governor Appointed Volunteers to serve on CRBC review boards. Current members may also take advantage of the Pre Service Training as a refresher.**



### Three ways you can “Tell Your Story”

- ◆ The Volunteer Management Team would schedule a time to meet with you to interview you so you can tell your story in a video. The purpose of the video is for advertising on CRBC’s social media outlets {Facebook, Twitter & YouTube}.
- ◆ You have the option of sending in a photo and a written story. The purpose of the photo and written story is for advertising on CRBC’s social media outlets {Facebook, Twitter & YouTube}.
- ◆ Lastly if you do not wish to be featured in a video or have your photo on CRBC’s social media outlets you can just submit a written statement and it may be used for advertising on CRBC’s social media outlets {Facebook, Twitter & YouTube} with just your name and jurisdiction.

**There is no better way to recruit than to have a current volunteer tell their story!**

**Contact Volunteer Management Team, Marlo Palmer-Dixon, Sandy Colea (410) 238-1338/77 or your Staff Assistant to request recruitment materials to recruit potential volunteers in your circuit.**



**The volunteer who recruits the most volunteers will be highlighted in the CRBC Insider.....**

# Volunteer Opportunities

We are currently recruiting for volunteers who reside in the following jurisdictions:

**Allegany County**  
**Anne Arundel County**  
**Baltimore City**  
**Calvert County**  
**Caroline County**  
**Carroll County**  
**Cecil County**  
**Charles County**  
**Dorchester County**  
**Garrett County**  
**Howard County**  
**Kent County**  
**Montgomery County**  
**Prince George's County**  
**Queen Anne's County**  
**Saint Mary's County**  
**Somerset County**  
**Talbot County**  
**Washington County**  
**Wicomico County**  
**Worcester County**



**We're  
recruiting!**

## Contact Us

Citizens Review Board for Children

1100 Eastern Blvd.

Essex, MD 21221

Office Number: (410) 238-1320

Fax Number: (410) 238-1395

Email: [crbc.mail@maryland.gov](mailto:crbc.mail@maryland.gov)

Website: [www.dhr.maryland.gov/crbc](http://www.dhr.maryland.gov/crbc)

### Connect with CRBC on Social Media

Like us on Facebook:



**Maryland Citizens Review Board for  
Children**

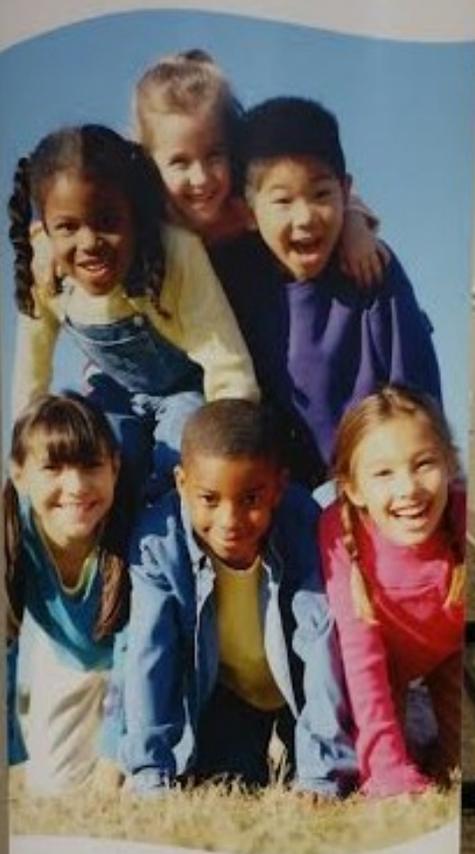
Follow us on Twitter:



**[twitter.com/MD\\_CRBC](https://twitter.com/MD_CRBC)**

**“One Unified Volunteer  
Voice for Safety,  
Permanency and  
Advocacy”**

## Citizens Review Board For Children



 **CRBC**  
Citizens Review Board for Children

