

# Citizens Review Board For Children



THIRD QUARTER  
FISCAL YEAR 2017 REPORT  
(January 1st 2017 – March 31st 2017)

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## **Our Mission Statement**

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

## **Our Vision Statement**

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

## **Discrimination Statement**

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

## **Confidentiality**

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

## CRBC Acknowledgements

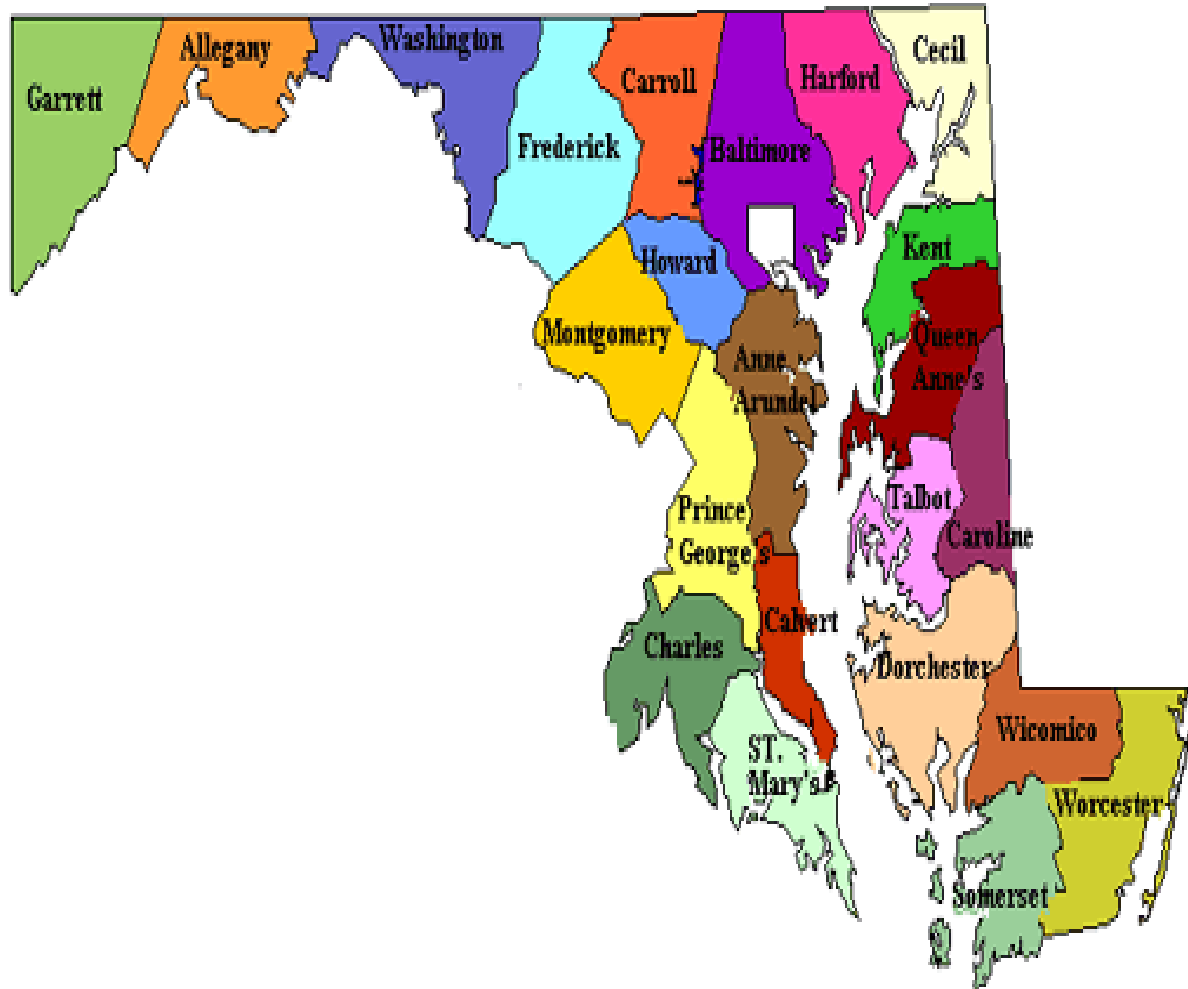
CRBC would like to acknowledge the commitment, dedication, passion and service of all stakeholders on behalf of Maryland's most vulnerable children including:

- ★ CRBC Governor Appointed Volunteers
- ★ The Department of Human Resources (DHR)
- ★ The Social Services Administration (SSA)
- ★ The Local Departments of Social Services (LDSS) and (DHHS) Montgomery County
- ★ The Coalition to Protect Maryland's Children(CPMC)
- ★ The State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (SCCAN)
- ★ The State Child Fatality Review Team (SCFRT)
- ★ The Local Juvenile Courts of Maryland
- ★ All community partners

*Thank  
You*

## Introduction

The following pages contain data from CRBC's out-of-home-placement case review findings and recommendations for the 3rd Quarter Fiscal Year 2017.



CRBC conducts regular out-of-home placement case reviews in all 24 Maryland jurisdictions including Baltimore City throughout the year. For this quarterly report, the following counties did not have regularly scheduled case reviews during the quarter: Carroll, Garrett, Kent/Queen Anne, Somerset, Talbot, and Wicomico counties. Therefore, this report only contains review findings and recommendations for the 16 counties and Baltimore City that had regularly scheduled reviews.

## **Targeted Review Criterion**

The Social Services Administration (SSA) and the Citizens Review Board for Children (CRBC) together have created a review work plan for targeted reviews of children in out-of-home-placement. This work plan contains targeted review criteria based on out- of-home-placement permanency plans.

### **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.

### **Adoption:**

- ★ Existing plans of Adoption. CRBC will conduct a review of 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 5 months after 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 of a child 16 years of age and younger who has an established primary permanency plan of APPLA. The primary purpose of the review is to assess appropriateness of the plan and review documentation of the Federal APPLA requirements.
- ★ Newly established plans of APPLA. CRBC will conduct a review of a child within 5 months after the establishment of APPLA as the primary permanency plan. Local Boards will review cases to ensure that local departments have made adequate and appropriate efforts to assess if a plan of APPLA was the most appropriate recourse for the child.

## Older Youth Aging Out

- ★ Older youth aging-out or remaining in out-of-home care at age 17 and 20 years old. CRBC will conduct reviews of youth that are 17 and 20 years of age. The primary purpose of the review is to assess if services were provided to prepare the youth to transition to adulthood.

## Re-Review Cases:

- ★ Assessment of progress made by LDSS. CRBC will conduct follow-up reviews during the fourth quarter of the current fiscal year of any cases wherein the Local Board identified barriers that may impede adequate progress. The purpose of the review is to assess the status of the child and any progress made by LDSS to determine if identified barriers have been removed.

## **Permanency Plan Hierarchy**

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

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

## **Family Centered Practice Model**

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

### 3rd Quarter Case Review Statistics

The following table shows the jurisdictions where reviews were conducted, the total number of children reviewed, permanency plans and the number of boards held.

Jurn #	County	Reunification	Relative Placement	Adoption	Custody Guardianship	APPLA	TOTAL	# Boards Held
01	Allegany	3	0	2	0	0	5	1
02	Anne Arundel	7	0	1	1	10	19	3
03	Baltimore County	20	1	7	4	14	46	8
04	Calvert	3	1	1	0	0	5	1
05	Caroline	2	0	1	0	3	6	1
07	Cecil	1	0	0	3	0	4	1
08	Charles	1	1	1	2	2	7	1
09	Dorchester	3	1	0	0	1	5	1
10	Frederick	1	0	3	0	7	11	2
12	Harford	0	0	1	1	2	4	1
13	Howard	2	0	2	1	3	8	1
15	Montgomery	9	1	7	2	12	31	6
16	Prince Georges	5	0	0	4	18	27	5
18	Saint Mary's	6	0	0	0	0	6	1
21	Washington	1	0	3	0	5	9	1
23	Worcester	5	0	0	0	0	5	1
49	Baltimore City	20	17	14	13	41	105	18
	<b>Statewide Totals</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>53</b>
	<b>Percentages</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>100%</b>	

CRBC conducted a total of 303 individual out-of-home case reviews (each case reviewed represents 1 child/youth) in 17 Jurisdictions on 53 boards that held reviews during the 3rd quarter of fiscal 2017.

Although CRBC collects data on a number of data elements, this report will focus on the following:

- Permanency Plan - (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (E))
- Placement Plan - (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (I))
- Progress towards Permanent Placement - (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F))
- Case Planning
- Supportive Services
- Health/Mental Health (family article 5-545)
- Education (family article 5-545)



- Ready by 21
- Independent Living Skills (14 and older)
- Employment (14 and older)
- Housing (Transitioning Youth age 17 and older)
- Permanent Connections
- Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)
- Pre-Adoption Services
- Post-Adoption Services
- Barriers to Permanency
- Miscellaneous Findings

## Total Reviewed (303)

### Gender Totals

Male	Female
151 (49.8%)	152 (50.2%)

### Gender by Plan

#### Male(151)

Reunification	Relative Placement	Adoption	Custody Guardianship	APPLA
46 (33%)	11 (7%)	24 (16%)	15 (10%)	55 (36%)

#### Female(152)

Reunification	Relative Placement	Adoption	Custody Guardianship	APPLA
43 (28%)	11 (7%)	19 (13%)	16 (11%)	63 (42%)

### Ethnicity Overall

African American	Caucasian	Asian	Other
195 (64%)	90 (30%)	0 (0%)	18 (6%)

## Jurisdictional Case Reviews

### Allegany County



Allegany County had a total of 5 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 3 cases
- Non Relative Adoption: 2 cases

#### Permanency

The local board agreed with the permanency plan in 4 of the 5 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the 5 cases.

#### Category of APPLA plan (None)

#### Permanent Connections (APPLA - None)

#### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months				1		
7 to 11 months				1		
1 to 2 years	3					
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						

#### Case Planning

The local department made efforts to involve the family in the case planning process in all 5 cases reviewed.

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
2	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
3	Treatment Foster Care (Private)

## Placement Stability

In 3 of the 5 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

In all 5 cases reviewed there were at least 2 changes in placement within the 12 months prior to the review.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan in all 5 cases reviewed.

## Supportive Services

The local board looked at services offered to the child, the birth family and the foster/kin family in the following areas:

- Housing
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Education
- Employment
- Special needs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Visitation with family
- Referrals to needed resources

The local board agreed that appropriate services were being offered to the children in all 5 cases reviewed and to the birth family in 3 of the 5 cases.

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that none of the 5 children reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 5 children had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 5 children had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 5 children had a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 2 children had completed medical records in their case files.

- Comprehensive Health Assessment: The local department reported that all 5 children reviewed had received a comprehensive health assessment.
- Prescription Medication: None of the children were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: None of the children were taking psychotropic medication.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: None of the children had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Not applicable.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the children with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed that the health needs and the mental health needs of all 5 children were being met.

#### Education

All 5 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program.

The local board agreed that the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

#### Ready by 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – None)

Not applicable.

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – None)

Not applicable.

- Housing (Transitioning Youth age 17 and older - None)

Not applicable.

#### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 5 cases had a CASA.

## Risk and Safety

There were no indicators of risk in any of the cases reviewed and all safety protocols were followed.

## Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Child's Consent to Adoption	Cases
Yes	
Yes, with conditions	
Child did not want to be Adopted	1
No, Medically Fragile/Mental Health Issue	
No, Mental Health Reasons	
N/A under age of consent	1
No, Reunification	3
No, Relative Placement	
Unknown	

## Adoptive Placement (2 Adoption cases)

### Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources

Both cases with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure in both cases comprised of a married couple for each case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child was a non relative in both cases.

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placements were as follows:

- 2 case(s) from 4 to 6 months

A home study was completed and approved in both cases.

The local board agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive families to meet identified needs of the children in both cases.

The local board agreed that the pre-adoptive placements were appropriate for both cases.

### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post-adoptive services were needed for both cases. The service that was needed was medical in both cases.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate.

Miscellaneous Findings

Frequency of Caseworker Visits (as reported by caseworker)

Frequency	Cases
Daily	
Once a week	
More than once a week	
Less than once a week, but at least twice a month	
Less than twice a month, but at least once a month	5
Less than once a month	
Quarterly	

Barriers to Permanency

There were no barriers/issues identified.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 5 children reviewed.

## Anne Arundel County



Anne Arundel County had a total of 19 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 7 cases
- Non Relative Adoption: 1 case
- Non Relative Custody/Guardianship: 1 case
- APPLA: 10 cases

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the permanency plan in 14 of the 19 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the 19 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (10 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (8)
- Placement in long-term care facility until transition to an adult facility (2)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 10 cases)

9 of the 10 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for all 9 cases.

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months						3
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	7			1		1
2 to 3 years					1	1
3 years or more						5



## Case Planning

The local department made efforts to involve the family in the case planning process in all 19 cases reviewed.

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
1	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
3	Regular Foster Care
2	Restricted Foster Care (Relative)
5	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
4	Therapeutic Group Home
1	Residential Treatment Center
1	Relative
2	Other

## Placement Stability

In 10 of the 19 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

In 9 of the 19 cases reviewed there was at least 1 change in placement within the 12 months prior to the review, 7 cases with 2 changes, 2 cases with 3 changes and 1 case with 4 or more placement changes.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan in 18 of the 19 cases reviewed.

## Supportive Services

The local board looked at services offered to the child, the birth family and the foster/kin family in the following areas:

- Housing
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Education
- Employment
- Special needs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Visitation with family
- Referrals to needed resources

The local board agreed that appropriate services were being offered to the children in all 19 cases reviewed, to the foster/kin family in 2 cases and to the birth family in 4 cases.

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 7 of the 19 children reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 13 children had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 13 children had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 10 children had a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 10 children had completed medical records in their case files.
- Comprehensive Health Assessment: The local department reported that 18 children reviewed had received a comprehensive health assessment.
- Prescription Medication: 13 children were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 11 children were taking psychotropic medication.
- Substance Abuse: 3 children had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 2 of the 3 children.
- Behavioral Issues: 14 children had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 14 children.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 2 children with mental health issues were transitioning out of care and had an identified plan to obtain services in the adult mental health care system.

The local board agreed that the health needs of 8 children and the mental health needs of 14 children were being met. 8 children refused to comply with standard health exams.

## Education

14 of the 19 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 2 youths had already graduated high school, 1 youth refused to attend, 1 child was under the age of 5 and 1 child/youth was not enrolled yet due to moving to another county.

The local board agreed that the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

## Ready by 21

### ➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 15 cases)

3 of the 15 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience and the local board agreed that the 3 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

### ➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 15 cases)

The local board agreed that 5 of the 15 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

### ➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth age 17 and older – 8 cases)

Housing had been specified for 2 of the 8 youths transitioning out of care. The local board agreed that the 2 youths were being appropriately prepared to transition out of care.

## Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

10 cases had a CASA.

## Risk and Safety

There were no indicators of risk in any of the cases reviewed and all safety protocols were followed.

## Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Child's Consent to Adoption	Cases
Yes	
Yes, with conditions	
Child did not want to be Adopted	14
No, Medically Fragile/Mental Health Issue	1
No, Mental Health Reasons	1
N/A under age of consent	2
No, Reunification	
No, Relative Placement	
Unknown	1

## Adoptive Placement (1 Adoption case)

### Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources

The 1 child with a plan of adoption was placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure in the 1 case comprised of a married couple and the relationship to the pre-adoptive child was a foster parent.

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placements were as follows:

- 1 case(s) from 12 to 15 months

A home study was completed and approved for the 1 case.

The local board agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive family to meet identified needs of the child in the 1 case.

The local board agreed that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for the 1 case.

### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post-adoptive services were needed for the 1 case. The service that was needed was medical.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate.

### Miscellaneous Findings

#### Frequency of Caseworker Visits (as reported by caseworker)

Frequency	Cases
Daily	
Once a week	
More than once a week	
Less than once a week, but at least twice a month	2
Less than twice a month, but at least once a month	15
Less than once a month	
Quarterly	2

### Barriers to Permanency

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- Annual Physicals Not Current
- Dental Exams Are Not Current
- Vision Exams Are Not current
- No Service Agreement With Youth
- Youth Refuses Mental Health Treatment Including Therapy
- Board Does Not Agree with Current Permanency Plan

## Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 19 children reviewed.

## Baltimore County



Baltimore County had a total of 46 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 20 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody/Guardianship: 1 case
- Non Relative Adoption: 7 cases
- Non Relative Custody/Guardianship: 4 cases
- APPLA: 14 cases

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the permanency plan in all 46 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 14 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent plan set by the court for the 14 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (14 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (12)
- Placement in long-term care facility until transition into an adult an facility (1)
- Long term out-of-care with a non relative (1)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 14 cases)

8 of the 14 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 8 cases.

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months			1	4	2	
7 to 11 months	1					1
1 to 2 years	7				1	2
2 to 3 years	8				1	6
3 years or more	4			3		5

## Case Planning

The local department made efforts to involve the family in the case planning process in all 46 cases reviewed.

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
4	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
3	Restricted Relative Foster Care
20	Treatment Foster Care
3	Therapeutic Group Home
2	Independent Living Residential Program
7	Residential Treatment Center
3	Residential Group Home
4	None

## Placement Stability

In 27 of the 46 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

In 28 of the 46 cases reviewed there was at least 1 change in placement within the 12 months prior to the review and 18 cases with at least 2 placement changes.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan in 45 of the 46 cases reviewed.

## Supportive Services

The local board looked at services offered to the child, the birth family and the foster/kin family in the following areas:

- Housing
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Education
- Employment
- Special needs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Visitation with family
- Referrals to needed resources

The local board agreed that appropriate services were being offered to the children in 43 of the 46 cases reviewed and to the birth family in 25 cases.

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 14 of the 46 children reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 43 children had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 42 children had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 37 children had a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 37 children had completed medical records in their case files.
- Comprehensive Health Assessment: The local department reported that all 46 children had received a comprehensive health assessment.
- Prescription Medication: 30 children were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 29 children were taking psychotropic medication.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 4 children had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 4 children.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 child with mental health issues was transitioning out of care and had an identified plan to obtain services in the adult mental health care system.

The local board agreed that the health needs of 39 children and the mental health needs of 45 children were being met. 2 children refused to comply with standard health exams.

## Education

44 of the 46 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 2 children/youths refused to attend school.

The local board agreed that the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.



## Ready by 21

### ➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 32 cases)

5 of the 32 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience. The local board agreed that the 5 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

### ➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 32 cases)

The local board agreed that 24 of the 32 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

### ➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth age 17 and older- 18 cases)

Housing had been specified for 1 youth that was transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed that the youth was being appropriately prepared for transitioning out of care.

## Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

12 cases had a CASA.

## Risk and Safety

There was 1 case with an indicator of risk, however all applicable safety assessments and child protection protocols were followed.

## Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Child's Consent to Adoption	Cases
Yes	5
Yes, with conditions	1
Child did not want to be Adopted	23
No, Medically Fragile/Mental Health Issue	
No, Mental Health Reasons	4
N/A under age of consent	5
No, Reunification	6
No, Relative Placement	
Unknown	2

## Adoptive Placement (7 Adoption Cases)

### Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources

5 of the 7 cases with an adoption plan were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure was with a married couple in 4 cases and an unmarried couple in 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child was a foster parent in all 4 cases and a non relative in 1 case.

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placements were as follows:

- 5 case(s) from 21 months or longer

A home study was completed and approved in all 5 cases.

The local board agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive families to meet identified needs of the children in all 5 cases.

The local board agreed that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for all 5 cases.

Documented efforts had been made to find a pre-adoptive resource for the 2 children not placed in a pre-adoptive home.

The local board agreed that the recruitment efforts were appropriate.

### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post-adoptive services were needed in all 7 cases. The services that were needed were as follows:

- 6 children were in need of medical post adoptive services.
- 5 children were in need of mental health post adoptive services.
- 3 children were in need of educational post adoptive services.
- 2 children were in need of special needs post adoptive services.
- 1 child was in need of DDA post adoptive services.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate.

## Miscellaneous Findings

### Frequency of Caseworker Visits (as reported by caseworker)

Frequency	Cases
Daily	
Once a week	
More than once a week	
Less than once a week, but at least twice a month	
Less than twice a month, but at least once a month	43
Less than once a month	1
Quarterly	1
LDSS reports visits but it is undocumented	1

### Barriers to Permanency

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- No service agreement with youth
- No follow up on referrals

### Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 46 children reviewed.

## Calvert County



Calvert County had a total of 5 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 3 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 1 case
- Non Relative Adoption: 1 case

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the permanency plan in all 5 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 1 of the 5 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent plan set by the court.

### Category of APPLA plan (None)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA - None)

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months						
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	2					
2 to 3 years		1		1		
3 years or more	1					

### Case Planning

The local department made efforts to involve the family in the case planning process in all 5 cases reviewed.

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
1	Restricted Relative Foster Care
1	Treatment Foster Care
2	Residential Treatment Center
1	None

## Placement Stability

In all 5 cases reviewed the children were not placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

In 1 of the 5 cases reviewed there was at least 1 change in placement within the 12 months prior to the review and 4 cases with at least 2 placement changes.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan in all 5 cases reviewed.

## Supportive Services

The local board looked at services offered to the child, the birth family and the foster/kin family in the following areas:

- Housing
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Education
- Employment
- Special needs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Visitation with family
- Referrals to needed resources

The local board agreed that appropriate services were being offered to the children in all 5 cases reviewed, and to the birth family in 4 cases.

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of the 5 children reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 5 children had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 5 children had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 5 children had a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that all 5 children had

completed medical records in their case files.

- Comprehensive Health Assessment: The local department reported that all 5 children had received a comprehensive health assessment.
- Prescription Medication: 4 children were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 4 children were taking psychotropic medication.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: None of the children had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Not applicable.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the children with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed that the health needs and the mental health needs of all 5 children were being met.

### Education

All 5 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program.

The local board agreed that the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready by 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 4 cases)

None of the 4 children/youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 4 cases)

The local board agreed that all 4 children/youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

- Housing (Transitioning Youth age 17 and older – 1 case)

Not applicable. The youth was not transitioning out of care.

### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 5 cases had a CASA.

### Risk and Safety

There were no indicators of risk in any of the cases reviewed and all safety protocols were followed.

### Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Child's Consent to Adoption	Cases
Yes	2
Yes, with conditions	
Child did not want to be Adopted	1
No, Medically Fragile/Mental Health Issue	
No, Mental Health Reasons	
N/A under age of consent	
No, Reunification	2
No, Relative Placement	
Unknown	

### Adoptive Placement (1 Adoption Case)

#### Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources

The 1 child with an adoption plan was not placed in a pre-adoptive home.

Documented efforts had not been made to find a pre-adoptive resource for the child.

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placement: Not applicable.

Appropriate services and supports for the pre-adoptive families: Not applicable.

#### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post-adoptive services were needed for the 1 case. The service that was needed was medical.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate.

## Miscellaneous Findings

### Frequency of Caseworker Visits (as reported by caseworker)

Frequency	Cases
Daily	
Once a week	
More than once a week	
Less than once a week, but at least twice a month	
Less than twice a month, but at least once a month	5
Less than once a month	
Quarterly	

### Barriers to Permanency

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- Lack of Local Residential Treatment Facilities
- Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction

### Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 4 of the 5 children reviewed.



## Caroline County



Caroline County had a total of 6 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 2 cases
- Non Relative Adoption: 1 case
- APPLA: 3 cases

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the permanency plan in all 6 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the 6 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)
- Placement in a long-term facility until transition to an adult facility (2)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 3 cases)

All 3 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for all 3 cases.

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months						
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years				1		1
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more	2					2

## Case Planning

The local department made efforts to involve the family in the case planning process in all 6 cases reviewed.

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
3	Treatment Foster Care(Private)
1	Therapeutic Group Home
1	Residential Group Home
1	Other

## Placement Stability

In 4 of the 6 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

In all 6 cases reviewed there was at least 1 change in placement within the 12 months prior to the review.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan in all 6 cases reviewed.

## Supportive Services

The local board looked at services offered to the child, the birth family and the foster/kin family in the following areas:

- Housing
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Education
- Employment
- Special needs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Visitation with family
- Referrals to needed resources

The local board agreed that appropriate services were being offered to the children in all 6 cases reviewed, to the foster/kin family in 3 cases and to the birth family in 3 cases.

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 4 of the 6 children reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 6 children had a current physical exam.

- Current Vision: 6 children had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 6 children had a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that all 6 children had completed medical records in their case files.
- Comprehensive Health Assessment: The local department reported that all 6 children had received a comprehensive health assessment.
- Prescription Medication: 6 children were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 6 children were taking psychotropic medication.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child.
- Behavioral Issues: All 6 children had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 6 children.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 4 children with mental health issues were transitioning out of care and had an identified plan to obtain services in the adult mental health care system.

The local board agreed that the health needs and the mental health needs of all 6 children were being met.

### Education

5 of the 6 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program and 1 youth had already graduated high school.

The local board agreed that the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready by 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 6 cases)

3 of the 6 children/youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience. The local board agreed that the 3 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 6 cases)

The local board agreed that 5 of the 6 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth age 17 and older – 4 cases)

Housing had been specified for 2 youths transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed that the 2 youths were being appropriately prepared to transition out of care.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

1 case had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

There were no indicators of risk in any of the cases reviewed and all safety protocols were followed.

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Child's Consent to Adoption	Cases
Yes	1
Yes, with conditions	
Child did not want to be Adopted	3
No, Medically Fragile/Mental Health Issue	
No, Mental Health Reasons	
N/A under age of consent	
No, Reunification	2
No, Relative Placement	
Unknown	

Adoptive Placement (1 Adoption Case)

Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources

The 1 child with an adoption plan was not placed in a pre-adoptive home.

Documented efforts had not been made to find a pre-adoptive resource for the child.

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placement: Not applicable.

Appropriate services and supports for the pre-adoptive families: Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post-adoptive services were needed for the 1 case. The service that was needed was medical.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate.

Miscellaneous Findings

Frequency of Caseworker Visits (as reported by caseworker)

Frequency	Cases
Daily	
Once a week	
More than once a week	
Less than once a week, but at least twice a month	
Less than twice a month, but at least once a month	6
Less than once a month	
Quarterly	

Barriers to Permanency

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- Other court related barriers
- Pre-Adoptive Resources Not Identified

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 5 of the 6 children reviewed.

## Cecil County



Cecil County had a total of 4 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 1 case
- Non Relative Custody/Guardianship: 3 cases

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the permanency plan in all 4 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court identified a concurrent permanency plan for all 4 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent plan set by the court for 3 of the 4 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (None)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA - None)

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months						
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	1				3	
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						

### Case Planning

The local department made efforts to involve the family in the case planning process in all 4 cases reviewed.

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
3	Regular Foster Care
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)

## Placement Stability

In 3 of the 4 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

In all 4 cases reviewed there was at least 1 change in placement within the 12 months prior to the review.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan in all 4 cases reviewed.

## Supportive Services

The local board looked at services offered to the child, the birth family and the foster/kin family in the following areas:

- Housing
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Education
- Employment
- Special needs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Visitation with family
- Referrals to needed resources

The local board agreed that appropriate services were being offered to the children in all 4 cases reviewed, to the foster/kin family in all 4 cases and to the birth family in 3 cases.

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that none of the 4 children reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 1 child had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 1 child had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 1 child had a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 1 child had completed medical records in their case files.

- Comprehensive Health Assessment: The local department reported that all 4 children had received a comprehensive health assessment.
- Prescription Medication: 2 children were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children were taking psychotropic medication.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 4 children had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 4 children.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the children with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed that the health needs of 2 children and the mental health needs of 2 children were being met.

### Education

All 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program.

The local board agreed that all the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready by 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

Neither of the 2 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

The local board agreed that 1 youth was receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

- Housing (Transitioning Youth age 17 and older - None)

Not applicable.

### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

3 cases had a CASA.



### Risk and Safety

There were no indicators of risk in any of the cases reviewed and all safety protocols were followed.

### Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Child's Consent to Adoption	Cases
Yes	
Yes, with conditions	
Child did not want to be Adopted	3
No, Medically Fragile/Mental Health Issue	
No, Mental Health Reasons	
N/A under age of consent	
No, Reunification	
No, Relative Placement	
Unknown	1

### Adoptive Placement (None)

Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources - (Not applicable)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources - (Not applicable)

### Miscellaneous Findings

Frequency of Caseworker Visits (as reported by caseworker)

Frequency	Cases
Daily	
Once a week	
More than once a week	
Less than once a week, but at least twice a month	1
Less than twice a month, but at least once a month	3
Less than once a month	
Quarterly	

## Barriers to Permanency

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- Other educational barrier
- Annual physicals not current
- Dentals not current
- Visions not current
- No service agreement with youth

## Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 4 children reviewed.

## Charles County



Charles County had a total of 7 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 1 case
- Relative Placement for Custody/Guardianship: 1 case
- Non Relative Adoption: 1 case
- Non Relative Custody/Guardianship: 2 cases
- APPLA: 2 cases

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the permanency plan in 5 of the 7 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 3 of the 7 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan identified by the courts in the 3 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence

### Permanent Connections (APPLA)

Both APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for both cases.

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months			1		2	1
7 to 11 months	1					
1 to 2 years						
2 to 3 years						1
3 years or more				1		

## Case Planning

The local department made efforts to involve the family in the case planning process in 6 of the 7 cases reviewed.

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
6	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Residential Treatment Center

## Placement Stability

In 2 of the 7 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

In 5 of the 7 cases reviewed there was at least 1 change in placement within the 12 months prior to the review, 1 case with at least 2 placement changes and 1 case with 3 changes.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan in all 7 cases reviewed.

## Supportive Services

The local board looked at services offered to the child, the birth family and the foster/kin family in the following areas:

- Housing
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Education
- Employment
- Special needs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Visitation with family
- Referrals to needed resources

The local board agreed that appropriate services were being offered to the children in all 7 cases reviewed and to the birth family in 3 cases.

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 1 of the 7 children reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 7 children had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 6 children had a current vision exam.

- Current Dental: 6 children had a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 6 children had completed medical records in their case files.
- Comprehensive Health Assessment: The local department reported that all 7 children had received a comprehensive health assessment.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children were taking psychotropic medication.
- Substance Abuse: None of children had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: None of children had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Not applicable.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the children with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed that the health needs of 6 children and the mental health needs of all 7 children were being met. 1 child refused to comply with standard health exams.

### Education

All 7 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program.

The local board agreed that the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet their educational goals.

### Ready by 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 6 cases)

2 of the 6 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience and the local board agreed that the 2 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 6 cases)

The local board agreed that all 6 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth age 17 and older – 3 cases)

Not applicable. None of the youths were transitioning out of care.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

2 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

There were no indicators of risk in any of the cases reviewed and all safety protocols were followed.

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Child's Consent to Adoption	Cases
Yes	3
Yes, with conditions	
Child did not want to be Adopted	3
No, Medically Fragile/Mental Health Issue	1
No, Mental Health Reasons	
N/A under age of consent	
No, Reunification	
No, Relative Placement	
Unknown	

Adoptive Placement (1 Adoption case)

Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources

The 1 child with a plan of adoption was not placed in a pre-adoptive home.

Documented efforts were made to find an adoptive resource for the child not placed in a pre-adoptive home.

The local board agreed that the recruitment efforts were appropriate.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post-adoptive services were needed for the 1 case. The services that were needed were medical, educational and mental health services.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate.

### Miscellaneous Findings

#### Frequency of Caseworker Visits (as reported by caseworker)

Frequency	Cases
Daily	
Once a week	
More than once a week	
Less than once a week, but at least twice a month	
Less than twice a month, but at least once a month	7
Less than once a month	
Quarterly	

### Barriers to Permanency

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction
- Lack of local residential treatment facilities
- No service agreement with youth

### Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 7 children reviewed.

## Dorchester County



Dorchester County had a total of 5 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 3 case
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 1 case
- APPLA: 1 case

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the permanency plan in 2 of the 5 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the 5 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case)

The 1 APPLA case had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connection was appropriate for the 1 case.

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months						
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	1	1				
2 to 3 years	1					
3 years or more	1					1



## Case Planning

The local department made efforts to involve the family in the case planning process in all 5 cases reviewed.

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
2	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Therapeutic Group Home
2	None

## Placement Stability

In 2 of the 5 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

In all 5 cases reviewed there was at least 1 change in placement within the 12 months prior to the review.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan in all 5 cases reviewed.

## Supportive Services

The local board looked at services offered to the child, the birth family and the foster/kin family in the following areas:

- Housing
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Education
- Employment
- Special needs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Visitation with family
- Referrals to needed resources

The local board agreed that appropriate services were being offered to the children in all 5 cases reviewed, to the foster/kin family in 2 cases and to the birth family in 3 cases.

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 1 of the 5 children reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 5 children had a current vision exam.

- Current Dental: 5 children had a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 4 children had completed medical records in their case files.
- Comprehensive Health Assessment: The local department reported that all 5 children had received a comprehensive health assessment.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children were taking psychotropic medication.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 1 child.
- Behavioral Issues: 4 children had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 4 children.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 3 children with mental health issues were transitioning out of care and had an identified plan to obtain services in the adult mental health care system.

The local board agreed that the health needs and the mental health needs of 4 children were being met.

### Education

All 5 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program.

The local board agreed that the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet their educational goals.

### Ready by 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

1 of the 3 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience and the local board agreed that the 1 youth was being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

The local board agreed that all 3 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth age 17 and older – 2 cases)

Housing had been specified for both youths transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed that the youths were being appropriately prepared for transitioning out of care.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

All 5 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

There were no indicators of risk in any of the cases reviewed and all safety protocols were followed.

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Child's Consent to Adoption	Cases
Yes	
Yes, with conditions	
Child did not want to be Adopted	3
No, Medically Fragile/Mental Health Issue	
No, Mental Health Reasons	
N/A under age of consent	
No, Reunification	2
No, Relative Placement	
Unknown	

Adoptive Placement (None)

Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources – (Not applicable)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources – (Not applicable)

## Miscellaneous Findings

### Frequency of Caseworker Visits (as reported by caseworker)

Frequency	Cases
Daily	
Once a week	
More than once a week	
Less than once a week, but at least twice a month	
Less than twice a month, but at least once a month	5
Less than once a month	
Quarterly	

### Barriers to Permanency

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- Other court related barrier
- Board does not agree with current permanency plan
- Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy

### Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 5 children reviewed.

## Frederick County



Frederick County had a total of 11 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 1 case
- Non Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- APPLA: 7 cases

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the permanency plan in all 11 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 1 of the 11 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent plan set by the court for the 1 case.

### Category of APPLA plan (7 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (3)
- Long term out of home care with a non relative (3)
- Long term out of home placement with a specified relative (1)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 7 cases)

6 of 7 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 6 cases.

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months						1
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	1			1		
2 to 3 years				1		
3 years or more				1		6

## Case Planning

The local department made efforts to involve the family in the case planning process in all 11 cases reviewed.

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
1	Pre-finalized Adoptive Home
4	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Alternative Living Units
4	Therapeutic Group Home
1	None

## Placement Stability

In 1 of the 11 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

In 8 of the 11 cases reviewed there was at least 1 change in placement within the 12 months prior to the review and 3 cases with at least 2 placement changes.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan in all 11 cases reviewed.

## Supportive Services

The local board looked at services offered to the child, the birth family and the foster/kin family in the following areas:

- Housing
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Education
- Employment
- Special needs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Visitation with family
- Referrals to needed resources

The local board agreed that appropriate services were being offered to the children in all 11 cases reviewed, to the foster/kin family in 7 cases and to the birth family in 5 cases.

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 10 of the 11 children reviewed had developmental or special needs.

- Current Physical: 10 children had received a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 11 children had received a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 9 children had received a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 8 children had completed medical records in their case files.
- Comprehensive Health Assessment: The local department reported that all 11 children had received a comprehensive health assessment.
- Prescription Medication: 10 children were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 9 children were taking psychotropic medication.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 4 children had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 4 children.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 2 children with mental health issues were transitioning out of care and had an identified plan to obtain services in the adult mental health care system.

The local board agreed that the health needs of 8 children and the mental health needs of 9 children were being met.

### Education

10 of the 11 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program and 1 youth had already graduated high school.

The local board agreed that the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready by 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 10 cases)

5 of the 10 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience and the local board agreed that the youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 10 cases)

The local board agreed that 9 youths were receiving appropriate independent living skills.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth age 17 and older- 8 cases)

Housing had been specified for 1 youth transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed with the housing plan and found that the youth was being appropriately prepared to transition out of care.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

6 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

There were no indicators of risk in any of the cases reviewed and all safety protocols were followed.

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Child's Consent to Adoption	Cases
Yes	3
Yes, with conditions	
Child did not want to be Adopted	2
No, Medically Fragile/Mental Health Issue	4
No, Mental Health Reasons	1
N/A under age of consent	
No, Reunification	1
No, Relative Placement	
Unknown	

Adoptive Placement (3 Adoption cases)

Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources

2 of the 3 children with an adoption plan were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure was a married couple for 1 case and a single female for the other case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child was a foster parent in both cases.



Length of time in the pre-adoptive placements were as follows:

- 1 case(s) from 10 to 12 months
- 1 case(s) from 12 to 15 months

A home study was completed and approved in both cases.

The local board agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive family to meet identified needs of the children in both cases.

The pre-adoptive placements were appropriate in both cases.

#### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post-adoptive services were needed in all 3 adoption cases. The services that were needed were mental health in 1 case and DDA services in 2 cases.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate.

#### Miscellaneous Findings

##### Frequency of Caseworker Visits (as reported by caseworker)

Frequency	Cases
Daily	
Once a week	
More than once a week	
Less than once a week, but at least twice a month	1
Less than twice a month, but at least once a month	10
Less than once a month	
Quarterly	

#### Barriers to Permanency

The following barriers/issues were identified.

- Lack of special needs adoptive homes
- Other community resource barrier
- Not following up on referrals

#### Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 11 children reviewed.

## Harford County



Harford County had a total of 4 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non Relative Adoption: 1 case
- Non Relative Custody and Guardianship: 1 case
- APPLA: 2 cases

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the permanency plan in all 4 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the 4 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 2 cases)

Both APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for both cases.

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months					1	1
7 to 11 months				1		
1 to 2 years						
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						1

### Case Planning

The local department made efforts to involve the family in the case planning process in all 4 cases reviewed.

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
1	Regular Foster Care
2	Residential Group Home
1	Therapeutic Group Home

## Placement Stability

In 2 of the 4 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

In 2 of the 4 cases reviewed there was at least 1 change in placement within the 12 months prior to the review.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan in all 4 cases reviewed.

## Supportive Services

The local board looked at services offered to the child, the birth family and the foster/kin family in the following areas:

- Housing
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Education
- Employment
- Special needs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Visitation with family
- Referrals to needed resources

The local board agreed that appropriate services were being offered to the children in all 4 cases reviewed, to the foster/kin family in 1 case and to the birth family in 2 cases.

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that none of the 4 children reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children had received a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 4 children had received a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 4 children had received a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that all 4 children had completed medical records in their case files.

- Comprehensive Health Assessment: The local department reported that all 4 children had received a comprehensive health assessment.
- Prescription Medication: 2 children were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 1 children were taking psychotropic medication.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children had a substance abuse problems.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 3 children had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 3 children.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the children with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed that the health needs of all 4 children and mental health needs of 3 children were being met.

### Education

3 of the 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program and 1 child was under age 5.

The local board agreed that the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready by 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

2 of the 3 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience. The local board agreed that the 2 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

The local board agreed that 1 youth was receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

- Housing (Transitioning Youth age 17 and older – 1 case)

Not applicable. Youth was not transitioning out of care.

### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

2 cases had a CASA.

### Risk and Safety

There were no indicators of risk in any of the cases reviewed and all safety protocols were followed.

### Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Child's Consent to Adoption	Cases
Yes	
Yes, with conditions	
Child did not want to be Adopted	3
No, Medically Fragile/Mental Health Issue	
No, Mental Health Reasons	
N/A under age of consent	1
No, Reunification	
No, Relative Placement	
Unknown	

### Adoptive Placement (1 Adoption case)

#### Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources

The 1 child with an adoption plan was placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure was a married couple and the relationship to the pre-adoptive child was a non relative.

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placement was as follows:

- 1 case(s) from 21 months or longer

A home study was completed and approved.

The local board agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive family to meet identified needs of the child, and that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate.

#### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post-adoptive services were needed for the 1 case. The service that was needed was medical.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate.

### Miscellaneous Findings

#### Frequency of Caseworker Visits (as reported by caseworker)

Frequency	Cases
Daily	
Once a week	
More than once a week	
Less than once a week, but at least twice a month	
Less than twice a month, but at least once a month	4
Less than once a month	
Quarterly	
Undocumented	

### Barriers to Permanency

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- No current IEP
- No Other education barrier
- Inadequate Preparation For Independence (General)

### Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 4 children reviewed.

## Howard County



Howard County had a total of 8 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 2 cases
- Non Relative Adoption: 2 cases
- Non Relative Custody/Guardianship: 1 case
- APPLA: 3 cases

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the permanency plan in all 8 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the 8 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 3 cases)

All 3 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 3 cases.

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months						1
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years					1	1
2 to 3 years	2					1
3 years or more				2		

## Case Planning

The local department made efforts to involve the family in the case planning process in all 8 cases reviewed.

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
4	Therapeutic Group Home
3	Residential Treatment Center
1	Own Dwelling

## Placement Stability

In 1 of the 8 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

In 3 of the 8 cases reviewed there was at least 1 change in placement within the 12 months prior to the review, 4 cases with at least 2 placement changes, and 1 case with 4 or more placement changes.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan in all 8 cases reviewed.

## Supportive Services

The local board looked at services offered to the child, the birth family and the foster/kin family in the following areas:

- Housing
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Education
- Employment
- Special needs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Visitation with family
- Referrals to needed resources

The local board agreed that appropriate services were being offered to the children in all 8 cases reviewed.

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 5 of the 8 children reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 8 children had a current physical exam.



- Current Vision: 6 children had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 6 children had a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 5 children had completed medical records in their case files.
- Comprehensive Health Assessment: The local department reported that all 8 children had received a comprehensive health assessment.
- Prescription Medication: 6 children were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 7 children were taking psychotropic medication.
- Substance Abuse: 2 children had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for both children.
- Behavioral Issues: 6 children had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 6 children.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the children with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed that the health needs of 5 children and the mental health needs of all 8 children were being met. 4 children refused to comply with standard health exams.

### Education

7 of the 8 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program and 1 youth had already graduated high school.

The local board agreed that the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready by 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 8 cases)

2 of the 8 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience and the local board agreed that both youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 8 cases)

The local board agreed that 6 youths were receiving appropriate independent living skills.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth age 17 and older – 3 cases)

Not applicable. None of the youths were transitioning out of care.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

7 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

There were no indicators of risk in any of the cases reviewed and all safety protocols were followed.

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Child's Consent to Adoption	Cases
Yes	2
Yes, with conditions	
Child did not want to be Adopted	4
No, Medically Fragile/Mental Health Issue	
No, Mental Health Reasons	1
N/A under age of consent	
No, Reunification	
No, Relative Placement	
Unknown	1

Adoptive Placement (2 Adoption cases)

Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources

None of the 2 children with a plan of Adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home.

Documented efforts had been made to find a pre-adoptive resource for 1 child not placed in a pre-adoptive home.

The local board agreed that the recruitment efforts were appropriate for the 1 child.

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placement: Not applicable.

Appropriate services and supports for the pre-adoptive families: Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

None needed.

Miscellaneous Findings

Frequency of Caseworker Visits (as reported by caseworker)

Frequency	Cases
Daily	
Once a week	
More than once a week	
Less than once a week, but at least twice a month	
Less than twice a month, but at least once a month	8
Less than once a month	
Quarterly	

Barriers to Permanency

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction
- Disrupted pre-adoption placement
- Pre-Adoptive Resources Not Identified
- Dentals not current

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 8 children reviewed.

## Montgomery County



Montgomery County had a total of 31 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 9 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody/Guardianship: 1 case
- Non Relative Adoption: 7 cases
- Non Relative Custody/Guardianship: 2 cases
- APPLA: 12 cases

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the permanency plan in 30 of 31 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the 31 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (12 Cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (11)
- Placement in Long-Term Care facility until transition to adult facility (1)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 12 cases)

11 of the 12 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for 10 of the 11 cases.

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months				2	2	2
7 to 11 months	1			3		2
1 to 2 years	4		1	2		2
2 to 3 years	1					1
3 years or more	3					5

## Case Planning

The local department made efforts to involve the family in the case planning process in 28 of the 31 cases reviewed.

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
1	Intermediate Foster Care
5	Pre-Finalized Adoption
2	Regular Foster Care
12	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
7	Therapeutic Group Home
1	Independent Living Residential Program
2	Residential Treatment Center
1	None

## Placement Stability

In 17 of the 31 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

In 17 of the 31 cases reviewed there was at least 1 change in placement within the 12 months prior to the review, 11 cases with at least 2 placement changes and 3 cases with 3 changes.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan in all 31 cases reviewed.

## Supportive Services

The local board looked at services offered to the child, the birth family and the foster/kin family in the following areas:

- Housing
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Education
- Employment
- Special needs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Visitation with family
- Referrals to needed resources

The local board agreed that appropriate services were being offered to all 31 children reviewed and to the birth families in 9 cases.

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 10 of the 31 children reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 26 children had received a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 20 children had received a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 16 children had received a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 12 children had completed medical records in their case files.
- Comprehensive Health Assessment: The local department reported that all 31 children had received a comprehensive health assessment.
- Prescription Medication: 15 children were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 13 children were taking psychotropic medication.
- Substance Abuse: 3 children had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 2 of the 3 children.
- Behavioral Issues: 19 children had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 17 of the 19 children.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 child with mental health issues was transitioning out of care and had an identified plan to obtain services in the adult mental health care system.

The local board agreed that the health needs of 13 children and the mental health needs of 24 children were being met. 10 children refused to comply with standard health exams.

## Education

26 of the 31 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 3 youths had already graduated high school and 2 children were under age 5.

The local board agreed that all the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

## Ready by 21

### ➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 19 cases)

4 of the 19 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience and the local board agreed that the 4 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

### ➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 19 cases)

The local board agreed that 14 of the 19 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

### ➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth age 17 and older – 14 cases)

Housing had been specified for 2 of the youths transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed that the 2 youths were being appropriately prepared for transitioning out of care.

## Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

16 cases had a CASA.

## Risk and Safety

There were no indicators of risk in any of the cases reviewed and all safety protocols were followed.

## Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Child's Consent to Adoption	Cases
Yes	1
Yes, with conditions	8
Child did not want to be Adopted	14
No, Medically Fragile/Mental Health Issue	1
No, Mental Health Reasons	2
N/A under age of consent	4
No, Reunification	
No, Relative Placement	
Unknown	1

## Adoptive Placement (7 Adoption cases)

### Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources

5 of the 7 children with an adoption plan were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure was a married couple for 4 cases and a single female for 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child was a foster parent in all 5 cases.

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placement was as follows:

- 1 case(s) from 7 to 9 months
- 1 case(s) from 16 to 20 months
- 3 case(s) from 21 months or longer

A home study was completed and approved in all 5 cases.

Documented efforts had been made to find a pre-adoptive resource for the 2 children not placed in a pre-adoptive home.

The local board agreed that the recruitment efforts were appropriate.

The local board agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive family to meet identified needs of the child in 5 cases and that the pre-adoptive placements were appropriate in all 5 cases.

### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post-adoptive services were needed for all 7 adoption cases. The services that were needed were medical for 5 cases and mental health services for 4 cases.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate.

### Miscellaneous Findings

#### Frequency of Caseworker Visits (as reported by caseworker)

Frequency	Cases
Daily	
Once a week	3
More than once a week	
Less than once a week, but at least twice a month	7
Less than twice a month, but at least once a month	21
Less than once a month	
Quarterly	
Undocumented	



## Barriers to Permanency

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- No Service Agreement With Child
- No Service Agreement With Parents
- Annual Physicals Not Current
- Dentals Not Current
- Child has behavior problems in the home

## Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 31 children reviewed.

## Prince George's County



Prince George's County had a total of 27 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 5 cases
- Non Relative Custody/Guardianship: 4 cases
- APPLA: 18 cases

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the permanency plan in all 27 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 2 of the 27 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent plan set by the court for the 2 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (18 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (17)
- Long term out of home care with a non relative (1)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 18 cases)

10 of the 18 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for all 10 cases.

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	1				1	3
7 to 11 months					1	4
1 to 2 years	2				1	7
2 to 3 years	1				1	1
3 years or more	1					3

## Case Planning

The local department made efforts to involve the family in the case planning process in all 27 cases reviewed.

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
18	Treatment Foster Care
1	Teen Mother Program
2	Independent Living Program
1	Non Relative
4	Own Dwelling
1	None

## Placement Stability

In 22 of the 27 cases reviewed where children were in a placement, the children were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

In 16 of the 27 cases reviewed there was at least 1 change in placement within the 12 months prior to the review, 10 cases with at least 2 placement changes and 1 case with 4 or more changes.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan in all 27 cases reviewed.

## Supportive Services

The local board looked at services offered to the child, to the birth family and the foster/kin family in the following areas:

- Housing
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Education
- Employment
- Special needs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Visitation with family
- Referrals to needed resources

The local board agreed that appropriate services were being offered to 26 of the 27 children reviewed and to the birth family in 10 cases.

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 4 of the 27 children reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 19 children had received a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 16 children had received a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 15 children had received a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 16 children had completed medical records in their case files.
- Comprehensive Health Assessment: The local department reported that all 27 children had received a comprehensive health assessment.
- Prescription Medication: 10 children were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 8 children were taking psychotropic medication.
- Substance Abuse: 3 children had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for all 3 children.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes for 1 child.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the children with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed that the health needs of 14 children and the mental health needs of 26 children were being met. 2 children refused to comply with standard health exams.

## Education

16 of the 27 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 7 youths had graduated high school, 2 refused to attend school and 2 children were under age 5.

The local board agreed that the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

## Ready by 21

### ➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 24 cases)

8 of the 24 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience. The local board agreed that the 8 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

### ➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 24 cases)

The local board agreed that 22 of the 24 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

### ➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth age 17 and older – 19 cases)

Housing had been specified for 2 youths transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed that the 2 youths were being appropriately prepared to transition out of care.

## Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

10 cases had a CASA.

## Risk and Safety

There was 1 case with an indicator of risk, however all safety assessments and child protection protocols had been followed.

## Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Child's Consent to Adoption	Cases
Yes	1
Yes, with conditions	
Child did not want to be Adopted	21
No, Medically Fragile/Mental Health Issue	
No, Mental Health Reasons	
N/A under age of consent	1
No, Reunification	
No, Relative Placement	
Unknown	4

Adoptive Placement (None)

Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources – (Not applicable)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources – (Not applicable)

Miscellaneous Findings

Frequency of Caseworker Visits (as reported by caseworker)

Frequency	Cases
Daily	
Once a week	
More than once a week	
Less than once a week, but at least twice a month	
Less than twice a month, but at least once a month	26
Less than once a month	1
Quarterly	
Undocumented	

Barriers to Permanency

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- No Service Agreement With Youth
- Youth not attending school or in GED program
- Dentals Not Current
- Vision Not Current

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 27 children reviewed.

## Saint Mary's County



St. Mary's County had a total of 6 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 6 cases

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the permanency plan in 4 of the 6 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 3 of the 6 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent plan set by the court for the 3 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (None)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA - None)

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	3					
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	2					
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more	1					

### Case Planning

The local department made efforts to involve the family in the case planning process in all 6 cases reviewed.

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
1	Restricted Relative Foster Care
4	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Therapeutic Group Home

## Placement Stability

In 4 of the 6 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

In 1 of the 6 cases reviewed there was at least 1 change in placement within the 12 months prior to the review, 4 cases with at least 2 placement changes and 1 case with 3 changes.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan in all 6 cases reviewed.

## Supportive Services

The local board looked at services offered to the child, the birth family and the foster/kin family in the following areas:

- Housing
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Education
- Employment
- Special needs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Visitation with family
- Referrals to needed resources

The local board agreed that appropriate services were being offered to all 6 children reviewed and to the birth family in 4 cases.

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 1 of the 6 children reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 6 children had received a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 6 children had received a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 6 children had received a current dental exam.



- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that all 6 children had completed medical records in their case files.
- Comprehensive Health Assessment: The local department reported that all 6 children had received a comprehensive health assessment.
- Prescription Medication: 4 children were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 4 children were taking psychotropic medication.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children had a substance abuse problems.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: None of the children had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Not applicable.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the children with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed that the health needs and the mental health needs of all 6 children were being met.

### Education

All 6 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program.

The local board agreed that the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready by 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – none)  
Not applicable.
- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – none)  
Not applicable.
- Housing (Transitioning Youth age 17 and older - none)  
Not applicable.

### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 6 cases had a CASA.

### Risk and Safety

There were no indicators of risk in any of the cases reviewed and all safety protocols were followed.

### Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Child's Consent to Adoption	Cases
Yes	
Yes, with conditions	
Child did not want to be Adopted	
No, Medically Fragile/Mental Health Issue	
No, Mental Health Reasons	
N/A under age of consent	
No, Reunification	6
No, Relative Placement	
Unknown	

### Adoptive Placement (none)

Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources – (Not applicable)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources – (Not applicable)

### Miscellaneous Findings

Frequency of Caseworker Visits (as reported by caseworker)

Frequency	Cases
Daily	
Once a week	
More than once a week	
Less than once a week, but at least twice a month	1
Less than twice a month, but at least once a month	5
Less than once a month	

### Barriers to Permanency

There were no barriers/issues identified.

### Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 6 children reviewed.

## Washington County



Washington County had a total of 9 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 1 case
- Non Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- APPLA: 5 cases

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the permanency plan in all 9 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the 9 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (5 Cases)

- Emancipation/Independence

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 5 cases)

2 of the 5 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connection was appropriate for both cases.

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months				2		2
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	1			1		1
2 to 3 years						2
3 years or more						

## Case Planning

The local department made efforts to involve the family in the case planning process in 7 of the 9 cases reviewed.

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
2	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
1	Regular Foster Care
1	Restricted Relative Foster Care
2	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
2	Therapeutic Group Home
1	Own Dwelling

## Placement Stability

In 8 of the 9 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

In 4 of the 9 cases reviewed there was at least 1 change in placement within the 12 months prior to the review, 4 cases with at least 2 placement changes and 1 case with 3 changes.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan in 8 of the 9 cases reviewed.

## Supportive Services

The local board looked at services offered to the child, the birth family and the foster/kin family in the following areas:

- Housing
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Education
- Employment
- Special needs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Visitation with family
- Referrals to needed resources

The local board agreed that appropriate services were being offered to all 9 of the children reviewed and to the birth family in 3 cases.

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 1 of the 9 children reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 8 children had received a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 8 children had received a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 8 children had a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 7 children had completed medical records in their case files.
- Comprehensive Health Assessment: The local department reported that all 9 children had received a comprehensive health assessment.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children were taking psychotropic medication.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: None of the children had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Not applicable.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the children with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed that the health needs of 7 children and the mental health needs of all 9 children were being met. 1 child refused to comply with standard health exams.

## Education

8 of the 9 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program and 1 youth had already graduated high school.

The local board agreed that the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

## Ready by 21

### ➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 6 cases)

1 of the 6 youths was employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience and the local board agreed that the youth was being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

### ➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 6 cases)

The local board agreed that all 6 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

### ➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth age 17 and older – 2 cases)

Not applicable. None of the youths were transitioning out of care.

## Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

1 case had a CASA.

## Risk and Safety

There were no indicators of risk in any of the cases reviewed and all safety protocols were followed.

## Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Child's Consent to Adoption	Cases
Yes	
Yes, with conditions	
Child did not want to be Adopted	8
No, Medically Fragile/Mental Health Issue	
No, Mental Health Reasons	
N/A under age of consent	1
No, Reunification	
No, Relative Placement	
Unknown	

## Adoptive Placement (3 Adoption cases)

### Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources

2 of the 3 children with an adoption plan were placed in pre-adoptive homes and the pre-adoptive family structure was a married couple for both cases. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child in both cases was a foster parent.

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placements were as follows:

- 2 case(s) 10 to 12 months

A home study was completed and approved in the both cases.

Documented efforts had been made to find a pre-adoptive resource for the child not placed in a pre-adoptive home.

The local board agreed that the recruitment efforts were appropriate.

The local board agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive family to meet identified needs of the children in both cases and that the pre-adoptive placements were appropriate.

### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post-adoptive services were needed for 1 case. The services that were needed were medical, mental health, education, special needs and DDA services.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate.

## Miscellaneous Findings

### Frequency of Caseworker Visits (as reported by caseworker)

Frequency	Cases
Daily	
Once a week	
More than once a week	
Less than once a week, but at least twice a month	
Less than twice a month, but at least once a month	9
Less than once a month	
Quarterly	
Undocumented	



### Barriers to Permanency

There were no barriers/issues identified.

### Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 9 children reviewed.

## Worcester County



Worcester County had a total of 5 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 5 cases

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the permanency plan in all 5 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the 5 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (None)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA - None)

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months						
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	2					
2 to 3 years	3					
3 years or more						

### Case Planning

The local department made efforts to involve the family in the case planning process in all 5 cases reviewed.

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
2	Regular Foster Care
3	Treatment Foster Care (Private)

## Placement Stability

In 1 of the 5 cases reviewed children were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

In 3 of the 5 cases reviewed there was at least 1 change in placement within the 12 months prior to the review and 2 cases with at least 2 placement changes.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan in all 5 cases reviewed.

## Supportive Services

The local board looked at services offered to the child, the birth family and the foster/kin family in the following areas:

- Housing
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Education
- Employment
- Special needs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Visitation with family
- Referrals to needed resources

The local board agreed that appropriate services were being offered to all 5 children reviewed, to the foster/kin family in 5 cases, and to the birth family in 5 cases.

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 1 of the 5 children reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 5 children had received a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 4 children had received a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 5 children had received a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 4 children had completed medical records in their case files.

- Comprehensive Health Assessment: The local department reported that all 5 children had received a comprehensive health assessment.
- Prescription Medication: 2 children were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 1 child were taking psychotropic medication.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 3 children had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 3 children.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the children with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed that the health needs of 4 children and the mental health needs of 3 children were being met.

#### Education

3 of the 5 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program and 2 children were under the age of 5.

The local board agreed that the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

#### Ready by 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – none)  
Not applicable.
- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – none)  
Not applicable.
- Housing (Transitioning Youth age 17 and older - none)  
Not applicable.

#### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

All 5 cases had a CASA.

### Risk and Safety

There were no indicators of risk in any of the cases reviewed and all safety protocols were followed.

### Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Child's Consent to Adoption	Cases
Yes	
Yes, with conditions	
Child did not want to be Adopted	
No, Medically Fragile/Mental Health Issue	
No, Mental Health Reasons	
N/A under age of consent	4
No, Reunification	
No, Relative Placement	
Unknown	1

### Adoptive Placement (none)

Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources – (Not applicable)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources – (Not applicable)

### Miscellaneous Findings

Frequency of Caseworker Visits (as reported by caseworker)

Frequency	Cases
Daily	
Once a week	
More than once a week	
Less than once a week, but at least twice a month	2
Less than twice a month, but at least once a month	3
Less than once a month	
Quarterly	
Undocumented	

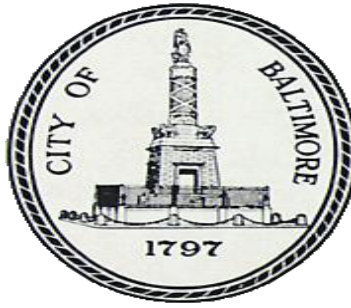
### Barriers to Permanency

There were no barriers/issues identified.

### Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 5 children reviewed.

## Baltimore City



Baltimore City had a total of 105 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 20 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 9 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody/Guardianship: 8 cases
- Non Relative Adoption: 14 cases
- Non Relative Custody/Guardianship: 13 cases
- APPLA: 41 cases

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the permanency plan in 75 of 105 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 11 of the 105 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent plans set by the court for the 11 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (41 cases)

The cases with a plan of APPLA had the following categories of APPLA:

- Emancipation/Independence (38)
- Long-Term Out of Home Care with a Non-Relative (2)
- Placement in Long-Term Care Facility until Transition to an Adult Facility (1)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 41 cases)

34 of the 41 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for 33 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	3	2	3	3	5	8
7 to 11 months	1	4	1			3
1 to 2 years	4	3	1	7	3	11
2 to 3 years	6		2	1	2	12
3 years or more	6		1	3	3	7

Case Planning

The local department made efforts to involve the family in the case planning process in 103 of the 105 cases reviewed.

Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
6	Formal Kinship Care
4	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
7	Regular Foster Care
15	Restricted Relative Foster Care
39	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Alternative Living Units
4	Teen Mother Program
4	Therapeutic Group Home
8	Independent Living Residential Program
4	Residential Treatment Center
2	Relative
3	Non-Relative
5	Own Dwelling
2	Other
1	None

Placement Stability

In 57 of the 105 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

In 50 of the 105 cases reviewed there was at least 1 change in placement within the 12 months prior to the review, 37 cases with at least 2 placement changes, 9 cases with at least 3 placement changes, 5 cases with 4 or more changes and 4 cases with no changes.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan in 101 of the 105 cases reviewed.



## Supportive Services

The local board looked at services offered to the child, the birth family and the foster/kin family in the following areas:

- Housing
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Education
- Employment
- Special needs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Visitation with family
- Referrals to needed resources

The local board agreed that appropriate services were being offered to all 105 children reviewed, to the foster/kin family in 30 cases, and to the birth family in 26 cases.

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 16 of the 105 children reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 65 children had received a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 45 children had received a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 45 children had received a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 34 children had completed medical records in their case files.
- Comprehensive Health Assessment: The local department reported that 104 children had received a comprehensive health assessment.
- Prescription Medication: 41 children were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 35 children were taking psychotropic medication.
- Substance Abuse: 15 children had a substance abuse problems.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 5 of the 15 children.
- Behavioral Issues: 57 children had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 45 of the 57 children.

- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 11 children with mental health issues were transitioning out of care and had an identified plan to obtain services in the adult mental health care system.

The local board agreed that the health needs of 33 children and the mental health needs of 66 children were being met. 21 children refused to comply with standard health exams.

### Education

75 of the 105 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 10 youths had already graduated high school, 10 refused to attend school, and 10 were under age 5.

The local board agreed that the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready by 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 70 cases)

9 of the 70 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience. The local board agreed that the 9 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 70 cases)

The local board agreed that 35 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

- Housing (Transitioning Youth age 17 and older – 57 cases)

Housing had been specified for 16 youths transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed that the 16 youths were being appropriately prepared for transitioning out of care.

### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

5 cases had a CASA.

### Risk and Safety

There was 1 case with an indicator of risk, however all safety assessments and child protection protocols had been followed.

### Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Child's Consent to Adoption	Cases
Yes	3
Yes, with conditions	7
Child did not want to be Adopted	55
No, Medically Fragile	1
No, Mental Health Issue	3
N/A under age of consent	21
No, Reunification	2
No, Relative Placement	1
Unknown	12

### Adoptive Placement (14 Adoption cases)

#### Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources

11 of the 14 children with an adoption plan were placed in a pre-adoptive home.

The pre-adoptive family structure was a married couple for 10 cases and a single female for 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child was a foster parent for 7 cases and a non relative for 4 cases.

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placements were as follows:

- 3 case(s) from 7 to 9 months
- 1 case(s) from 10 to 12 months
- 1 case(s) from 12 to 15 months
- 6 case(s) from 21 months or longer

A home study was completed and approved in 6 of the 11 cases.

Documented efforts had been made to find a pre-adoptive resource for the 3 children not placed in a pre-adoptive home.

The local board agreed that the recruitment efforts were appropriate.

The local board agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive family to meet identified needs of the children in 9 of the 11 cases and that the pre-adoptive placements were appropriate.

## Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post-adoptive services were needed for 9 cases. The services that were needed were medical for all 9 cases, mental health services for 5 cases and educational support for 1 case.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate.

## Miscellaneous Findings

### Frequency of Caseworker Visits (as reported by caseworker)

Frequency	Cases
Daily	
Once a week	2
More than once a week	2
Less than once a week, but at least twice a month	12
Less than twice a month, but at least once a month	86
Less than once a month	1
Quarterly	2
Undocumented	

## Barriers to Permanency

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- No Service Agreement With Parents
- No Service Agreement With Youth
- Non-Compliant With Service Agreement
- Other Education Barrier
- Other Court Related Barrier
- Other Family Related Barrier
- Other Independence Barrier
- Other Mental Health Barrier
- Child has Behavior Problems in the Home
- Appeal By Birth Parents
- Child In Pre-Adoptive Home, But Adoption Not Finalized
- Disrupted Pre-Adoption Placement
- Pre-Adoptive Resources not Identified
- Annual Physicals Not Current
- Dentals Not Current
- Vision Not Current
- No Follow Up On Medical Referrals
- Inadequate Preparation For Independence (General)
- No Current IEP
- Youth Not Attending School Or In GED Program
- Youth Not Employed and Transitioning Out of Care
- Youth Needs More Restrictive Placement

- Youth Non-Compliant with medications
- Youth Refuses Mental Health Treatment Including Therapy
- Youth Engages in Risky Behavior
- Refusal to Locate or Maintain Employment
- No Current Safe-C/G
- Transitional Housing has Not been Identified
- Missing or Lack of Documentation
- Board Does Not Agree With Current Permanency Plan
- Lack of Concurrent Planning
- Poor Coordination with LDSS

### Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 89 out of the 105 children reviewed.

### Required Supporting Documentation for CRBC Reviews

The following are reminders of the materials required in accordance with the work plan agreement created between the Department of Human Resources (DHR), Social Services Administration and the Citizens Review Board for Children.

- Each (LDSS) is required to continue to bring the child's complete case records and/or records containing requested supportive documentation to all CRBC case reviews.
- Each (LDSS) should continue supplying CRBC with the most recent and current contact information for all interested parties, including professionals and family members.

### Recommendations to All Local Departments of Social Services (LDSS)

- Each (LDSS) should encourage the attendance of children and youth who are 10 years of age and older to attend his/her scheduled CRBC case review.
- Each (LDSS) should encourage foster parent attendance at scheduled CRBC case reviews.
- Each (LDSS) should improve their efforts with documenting concurrent permanency plans.
- Each (LDSS) should improve their efforts with getting parents to sign service agreements for those youth with a permanency plan of reunification.
- Each (LDSS) is required to include the paternal family members as possible resources for all youth who are in out-of-home-placement care.

### Independent Living

- Each (LDSS) is required to improve their efforts with preparing youth that have a plan of APPLA to meet their employment goals.

### Permanent Connections

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

### Adoption

- Each (LDSS) should ensure that age appropriate youth with a permanency plan of Adoption are linked with adoption counseling services.

3rd Quarter 2017  
CRBC Metrics

Total # of Children - Scheduled on the Preliminary:	581
Total # of Children - Closed, Non Submission & Rescheduled:	236
Total # of Children - Eligible for Review:	345
Total # of Children - Reviewed at the Board:	303
Total # of Children - Not Reviewed at the Board:	42
Percentage of Children Reviewed for the Period:	88%
Percentage of Children Not Reviewed for the Period:	12%
Recommendation Reports - Number Sent	288
Recommendation Reports - Number Sent on Time	288
Recommendation Reports - Percent Sent on Time	100%
Recommendation Reports - Number Received – DSS Response	138
Recommendation Reports - Percent Received % - DSS Response	48%
Recommendation Reports - Number Received on Time - DSS Response	28
Recommendation Reports - Percent Received on Time % - DSS Response	20%
Number of Boards Held	53
Recommendation Reports - # of DSS Agreement	130
Recommendation Reports - Percent of DSS Agreement	94%
Recommendation Reports - # of DSS Disagreement	4
Recommendation Reports - Percent of DSS Disagreement	3%
Recommendation Reports - # Blank/Unanswered	4
Recommendation Reports - Percent # Blank/Unanswered	3%
Percentage of REUNIFICATION Children Reviewed for the Period:	29%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT – Adoption Children Reviewed:	4%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT – C & G Children Reviewed:	4%
Percentage of ADOPTION Children Reviewed for the Period:	14%
Percentage of CUSTODY/GUARDIANSHIP Children Reviewed for the Period:	10%
Percentage of APPLA Children Reviewed for the Period:	39%

The State Board

Doretha Henry

Circuit 1: Representing Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties

Vacant

Circuit 2: Representing Caroline, Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne, and Talbot Counties

Delores Alexander (Vice Chairperson)

Circuit 3: Representing Baltimore and Harford Counties

Nettie Anderson-Burrs (Chairperson)

Circuit 4: Representing Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties

Denise Messineo

Circuit 5: Representing Anne Arundel, Carroll, and Howard Counties

Wanet Tyson

Circuit 6: Representing Frederick and Montgomery Counties

Denise Joseph

Circuit 7: Representing Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, and St. Mary's Counties

Beatrice Lee

Circuit 8: Representing Baltimore City

Rita Jones

Circuit 8: Representing Baltimore City

Sarah Walker

Circuit 8: Representing Baltimore City



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Eric Davis, MSW  
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Vacant  
Office Clerk II

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Law §5-539

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Issued - Pursuant to Family Law Article Section §5-539.1(b)(3)