



FIRST QUARTER FISCAL YEAR 2026 REPORT (July 1st 2025 – September 30th 2025)

Table of Contents

<u>Our Mission Statement</u>	3
<u>Our Vision Statement</u>	3
<u>Discrimination Statement</u>	3
<u>Confidentiality</u>	3
<u>CRBC Acknowledgements</u>	4
<u>Introduction</u>	5
<u>Targeted Review Criterion</u>	6
<u>Permanency Plan Hierarchy</u>	7
<u>Family Centered Practice Model</u>	7
<u>1st Quarter 2026 Case Review Statistics</u>	8
<u>Total Reviewed Statistics</u>	10
<u>Gender Totals</u>	10
<u>Gender By Plan</u>	10
<u>Ethnicity Overall</u>	10
<u>Age Range by Permanency Plan</u>	11
<u>Jurisdictional Case Reviews</u>	12
<u>Allegany County</u>	12
<u>Anne Arundel County</u>	20
<u>Baltimore County</u>	26
<u>Calvert County</u>	35
<u>Cecil County</u>	43
<u>Dorchester County</u>	51
<u>Frederick County</u>	56
<u>Harford County</u>	63
<u>Montgomery County</u>	72
<u>Prince George's County</u>	80
<u>St. Mary's County</u>	88
<u>Somerset County</u>	95
<u>Washington County</u>	102
<u>Baltimore City</u>	110
<u>Recommendations to All LDSS</u>	119
<u>Independent Living</u>	119
<u>Permanent Connections</u>	119
<u>Adoption</u>	119
<u>CRBC Metrics</u>	120
<u>The State Board</u>	121
<u>CRBC Staff</u>	122
<u>References</u>	123



Our Mission Statement

To conduct case reviews of children in out-of-home care, 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

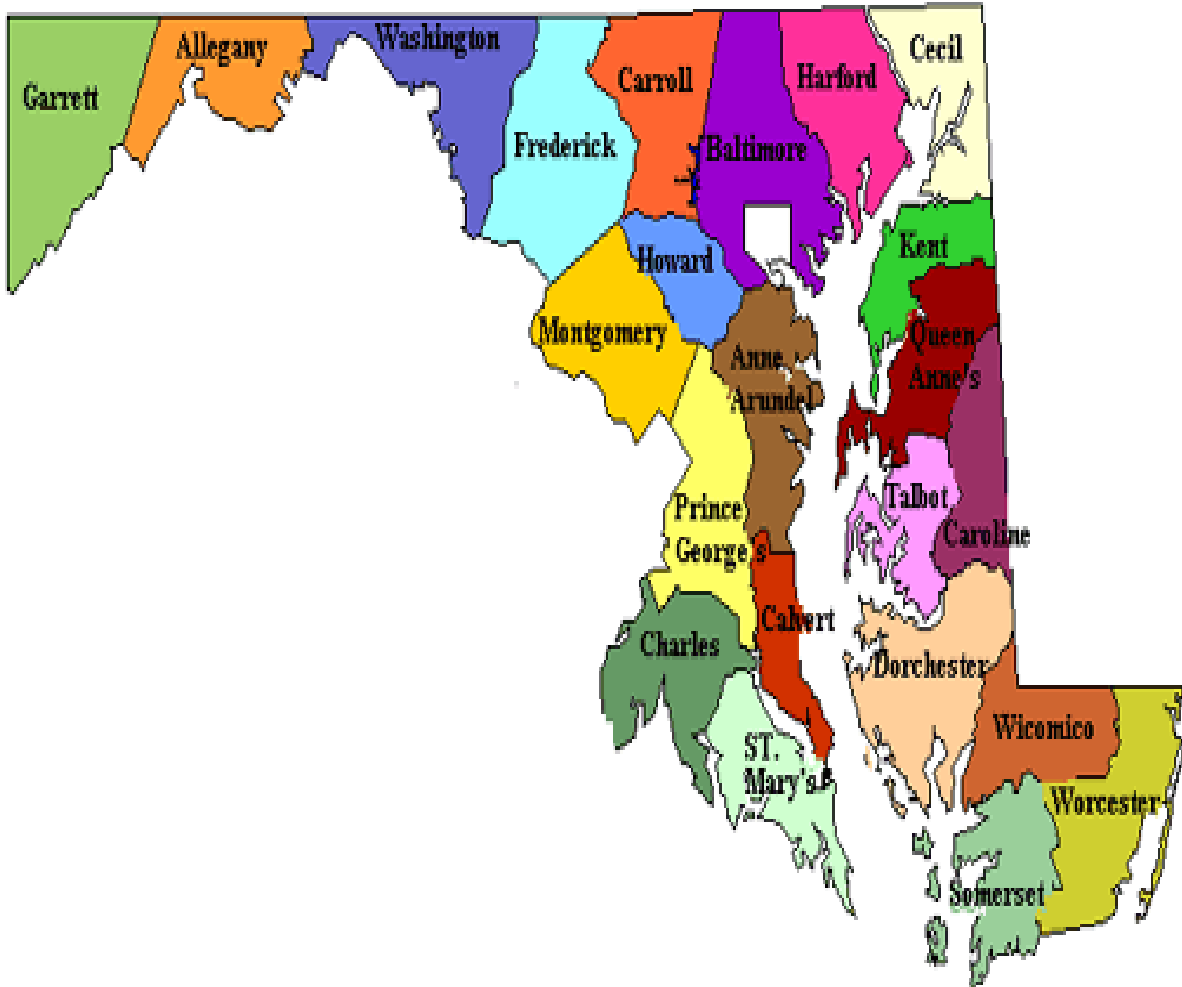
CRBC would like to acknowledge the commitment, dedication, passion and service of all stakeholders on behalf of Maryland's most vulnerable children including:

- ★ CRBC Governor-Appointed Volunteers
- ★ The Department of Human Services (DHS)
- ★ 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 1st Quarter of Fiscal Year 2026.



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: Caroline, Carroll, Charles, Garrett, Howard, Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester counties. Therefore, this report only contains review findings and recommendations for 14 jurisdictions, including 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 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 between the ages 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 ensures 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).

1st Quarter 2026 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	Non-Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non-Relative C & G	Reunification	Relative Placement for Adoption	APPLA	TOTAL	# Boards Held
01	Allegany	1	0	0	1	0	2	4	1
02	Anne Arundel	0	0	0	2	0	2	4	1
03	Baltimore County	5	0	0	3	0	16	24	6
04	Calvert	0	0	1	1	0	2	4	1
05	Cecil	2	0	0	0	0	6	8	2
06	Dorchester	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	1
07	Frederick	1	0	0	1	0	3	5	2
08	Harford	3	0	1	3	0	5	12	3
09	Montgomery	3	0	2	9	1	5	20	5
10	Prince George's	0	3	0	7	0	10	20	5
11	St. Mary	0	0	0	2	0	2	4	1
12	Somerset	1	0	0	0	0	3	4	1
13	Washington	2	0	0	1	0	5	8	2
14	Baltimore City	3	4	1	28	1	8	45	12
15	Statewide Totals	25	7	5	58	2	69	166	43
	Percentages	15%	4%	3%	35%	1%	42%	100%	

CRBC conducted a total of 166 individual out-of-home case reviews (each case reviewed represents 1 child/youth) in 14 Jurisdictions on 43 boards that held reviews during the 1st quarter of fiscal year 2026.

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
- Health/Mental Health (family article 5-545)
- Education (family article 5-545)
- Ready by 21
 - Employment (14 and older)
 - Independent Living Skills (14 and older)

- Housing
(Transitioning Youth age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the time of the review)
- Permanent Connections
- Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)
- Adoptive Services
 - Pre-Adoptive Placement
 - Adoptive Recruitment
 - Post-Adoption Services
- Child's Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings
- Miscellaneous Findings
- Typical Statewide Barriers/Issues to Permanency
 - No Service Agreement with parents
 - No current safety risk
 - Lack of concurrent planning
 - Lack of follow-up (general)
 - Youth placed outside home jurisdiction
 - Youth has not been measured for mental health
 - Other physical health barrier
 - Other service resource barrier
 - Other placement barrier
 - Non-compliance with service agreement
 - Youth engages in risky behavior
 - Health concerns
 - Lack of documentation
- Typical Statewide Barriers /Issues to Adoption
 - Pre-adoptive resources not identified
 - Child in pre-adoptive home, but adoption not finalized
 - Efforts not made to move towards finalization
 - Other court related barrier

Total Reviewed (166)

Gender Totals

Male	Female
91 (55%)	75 (45%)

Gender by Plan

Male (91)

Non-Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non-Relative C & G	Reunification	APPLA	Relative Placement for Adoption
17 (19%)	6 (7%)	2 (2%)	31 (34%)	35 (38%)	0 (0%)

Female (75)

Non-Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non-Relative C & G	Reunification	APPLA	Relative Placement for Adoption
8 (11%)	1 (1%)	3 (4%)	27 (36%)	34 (45%)	2 (3%)

Ethnicity Overall

African American	Caucasian	Other
108 (65%)	46 (28%)	12 (7%)

Age Range by Permanency Plan

[RU] = Reunification

[RA] = Relative Adoption

[RG] = Relative C & G

[AD] = Non-Relative Adoption

[CG] = Non-Relative C & G

[AP] = AAPLA

AGE RANGE	RU	RA	RG	AD	CG	AP	Totals
1_age 0 thru 5	8	2	5	8	0	0	23
2_age 6 thru 10	15	0	1	10	0	0	26
3_age 11 thru 13	16	0	1	5	4	0	26
4_age 14 thru 16	14	0	0	2	1	8	25
5_age 17 thru 19	5	0	0	0	0	52	57
6_age 20	0	0	0	0	0	9	9
Totals	58	2	7	25	5	69	166

Jurisdictional Case Reviews

Allegany County



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

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

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 3 of 4 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent plan for 1 of 4 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for both cases.

Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence: 2 cases

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 2 cases)

Both APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified, and the local board agreed that the connection was appropriate for the 2 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					1
1 to 2 years				1		1
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						
Totals → 4	1			1		2

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 4 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 1 case. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was made for the 1 case.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 1 signed case.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	Therapeutic Group Homes
1	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Own Dwelling

None of the 4 cases reviewed had children/youths placed in their home jurisdiction in a setting that was in close proximity to their community which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

In 1 of the 4 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 1 case had 3 placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for the 1 case.



The following levels of care were found for the 1 most recent placement change:

- 1 case(s) was same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement change was:

- 1 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement change included:

- 1 case(s) incompatible match

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement change included:

- 1 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- No, for 1 case

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 1 case

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 3 of 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 3 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 4 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 3 of the 4 eligible children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 3 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.

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email: crbc.mail@maryland.gov website: <http://dhr.maryland.gov/crbc>

- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 3 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 3 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 of 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 3 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 3 of 4 children/youths had been met.

Education

3 of 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 3 children/youths were enrolled in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth graduated high school.

2 of 3 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and both had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child's/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was not available for review for the 2 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 3 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

2 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience due to mental health reasons.

2 youths participated in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

The local board agreed 2 of 3 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

3 youths were receiving required Independent Living skills to adequately prepare for independent living.

2 youths completed a life skill assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

1 youth did not complete a life assessment due to mental health reasons.

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

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – none)
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

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. 1 child/youth was unable to consent due to being medically fragile.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (1 case)

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 1 child/youth not placed in pre-adoptive home. The 1 child/youth was listed with Adopt Us Kids.

The local board found the adoptive recruitment efforts appropriate for the 1 child/youth

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

Post adoptive services was needed for the 1 child/youth. The service that was needed was medical for the 1 case.

Post adoptive subsidies was needed for the 1 case.

Post adoptive subsidies was not approved for the 1 case.

The Board found the post-adoptive services were appropriate for 1 case.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 3 of 4 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes		1	
No	4	3	4

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week			
More than once a week			
Once a month			
More than once a month		1	
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised			
Unsupervised		1	

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home			
Visitation Center/LDSS			
Public Area			
Child's/Youth's Placement		1	
Other			

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes			
No		1	

Siblings/Visits

None of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care.

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/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

Code	First Quarter Allegany County Barriers
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction
AB	Pre-Adoptive resources not identified
AK	No service agreement with parents
AL	No service agreement with youth
BD	Child has behavior problems in the home
BH	Issues related to substance abuse
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier
CY	No concurrent plan by the court
DA	Disrupted Pre-Adoption placement
DZ	Other family related barrier
HC	Vision not current
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy
MZ	Other mental health barrier
FG	No concurrent permanency plan in place
5D	Over age 18 and still in care



CRBC

Citizens Review Board for Children

Anne Arundel County



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

- Reunification: 2 cases
- APPLA: 2 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 4 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent plan for 1 case.

The local department was not implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 1 case.

Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence: 2 cases

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 2 cases)

All 2 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	1					1
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years						1
2 to 3 years	1					
3 years or more						
Totals → 4	2					2

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Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 4 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department did not have a signed service agreement for any case. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 1 case.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for none of the cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Therapeutic Group Homes
2	Residential Treatment Centers

None of the 4 children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in a setting that was in close proximity to their community which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

None of the 4 cases reviewed had a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review.

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 2 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 4 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 4 eligible child/youth reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 2 of 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.

- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 4 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 4 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 4 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 1 child/youth had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes for the 1 child/youth.
- Standard Health Exams: 1 child/youth refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 1 of 3 children/youths had been met.

Education

4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 4 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade.

All 4 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan, and had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child's/youth's record.

A current progress report card was available to review for 4 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that all 4 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 4 cases)

1 youth was participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

2 youths did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience due to mental health reasons.

1 youth participated in paid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

1 youth was referred to summer or year round training and employment opportunities.

The local board agreed that 1 youth was appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

3 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

3 youths completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

1 youth did not complete life skill assessment due to mental health reasons.

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

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – none)

(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

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.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

All 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 3 of 4 cases reviewed.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	3	1	2
No	1	3	2

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week	2		
More than once a week			
Once a month	1		1
More than once a month		1	1
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	1		
Unsupervised	2	1	2

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	1		
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			

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CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other			
Therapist			

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes			
No	4	4	4

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 1 of 4 children/youths had siblings in care. 1 child/youth had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were not made to place both siblings together who did not reside with each other for the 1 child/youth. 1 child/youth have visits with sibling who is not in care.

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/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	First Quarter Anne Arundel County Barriers
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource/service
AS	Lack of follow-up (General)
EZ	Other education barrier
IZ	Other independence barrier
LB	Youth needs less restrictive placement
MZ	Other mental health barrier
HB	Dentals not current
HC	Vision not current
HD	No follow-up on medical referrals



CRBC

Citizens Review Board for Children

Baltimore County



Baltimore County had a total of 24 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 5 case(s)
- Reunification: 3 case(s)
- APPLA: 16 case(s)

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 23 of 24 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 3 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 3 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (16 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (15)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 16 cases)

All 16 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified, and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for 15 of 16 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
7 to 11 months						6
1 to 2 years	1			3		3
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more	2			1		
Totals → 24	3			5		16

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 17 of 24 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 3 cases. 5 children/youths were a post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 5 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 3 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
4	None
3	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
3	Regular Foster Care
5	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
2	Residential Group Homes
4	Therapeutic Group Homes
1	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Relative
1	Non-Relative

In 10 of 24 cases reviewed, the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities, which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for 20 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

9 of the 24 cases reviewed had a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 4 cases had 1 placement change, 1 case had 2 changes, 2 cases had 3 changes and 2 cases had 4 or more changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 2 of 9 cases.

The following levels of care were found in 9 most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) was in a less restrictive placement
- 3 case(s) was in a more restrictive placement
- 1 case(s) were the same level of care
- 3 case(s) child on runaway

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- 8 case(s) move did not occur for a positive reason
- 1 case(s) was transitioning towards permanency goal

Provider/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 case(s) provider home closed
- 8 case(s) placement not due to provider issue

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 2 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 4 case(s) behavioral
- 1 case(s) runaway
- 1 case(s) hospitalization
- 1 case(s) other

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- Yes, for 3 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 6 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 8 of the 24 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 20 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 10 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 11 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 4 eligible children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 8 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 8 children/youths were taking prescription medication.

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- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 8 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 5 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was monitored at least quarterly for the 5 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 3 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 17 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for 17 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 8 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 of the 17 children/youths with mental health issues was transitioning out of care, had no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: 10 children/youths have substance abuse problems.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 10 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 3 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 1 child/youth refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 7 of the 24 children/youths had been met.

Education

18 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational Program. 16 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 2 youths were attending trade school. 3 youths graduated high school. 2 children/youths refused to attend school and 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

10 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan, and 5 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 8 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 14 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 – 18 cases)

3 children/youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

14 youths were not participating in paid or unpaid work experience. 1 youth did not participate due to mental health reasons.

3 children/youths employed were participating in work experience relevant to career field of choice.

4 youths were referred to summer or year round training and employment opportunities.

The local board agreed that 5 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 18 cases)

12 youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

1 youth did not receive appropriate services due to mental health reasons.

11 youths completed a Life Skill Assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

The local board agreed that 11 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – none) (Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

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. 2 children/youths were under the age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (4 cases)

2 of 4 youths received adoptive counseling with conditions.

Pre-Adoptive Placement (4 cases)

4 children/youths with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The family structure was comprised of a married couple for all 4 cases. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was a non-relative foster parent for the 4 cases.

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

- 4 case(s) 21 months or more

An adoptive home study was completed for 2 of 4 cases.

A family social summary was given for 2 of 4 cases.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for the 4 children/youths.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (5 cases)

Post-adoptive services were needed for 5 children/youths. The service needed was medical for 5 cases, mental health for 1 case, education for 1 case, respite services for 1 case and DDA support services for 1 case.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for all 5 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were not approved for any of the 5 cases.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for 5 cases.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

3 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 20 of 24 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	4	2	7
No	20	22	17

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week	2		3
More than once a week	1		
Once a month			1
More than once a month	1		2
Quarterly		2	
Yes, but undocumented			1

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	1		
Unsupervised	3	2	7

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative			
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other	1		
Therapist			

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home	2	1	4
Visitation Center/LDSS			
Public Area	1		
Child's/Youth's Placement	1	1	3
Other			

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	2		2
No	2	2	5

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 3 of 24 children/youths had siblings in care. 3 children/youths had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were made to place both siblings together who did not reside with each other for 1 child/youth. 2 children/youths had visits with their siblings who were not in care.

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 20 of 24 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	First Quarter Baltimore County Barriers
AK	No service agreement with parents
AL	No service agreement with youth
AO	No sibling or family visits
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction
AR	Missing or lack of documentation
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home
BE	Non-compliant with service agreement
BF	Not following up on referrals
BH	Issues related to substance abuse
BY	Child/youth has runaway history
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier
1K	No service agreement with child
2A	Inadequate casework services

2B	Lack of progress in implementation
EA	Youth not enrolled in school
EB	Youth not attending school or in GED program
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services
ED	No current IEP
EZ	Other education barrier
MA	Youth has not been assessed for mental health concerns
MB	Youth's psychotropic medications should be adjusted
MD	Youth non-compliant with medication
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy
MZ	Other mental health barrier
CI	Child in pre adoptive home, but adoption not finalized
CY	No concurrent plan by court
DE	Unwilling to adopt because lack of services or financial support
DH	Pre adoptive family cannot decide to adopt
DZ	Other family related barrier
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence
IZ	Other independence barrier
FG	No concurrent permanency plan in place
FZ	Other permanency barrier
5D	Over age 18 and still in care
HA	Annual physicals not current
HB	Dentals not current
HC	Vision not current
HD	No follow up or medical referrals
HZ	Other physical health barrier
SA	No current safe custody/guardianship
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior
SZ	Other safety barrier



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

- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Reunification: 1 case
- APPLA: 2 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 4 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the cases.

Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (1)

Permanent Connections (2 cases)

Both APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connection was appropriate for 1 of 2 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
1 to 2 years						
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more	1					1
Totals → 4	1				1	2

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 4 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department did not had a signed service agreement for any case. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was not made for any case.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Formal Kinship Care
1	Regular Foster Care
2	Therapeutic Group Homes

2 of the 4 children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in a setting that was in close proximity to their community which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

2 of the 4 cases reviewed had a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 2 cases had 1 placement change.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for the 2 cases.

The following levels of care were found in 2 most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) was same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- 2 case(s) transition towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 2 case(s) placement not due to provider issue

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 2 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- No, for 2 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 2 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 3 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 2 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 4 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 1 child/youth reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 2 of 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 3 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 1 child/youth was taking psychotropic medication.

- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 1 child/youth.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 1 child/youth had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 1 child/youth had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: : 1 child/youth with mental health issues was not transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 4 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: None of the 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Not applicable.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 2 of 4 children/youths had been met.

Education

All 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 3 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade and 1 child/youth was enrolled in a GED program.

3 of the 4 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 3 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for the 2 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that all 4 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

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

1 youth did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience due to being medically fragile.

None of the 2 youths were referred to summer or year-round training and/or employment opportunities.

The local board agreed that none of the youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

1 youths was receiving required independent living skills.

1 youth had completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

1 youth did not complete a life skills assessment due to being medically fragile.

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

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 1 case) (Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

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

Alternative housing options was provided to the 1 youth.

The local board agreed with the transitional housing plan for the 1 youth.

The local board agreed that the 1 youth was being appropriately prepared to transition out of care.

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.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

1 of the 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 4 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	1		1
No	3	4	3

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week			
More than once a week			
Once a month	1		
More than once a month			
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			1

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised			
Unsupervised	1		1

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative			
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other			
Therapist			

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home			
Visitation Center/LDSS			
Public Area			
Child's/Youth's Placement			1
Other			

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes			
No	1		1

Siblings/Visits

1 of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care. 1 child/youth had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were not made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 1 child/youth. 1 child/youth with sibling in care had visits with their sibling who did not reside with them. 1 child/youth have visits with sibling who is not in care.

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/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	First Quarter Calvert County Barriers
AK	No service agreement with parents
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction
AG	Lack of concurrent planning
AO	No sibling or family visits
BY	Child/youth has runaway history
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier
DA	Disrupted pre-adoption placement
DZ	Other family related barrier
DH	Pre adoptive family cannot decide to adopt
HC	Vision not current
HD	No follow up or medical referrals
5D	Over age 18 and still in care
FE	TPR not filed timely
MZ	Other mental health barrier



CRBC

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Cecil County



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

- Non-Relative Adoption: 2 cases
- APPLA: 6 case

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 8 cases reviewed.

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

Category of APPLA plan (6 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (4)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (1)
- Other (1)

Permanent Connections APPLA (6 cases)

4 of 6 APPLA case had a permanent connection identified, and the local board agreed that the connection was appropriate for the 4 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		2
1 to 2 years						2
2 to 3 years						1
3 years or more				1		1
Totals →8				2		6

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website: <http://dhr.maryland.gov/crbc>

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 3 of 8 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department did not have a signed service agreement for any of the cases. 2 children/youths were a post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were not made for any case.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	None
1	Regular Foster Care
2	Residential Group Homes
2	Therapeutic Group Homes
1	Residential Treatment Centers
1	Own Dwelling

3 of the 8 children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in a setting that was in close proximity to their community, which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for 7 of the 8 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 6 of the 8 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 1 case had 2 placement changes, 2 cases had 3 placement changes and 3 cases had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department did not hold a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for any case.

The following level of care was found for the 6 most recent placement changes:

- 4 case(s) was less restrictive placement
- 1 case(s) was a more restrictive placement
- 1 case(s) was same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- 4 case(s) was transitioning towards permanency goal
- 2 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 6 case(s) placement not due to provider issue

Child specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 1 case(s) behavioral
- 2 case(s) mental health
- 2 case(s) other

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements:

- Yes, for 6 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 6 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 4 of 8 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 7 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 5 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 5 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 3 children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported 5 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 5 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 4 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 5 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for 4 children/youths.

- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 5 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 5 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 4 of children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 child/youth with mental health issues was transitioning out of care, had an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: 2 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 5 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 5 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 1 of the 8 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 6 of 8 children/youths had been met.

Education

3 of the 8 children/youths were enrolled in school. 2 children/youths were enrolled in Pre-K through 12th grade and 1 child/youth was enrolled in a GED program. 2 children/youths refused to attend school and 1 child/youth was under the age of 5. 2 children/youths did not attend school for other reasons.

2 children/youths enrolled in school, or another educational/vocational program had a 504 or IEP plan and had a copy in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report card was available for review for 2 children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program.

The local board agreed that none of the 3 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 – 6 cases)

1 youth was participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth was in a juvenile justice facility and was unable to participate in paid or unpaid work experience.

2 youths were referred to summer or year round training and employment opportunities.

The local board agreed that 3 youths were appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

2 youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living when they leave home care.

4 youths completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

1 youth was in a correctional facility and did not complete a life skill assessment.

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

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 2 cases)
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

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

Alternative housing options were provided to the 2 youths.

The local board agreed with the transitional housing plan for both youths.

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

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. 1 child/youth was under the age of consent and 1 child/youth consented with conditions.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

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

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

- 1 case(s) 21 months or more

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

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for the 1 child/youth.

Adoptive Recruitment (1 case)

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 1 child/youth not placed in pre-adoptive home. The 1 child/youth was placed with an adoptive resource.

The local board found the adoptive recruitment efforts appropriate for the 1 child/youth

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

Post-adoptive services were needed for 1 child/youth. The service needed was medical, mental health, education and respite services for the 1 child/youth.

It is unknown if post adoptive subsidies was needed for the 1 case.

It is unknown if the post adoptive subsidies was approved for the 1 case.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for the 1 case.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

6 of 8 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 7 of 8 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	1		2
No	7	8	6

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week	1		
More than once a week			1
Once a month			
More than once a month			1
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised			1
Unsupervised	1		1

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative			
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other			
Therapist			

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home			
Visitation Center/LDSS			
Public Area	1		1
Child's/Youth's Placement			1
Other			

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes			
No	1		2

Siblings/Visits

None of the 8 children/youths had siblings in care.

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 7 of 8 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	First Quarter Cecil County Barriers
AL	No service agreement with youth
AR	Missing or lack of documentation
AB	Pre-Adoptive resources not identified
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home
BF	Not following up on referrals
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier
BY	Child/youth has runaway history
EA	Youth not enrolled in school
EB	Youth not attending school or in GED program
ED	No current IEP
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services
EZ	Other education barrier
DA	Disrupted Pre-Adoption placement
DH	Pre Adoptive family cannot decide to adopt
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence
IZ	Other independence barrier
MA	Youth has not been assessed for mental health concerns
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy
MD	Youth non-compliant with medication
4Z	Other coordination barrier
LZ	Other placement barrier
5F	No relative visiting after adoption
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior
SZ	Other safety barrier
HA	Annual physicals not current
HB	Dentals not current
HC	Vision not current
HD	No follow up or medical referrals



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Citizens Review Board for Children

Dorchester County



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

- Non-Relative Adoption: 4 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 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 (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 to 3 years				4		
3 years or more						
Totals → 4						

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 4 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for none of the 4 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for none of the 4 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
4	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home

None of the 4 cases reviewed the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their community which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

None of the 4 cases had a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review.

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that all 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 4 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 4 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for all 4 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that all 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 2 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 2 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: None of the 4 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Not applicable.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.

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- Mental Health Issues: 2 of 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Both children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 2 of the 4 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, and had an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health System.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children/youths had substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of all 4 children/youths had been met.

Education

3 of 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 3 children/youths were in Pre-k through 12th grade. 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

None of the 3 children/youths had a 504 or IEP plan or had a copy found in 3 children/youths records.

2 children/youths had a current progress report card available for review.

The local board agreed the educational goals were not met for all 3 children/youths.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – none)
- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – none)
- Housing (Transitioning Youth – none)

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(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

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. All 4 children/youths were under the age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (4 cases)

4 children/youths with a plan of adoption was placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple for 2 cases and a single female for 2 cases. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child was non-relative foster parent for all 4 cases.

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

- 4 case(s) 21 months or more

A home study was completed for the 4 cases.

The local board agreed that appropriate services and support were in place for the pre-adoptive family to meet the identified needs of the child for the 4 cases.

The local board agreed the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for all 4 cases.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (4 cases)

Post-adoptive services were needed for 2 of 4 children/youths. The services needed for both cases is other.

Post-adoptive subsidies were approved for all 4 children/youths.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for all 4 children/youths.

Miscellaneous Findings

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Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

All 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 4 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes			
No	4	4	4

Siblings/Visits

All 4 children/youths had siblings in care. All 4 children/youths had 3 siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for all 4 children/youths. All 4 children/youths with a sibling in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them.

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 4 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	First Quarter Dorchester County Barriers
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction
CI	Child in pre-adoptive home, but adoption not finalized



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Citizens Review Board for Children

Frederick County



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

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

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 5 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court did not identify a concurrent plan for any of the cases.

Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (3)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 3 cases)

All 3 APPLA case had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connection was appropriate for 2 of 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		2
2 to 3 years	1					
3 years or more						1
Totals → 5	1			1		3

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 5 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department did not have a signed service agreement for any of the cases. 1 child/youth was a post-TPR child under the age of 14.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Residential Treatment Centers
1	Own Dwelling

2 of 5 children/youths reviewed were placed in their home jurisdiction in a setting that was in close proximity to their community, which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

In 1 of the 5 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 1 case had 2 placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for the 1 case.

The following levels of care were found for the 1 most recent placement change:

- 1 case(s) was a less restrictive placement

The Primary positive reason for the most recent placement change:

- 1 case(s) was transitioning towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement change:

- 1 case(s) placement not due to provider issue

Child specific issues for the most recent placement change included:

- 1 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- Yes, for 1 case

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 1 case

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of 5 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 4 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 4 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for all 5 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 3 of 5 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 2 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 5 children/youths refused to take prescribed medicine.
- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 4 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 4 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.

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- Substance Abuse: None of the 5 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: None of the 5 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Not applicable.
- Standard Health Exams: 1 of the 5 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 4 of 5 children/youths had been met.

Education

4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 3 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade and 1 youth was enrolled in college. 1 child/youth not enrolled graduated high school.

1 of 3 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan, and none had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 3 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 3 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 4 cases)

2 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience due to mental health reasons.

2 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant career field of choice.

2 youths were referred to summer or year-round training and employment opportunities.

The local board agreed that 2 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

3 youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

3 youths had completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

1 youth did not complete a life skills assessment due to mental health reasons.

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

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – none)
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

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. 1 child/youth was unable to consent due to mental health reasons.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

1 child/youth with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The family structure was comprised of a single female for the 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was a non-relative foster parent for the 1 case.

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

- 1 case(s) 21 months or more

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

A family social summary was given for the 1 case.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for the 1 child/youth.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

4 of 5 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 5 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	2	1	2
No	3	4	3

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week	1	1	
More than once a week			
Once a month	1		2
More than once a month			
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised			1
Unsupervised	2	1	1

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative			
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent			1
Other			
Therapist			

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Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home			
Visitation Center/LDSS			1
Public Area	1		
Child's/Youth's Placement	1	1	1
Other			

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	1	1	1
No	4	4	4

Siblings/Visits

None of the 5 children/youths had siblings in care.

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/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	First Quarter Frederick County Barriers
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource/service
AS	Lack of follow-up
HA	Annual physicals not current
HC	Vision not current
HD	No follow-up or medical referrals
1Z	Other planning barrier
MZ	Other mental health barrier
EZ	Other education barrier



CRBC

Citizens Review Board for Children
Harford County



Harford County had a total of 12 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

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

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 12 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 3 cases

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 3 cases

Category of APPLA plan (5 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (4)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 5 cases)

All 5 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified, and the local board agreed that the connection was appropriate for the 5 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	2			1		2
2 to 3 years						2
3 years or more	1			2		1
Totals → 12	3		1	3		5

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 6 cases.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 5 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 5 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 5 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	Regular Foster Care
2	Restricted Foster Care (Relative)
3	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Residential Group Homes
1	Therapeutic Group Homes
1	Residential Treatment Centers
2	Own Dwelling

In 6 of the 12 cases reviewed, the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities, which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for all 12 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 3 of the 12 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 1 case had 1 placement change, 1 case had 2 placement changes and 1 case had 3 placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement change for 1 case.

The following levels of care were found for 3 most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) was less restrictive placement
- 1 case(s) was more restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) did not occur for positive reason
- 2 case(s) transition towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 3 case(s) placement not due to provider issue

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 1 case(s) behavioral

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- Yes, for 3 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 3 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 7 of the 12 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 11 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 8 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 6 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: Appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 3 children/youths requiring follow-ups.

- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 5 of the 12 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 6 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 6 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 7 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 7 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 8 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 8 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 7 of 8 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 3 of the 8 children/youths with mental health issues was transitioning out of care, had no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: 1 of the 12 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 4 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 12 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 7 of the 12 children/youths had been met.

Education

10 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational Program. 9 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade and 1 youth was in college. 2 children/youths not enrolled in school graduated high school.

5 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan, and 3 children/youths had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in their records.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for the 6 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 6 of 10 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 6 cases)

4 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

2 youths participated in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

2 youths were referred to summer or year round training and employment opportunities.

1 youth was 20 years old and earning a living wage.

The local board agreed that 4 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

2 youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living when they leave home care.

1 youth did not receive appropriate services for independent living due to being medically fragile.

3 youths completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

The local board agreed that 2 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

Housing (Transitioning Youth – 2 cases)

(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

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

Alternative housing options was provided to the 2 youths.



The local board agreed with the transitional housing plan for both youths.

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

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. 1 child/youth consented to adoption and 1 child/youth consented with conditions.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

1 child/youth with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The family structure was comprised of a married couple for the 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was a non-relative foster parent for the 1 case.

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

- 1 case(s) 21 months or more

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

A family social summary was given for the 1 case.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for the 1 child/youth.

Adoptive Recruitment (2 cases)

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 2 children/youths not placed in pre-adoptive home. 1 of 2 children/youths were listed with Adopt Us Kids.

The local board found the adoptive recruitment efforts appropriate for the 2 cases.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

Post-adoptive services were needed for 1 child/youth. The service needed was mental health and education for the 1 child/youth.

It is unknown if the post adoptive subsidies were approved for the 1 case.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for the 1 case.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

5 of 12 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 11 of 12 cases reviewed.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	3	2	2
No	9	10	10

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily	2		
Once a week			
More than once a week			
Once a month		1	1
More than once a month	1	1	1
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	1	1	
Unsupervised	2	1	2

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	1		
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent		1	
Other			
Therapist			

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home		1	1
Visitation Center/LDSS	1		
Public Area			1
Child's/Youth's Placement	2	1	
Other			

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	2		1
No	1	2	1

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 9 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 4 children/youths. 6 children/youths with a sibling in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them.

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 9 of 12 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	First Quarter Harford County Barriers
AB	Pre adoptive resources not identified
AG	Lack of concurrent planning
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction
AK	No service agreement with parents
AL	No service agreement with youth
AR	Missing or lack of documentation
BE	Non-compliant with service agreement
BD	Child has behavior problems in the home
BH	Issues related to substance abuse
BF	No following up on referrals
CY	No concurrent plan by court
ED	No current IEP
EZ	Other education barrier
DF	Disrupted finalized adoption
HA	Annual physicals not current
HB	Dentals not current
HD	No follow up or medical referrals
HC	Vision not current
ED	No current IEP
MD	Youth non-compliant with medication
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence
IZ	Other independence barrier

 CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children
Montgomery County



Montgomery County had a total of 20 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 2 cases
- Reunification: 9 cases
- APPLA: 5 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 1 case

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 11 of 20 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified concurrent permanency plans for 10 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plans set by the local Juvenile Court for 4 of 10 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (5 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (5)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 5 cases)

All 5 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified, and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 5 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	1
7 to 11 months		1				1
1 to 2 years	5					
2 to 3 years				2		2
3 years or more	4			1		1
Totals → 20	9	1		3	2	5

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 20 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department did not had a signed service agreement for any case. 4 children/youths were a post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 9 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	None
9	Formal Kinship Care
1	Restricted Foster Care (Relative)
3	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
2	Therapeutic Group Home
2	Independent Living Residential Program
2	Residential Treatment Centers

In 13 of 20 cases reviewed, the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities, which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for 19 of 20 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 4 of the 20 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. All 4 cases had 2 placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 4 cases.

The following levels of care were found for the 4 most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) was less restrictive placement
- 2 case(s) were same level of care

Primary positive reason for the most recent placement changes included:

- 2 case(s) transition towards permanency goal
- 2 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 case(s) provider home closed
- 3 case(s) placement not due to provider issue

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 3 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 1 case(s) behavioral

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- Yes, for 4 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 4 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 9 of the 20 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 16 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 16 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 19 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 20 children/youths requiring follow-ups.

- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 14 of the 20 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 6 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 6 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 6 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 6 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 15 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 15 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 12 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 15 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: 4 of the 20 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 3 of 4 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 5 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 4 of 5 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 1 child/youth refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 15 of the 20 children/youths had been met.

Education

14 of 20 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 14 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 5 children/youths graduated high school and 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

8 of the 14 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 8 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 12 children/youths.

The local board agreed that 19 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 9 cases)

5 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

4 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

10 youths were referred to summer or year-round training and/or employment opportunities.

The local board agreed that 7 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 9 cases)

7 youths received appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living when they leave home care.

7 youths had completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

The local board agreed that 7 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 1 case)

(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

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

Alternative housing options was provided to the 1 youth.

The local board agreed with the transitional housing plan for the 1 youth.

The local board agreed that the youth was being appropriately prepared to transition out of care.

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. 3 children/youth consented to adoption and 1 child/youth did not want to be adopted.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (3 cases)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (3 cases)

3 children/youths with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The family structure was comprised of a single female for 1 case and a single male for 2 cases. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was a non-relative foster parent for 2 cases and relative foster parent for 1 case.

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

- 3 case(s) 21 months or more

Adoptive home study was completed and approved for the 3 cases.

A family social summary was given for all 3 cases.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for the 3 children/youths.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 1 child/youth not placed in pre-adoptive home. The 1 child/youth was listed with Wednesday Child.

The local board did not find the adoptive recruitment efforts appropriate for the 1 child/youth.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

11 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 18 of 20 cases.

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Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	18	2	10
No	2	18	10

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week	7	1	5
More than once a week	1		3
Once a month	6	1	2
More than once a month	3		
Quarterly	1		
Yes, but undocumented			

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	5	1	2
Unsupervised	13	1	8

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	4	1	1
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member	1		1
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other			
Therapist			

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home	7	1	6
Visitation Center/LDSS	2		
Public Area	7		3
Child's/Youth's Placement	2	1	1
Other			

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	2		4
No	18	20	16

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 12 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 11 children/youths. 12 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 12 children/youths had visits with their siblings who were not in care.

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 20 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	First Quarter Montgomery County Barriers
AK	No service agreement with parents
AL	No service agreement with youth
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource or service
AS	Lack of follow up
BE	Non-compliant with service agreement
BG	Refusal to locate or maintain employment
EZ	Other education barrier
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan
LA	Youth needs more restrictive placement
MZ	Other mental health barrier
HA	Annual physicals not current
HB	Dentals not current
HD	No follow up or medical referrals
1B	Inappropriate plan
8B	Lack of employment
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy
MD	Youth non-compliant with medication
MZ	Other mental health barrier
SA	No current safe custody and guardianship

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 CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children
Prince George's County



Prince George's County had a total of 20 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 3 cases
- Reunification: 7 cases
- APPLA: 10 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 20 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 5 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for all 5 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (10 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (6)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (4)

Permanent Connections (10 cases)

All 10 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified, and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 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	3		1			3
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	4		2			1
2 to 3 years						4
3 years or more						2
Totals → 20	7		3			10

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 20 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 3 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for the 3 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 3 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
3	None
3	Formal Kinship Care
1	Regular Foster Care
7	Treatment Foster Center (Private)
1	Residential Group Homes
3	Therapeutic Group Homes
2	Independent Living Residential Program

In 12 of the 20 cases reviewed, the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities, which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for 17 of 20 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 6 of the 20 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 5 cases had 1 placement change, 1 case had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 3 of 6 cases.

The following levels of care were found for the 6 most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) were less restrictive placement
- 3 case(s) were a more restrictive placement
- 1 case(s) was the same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason
- 4 case(s) transition towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included

- 6 case(s) placement not due to provider issue

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 4 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 1 case(s) behavioral
- 1 case(s) other

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- No, for 6 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 6 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 9 of 20 children/youths reviewed had developmental or specials needs.
- Current Physical: 15 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 12 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 12 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: It was reported that the local department ensured appropriate follow-up occurred on all health-related concerns for 6 children/youths.

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- Completed Medical Records: 9 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 10 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 10 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 9 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 9 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 2 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 13 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 13 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 13 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 13 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 8 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 7 of 8 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 1 child/youth refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board agreed that health needs of 9 of 20 children/youths were met.

Education

17 of the 20 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 14 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth was enrolled in a GED program and 2 youths were enrolled in college.

1 child/youth not enrolled in school graduated high school and 2 children/youths were under the age of 5.

9 of the 14 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 4 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report card was available to review for 8 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 16 of 17 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 12 cases)

4 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

4 youths participated in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

1 youth was referred to summer or year-round training and employment opportunities.

1 youth was medically fragile and could not participate.

2 youths did not participate due to other reasons.

2 youths were 20 years old and earning a livable wage.

The local board agreed that 4 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 12 cases)

7 youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

6 youths completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

The local board agreed that 7 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 3 cases) (Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Housing had been specified for 3 youths transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options was provided to 3 youths.

The local board agreed with the transitional housing plan for the 3 youths.

The local board agreed that 3 youths were being appropriately prepared to transition out of care.

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.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

3 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 17 of 20 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	6	3	5
No	14	17	15

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily	1		
Once a week	1		
More than once a week	3		
Once a month		3	
More than once a month	1		
Quarterly			1
Yes, but undocumented			4

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	1		1
Unsupervised	5	3	4

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative			
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent	1		1
Other			
Therapist			

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home	5		4
Visitation Center/LDSS			
Public Area		1	
Child's/Youth's Placement	1	2	1
Other			

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	5		1
No	1	3	4

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 11 children/youths had siblings in care. 4 children/youths had 2 siblings in care and 7 children/youths had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 10 children/youths. 7 children/youths had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them.

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 20 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	First Quarter Prince George's County Barriers
AK	No service agreement with parents
AL	No service agreement with youth
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction
AR	Missing or lack of documentation
AZ	Other agency related barriers
BD	Child has behavior problems in the home
BH	Issues related to substance abuse
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier
CY	No concurrent plan by court
DF	Disrupted finalized adoption
DY	No family related barriers
DZ	Other family related barrier
EA	Youth not enrolled in school
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services
EB	Youth not attending school or in GED program
ED	No current IEP
EZ	Other education barrier
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence
IZ	Other independence barrier
LA	Youth needs more restrictive placement
LZ	Other placement barrier
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy
MD	Youth non-compliant with medication
MZ	Other mental health barrier
HA	Annual physicals not current
HB	Dentals not current
HC	Vision not current
HD	No follow up or medical referrals
1G	No service agreement with parents
1K	No service agreement with child
3F	Lack of documentation
3G	Poor supervision
3Z	Other management barrier
5D	Over age 18 and still in care
5B	Lack of planning or service for restricted home
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior



CRBC

Citizens Review Board for Children

St. Mary's County



St. Mary's County had a total of 4 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 2 cases
- APPLA: 2 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 4 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 2 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for both cases.

Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (2)

Permanent Connections (2 cases)

Both APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified, and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 2 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					1
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years						
2 to 3 years						1
3 years or more						2
Totals =>4	2					

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Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 4 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for all 4 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for the 4 cases.

The local board agreed the service agreement was appropriate for the 4 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
2	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Therapeutic Group Homes
1	Independent Living Residential Program

None of the 4 children/youths reviewed were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

All 4 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. All 4 cases had 1 placement change.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for the 4 cases reviewed.

The following levels of care were found for the 4 most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) were same level of care
- 1 case(s) was more restrictive placement
- 1 case(s) was a less restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 3 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason
- 1 case(s) transition towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 2 case(s) provider home closed
- 2 case(s) placement not due to provider issue

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 3 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 1 case(s) other

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- No, for 4 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 4 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 3 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 4 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 4 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: It was unknown if the local department ensured appropriate follow-up occurred on all health-related concerns for the 4 children/youths.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 2 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 2 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.

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- Mental Health Issues: 2 children/youths were having mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Both children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 2 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 3 of 4 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 3 of 4 children/youths had been met.

Education

2 of 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 2 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 2 children/youths not attending school graduated high school.

2 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and both had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report card was available for 1 child/youth in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that the 2 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

None of the youths participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

None of the youths were referred to summer or year round training and employment opportunities.

1 youth did not participate due to mental health reasons.

The local board agreed that the none of the youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

2 youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

1 youth did not participate due to mental health reasons.

None of the youths completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

The local board agreed that the 2 youths were being appropriately prepared for independent living skills.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – none)
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

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.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 4 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	2		
No	2	4	4

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week			
More than once a week			
Once a month	1		
More than once a month	1		
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised			
Unsupervised	2		

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home	2		
Visitation Center/LDSS			
Public Area			
Child's/Youth's Placement			
Other			

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	2		
No			

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 4 children/youths had siblings in care. All 4 children/youths had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 2 children/youths. None of the 2 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them.

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/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	First Quarter St. Mary's County Barriers
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction
AO	No sibling or family visits
BD	Child has behavior problems in the home
BH	Issues related to substance abuse
BY	Child/youth has runaway history
BZ	Other child/youth related barriers
EZ	Other education barriers
IZ	Other independence barrier
MZ	Other mental health barrier
HZ	Other physical health barrier
5D	Over age 18 and still in care
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior



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

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

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 4 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the cases.

Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (2)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 3 case)

All 3 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for 2 of 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
1 to 2 years				1		2
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						
Totals =>4				1		3

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 2 of 4 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department did not have a signed service agreement for any of the cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for none of the 4 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
1	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Residential Treatment Centers
2	Other

1 of the 4 children/youths reviewed were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

In all 4 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 1 case had 1 placement change, 1 case had 3 placement changes and 2 cases had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 1 of the 4 cases reviewed.

The following levels of care were found for the 4 most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) was same level of care
- 2 case(s) were less restrictive placements
- 1 case(s) was a more restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason
- 3 case(s) transition towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 4 case(s) placement not due to provider issue

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 4 case(s) behavioral

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- Yes, for 4 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 4 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 3 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 2 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 2 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 2 of 4 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 2 of 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 3 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths was taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 3 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 4 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.

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- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 2 of 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 2 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 1 of 4 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 2 of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 3 of 4 children/youths had been met.

Education

2 of the 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 2 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 1 child/youth refused to attend school and 1 child/youth graduated high school.

All 2 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and both children/youths had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 1 of 2 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that none of the 2 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

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

1 youth was in a juvenile justice facility and did not to participate in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth was referred to summer or year-round training and/or employment opportunities.

The local board agreed that 1 youth was being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

2 youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

2 youths completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

1 youth was in a juvenile justice facility.

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

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – none)
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

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. 1 child/youth consented to adoption.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (1 case)

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 1 child/youth not placed in pre-adoptive home. The 1 child/youth was listed with Adopt Us Kids and Paths For Family.

The local board found the adoptive recruitment efforts appropriate for the 1 child/youth.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 4 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes			1
No	4	4	3

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week			
More than once a week			
Once a month			
More than once a month			1
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised			
Unsupervised			1

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home			1
Visitation Center/LDSS			
Public Area			
Child's/Youth's Placement			
Other			

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that none of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care.

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 3 of 4 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	First Quarter Somerset County Barriers
AR	Missing or lack of documentation
AL	No service agreement with youth
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction
BD	Child had behavioral problems in the home
BH	Issues related to substance abuse
BY	Child/youth has runaway history
DA	Disrupted pre-adoption placement
EA	Youth not enrolled in school
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services
EZ	Other education barrier
IZ	Other independence barrier
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy
MD	Youth non-compliant with medication
MZ	Other mental health barrier
HB	Dentals not current
HC	Vision not current
HD	No follow up or medical referrals
1G	No service agreement with parents
1D	Inappropriate timeframe



CRBC

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Washington County



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

- Non-Relative Adoption: 2 cases
- Reunification: 1 case
- APPLA: 5 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 7 of 8 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 2 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 1 of 2 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (5 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (5)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 5 cases)

All 5 APPLA case had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connection was appropriate for the 5 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		1
1 to 2 years	1					1
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more				1		2
Totals =>8	1			2		5

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 1 of 8 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department did not have a signed service agreement for any of the cases. 1 child/youth was a Post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was made for 1 case.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
2	Formal Kinship Care
3	Regular Foster Care
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Residential Group Homes
1	Therapeutic Group Homes

3 of 8 children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities, which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for 7 of 8 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 4 of the 8 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 3 cases had 1 placement change, and 1 case had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement change for 1 case.

The following levels of care were found for the 4 most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) were less restrictive placements
- 2 case(s) were same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason
- 3 case(s) transition towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 3 case(s) placement not due to provider issue
- 1 case(s) provider request

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 3 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 1 case(s) other

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- Yes, for 4 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 3 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 3 of 8 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 5 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 2 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 5 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 1 child/youth requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 1 of the 8 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 4 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 4 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 2 children/youths refused to take prescription medicine.
- Mental Health Issues: 6 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 6 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.

- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 5 of 6 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 6 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 8 children/youths had substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 of 4 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 8 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 4 of 8 children/youths had been met.

Education

2 of 8 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 2 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 3 youths were not enrolled in school already graduated high school. 1 child/youth refused to attend school and 2 children/youths were under the age of 5.

2 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and none had a copy of the 504/IEP plan was in the child/youth's record.

Current progress report card was available for review for 1 of 2 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that none of the 2 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 5 cases)

2 of 5 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

Both youths participated in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

1 youth was in a juvenile justice facility and was not able to participate in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth was referred to summer or year-round training and employment opportunities.

The local board agreed the 4 of 5 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 5 cases)

3 youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living when they leave home care.

4 youths completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

1 youth was in a juvenile justice facility and could not complete life skill assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

The local board agreed that the 2 youths were being appropriately prepared for independent living.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – none)
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

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. 2 children/youths were under the age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (3 cases)

3 children/youths with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple for the 2 cases and a unmarried couple for 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was non-relative foster parent for 2 cases and relative foster parent for 1 case.

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

- 1 case(s) 1 to 3 months
- 1 case(s) 4 to 6 months
- 1 case(s) 21 months or more

Adoptive home study was completed and approved for 1 case.

A family social summary was given for none of the 3 cases.

The local board agreed that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for the 3 cases.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

1 of the 8 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 8 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	4	1	1
No	4	7	7

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week	1		
More than once a week			
Once a month			
More than once a month	3	1	1
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	1		
Unsupervised	3	1	1

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	1		
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other			
Therapist			

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home	1		1
Visitation Center/LDSS	1		
Public Area	1	1	
Child's/Youth's Placement			
Other	1		

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	1		
No	3	1	1

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 3 of 8 children/youths had siblings in care. 3 children/youths had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were not made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 3 children/youths. 2 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 1 child/youth had visits with their sibling who was not in care.

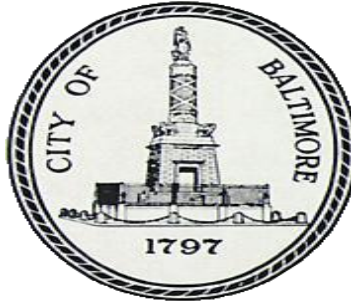
Summary

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 6 of 8 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local board identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	First Quarter Washington County Barriers
AE	Worker failed to submit proper paperwork for timely TPR filing
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction
AK	No service agreement with parents
AR	Missing or lack of documentation
AL	No service agreement with youth
DG	Home study not approved
DD	Home study not completed
DE	Unwilling to adopt because of lack of services or financial support
ED	No current IEP
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan
HA	Annual physicals not current
HB	Dental not current
HC	Vision not current
HD	No follow-up or medical referrals
IZ	Other independence barrier



Baltimore City had a total of 45 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 4 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Reunification: 28 cases
- APPLA: 8 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 1 case

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 29 of the 45 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 5 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plans set by the local Juvenile Court for 1 case.

Category of APPLA plan (8 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (8)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 8 cases)

7 of 8 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for 6 of 7 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		1	2	1	4
7 to 11 months		1				1
1 to 2 years	10		3	1		3
2 to 3 years	12					
3 years or more	3					
Totals → 45	28	1	4	3	1	8

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 24 of the 45 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 1 case. 1 child/youth was a Post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 18 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreement was appropriate for 1 case.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	None
9	Formal Kinship Care
9	Restricted Foster Care (Relative)
19	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Teen Mother Programs
3	Therapeutic Group Homes
3	Independent Living Residential Program

In 16 of the 45 cases reviewed, the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for 43 of the 45 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 11 of the 45 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 2 cases had 1 placement change, 4 cases had 2 placement changes, 2 cases had 3 placement changes and 3 cases had 4 or more placement changes.

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The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 6 of 11 cases.

The following levels of care were found for the 11 most recent placement changes:

- 6 case(s) were less restrictive placements
- 2 case(s) were more restrictive placements
- 2 case(s) same level of care
- 1 case(s) child on runaway

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 4 case(s) were transitioning towards permanency goal
- 7 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 2 case(s) allegation of provider abuse or neglect
- 9 case(s) placement not due to provider issue

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 4 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 3 case(s) behavioral
- 1 case(s) mental health
- 3 case(s) runaway

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- Yes, for 11 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 10 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 12 of the 45 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 24 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 22 children/youths had a current vision exam.

- Current Dental: 15 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 16 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 11 of the 45 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 13 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 13 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 2 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 27 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 16 of 27 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 8 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 2 of 27 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care and had no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: 6 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 3 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 12 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 5 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 15 of the 45 children/youths had been met.

Education

36 of the 45 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 35 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade and 1 child/youth was enrolled in a GED program. 1 child/youth not attending school graduated high school. 4 children/youths refused to attend school. 4 children/youths were under the age of 5.

10 of the 35 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan, and 6 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 22 of the 35 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 22 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 15 cases)

4 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

3 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

1 youth was unable to participate due to being medically fragile.

6 youths were referred to summer or year-round training and/or employment opportunities.

The local board agreed that 6 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

5 youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

4 youths had completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

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

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth –none)

(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

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. 1 child/youth consented to adoption. 1 child/youth did not want to be adopted and 1 child/youth was under the age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (3 cases)

3 children/youths with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple for 1 case, a single female for 1 case and a single male for 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was foster parent relative for 1 case and foster parent non-relative for 2 cases.

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

- 1 case(s) 10 to 12 months
- 2 case(s) 21 months or more

A home study was completed for the 1 of 3 placements and approved. A family social summary was given for 2 of 3 cases.

The local board agreed that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for all 3 cases.

Adoptive Recruitment (2 cases)

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 2 children/youths not placed in pre-adoptive home. None of the 2 children/youths were listed with Adopt Us Kids.

The local board found the adoptive recruitment efforts appropriate for the 2 children/youths.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

2 of 45 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 41 of the 45 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	29	9	6
No	16	36	39

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week	21	5	3
More than once a week	1	1	1
Once a month	5	3	1
More than once a month	2		1
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	17	8	1
Unsupervised	12	1	5

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	6	3	
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member	8	5	
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other		1	1
Therapist			

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home	7		3
Visitation Center/LDSS	6	4	
Public Area	4		1
Child's/Youth's Placement	6	3	1
Other	6	2	1

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	3	1	1
No	26	8	5

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 34 of 45 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 15 children/youths. 29 children/youths with a sibling in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 29 children/youths had visits with their siblings who were not in care.

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 28 of the 45 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local board identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	First Quarter Baltimore City Barriers
AG	Lack of concurrent planning
AK	No service agreement with parents
AR	Missing or lack of documentation
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction
AL	No service agreement with youth
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource or service
AS	Lack of follow up (General)
AY	No agency related barriers
BB	Child's age
BA	Child does not consent
BE	Non-compliant with service agreement
BF	Not following up on referrals
BH	Issues related to substance abuse
BG	Refusal to locate or maintain employment
BY	Child/youth has runaway history
CY	No concurrent plan by the court
CI	Child in pre adoptive home, but adoption not finalized
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan
EA	Youth not enrolled in school

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EB	Youth not attending school or in GED program
ED	No current IEP
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services
EZ	Other education barrier
MA	Youth has not been assessed for mental health concerns
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy
MD	Youth non compliant with medication
MG	Delay in scheduling appointment
ME	Issues with medical assistance card
MZ	Other mental health barrier
HA	Annual physicals not current
HB	Dentals not current
HC	Vision not current
HD	No follow up or medical referrals
LZ	Other placement barrier
2A	inadequate case work services
2B	Lack of progress in implementation
2C	Inadequate contact with child
2Z	Other implementation barrier
3F	Lack of documentation
3G	Poor supervision
3H	Lack of awareness policy
4A	Poor coordination within DSS
4C	No coordination and no communication between DSS & POC agency
4D	No communication between DSS & POC agency
4E	Inadequate communication between DSS & POC agency
4J	Poor coordination between DSS & DDA/MHA
9A	Inadequate information on case plan
IZ	Other independence barrier
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence (General)



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 Services (DHS), Social Services Administration and the Citizens Review Board for Children.

- Each (LDSS) is required to have access at the time of the review to the child's complete case records and/or records containing requested supportive documentation to present at all CRBC case reviews.
- Each (LDSS) should continue supplying CRBC with the most recent and current contact information including emails 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 children/youths with a permanency plan of reunification.
- Each (LDSS) is required to include the paternal family members as possible resources for all children/youths who are in out-of-home-placement care.

Independent Living

- Each (LDSS) is required to improve their efforts with preparing youths that have a plan of APPLA to meet their employment goals. Additionally, each (LDSS) is required to improve their efforts for youth aged 14 and older with appropriate independent living skills.

Permanent Connections

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

Adoption

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

1st Quarter 2026 CRBC Metrics

Recommendation Reports to DSS - Number Sent:	166
Recommendation Reports to DSS - Number Sent on Time:	158
Recommendation Reports to DSS - Percentage Sent on Time:	95%
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Number of Responses Received: ¹	133
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Percentage of DSS Responses:	84%
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Number Received on Time:	99
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Percentage Received on Time	74%
Number of Boards Held	43
Recommendation Reports - Number of DSS Agreement:	127
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of DSS Agreement:	95%
Recommendation Reports - Number of DSS Disagreement:	6
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of DSS Disagreement:	5%
Recommendation Reports - Number of Blank/Unanswered: ²	0
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of Blank/Unanswered:	0%
Percentage of REUNIFICATION Children Reviewed for the Period:	35%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT - Adoption Children Reviewed:	1%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT - C & G Children Reviewed:	4%
Percentage of ADOPTION Children Reviewed for the Period:	15%
Percentage of CUSTODY/GUARDIANSHIP Children Reviewed for the Period:	3%
Percentage of APPLA Children Reviewed for the Period:	42%

¹ The local Department of Social Services is required by COMAR 07.01.06.06 (H) to respond to the local out-of-home placement (CRBC) review board's recommendation(s) within 10 days of receipt of the report.

² The number of recommendation report responses received from the local Department of Social Services that did not indicate acceptance or non-acceptance of the local (CRBC) board's recommendation.

Citizens Review Board for Children

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Circuit 4: Representing Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties

Delores Alexander (Vice Chair)

Circuit 3: Representing Baltimore and Harford Counties

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Dr. Corinne Vinopol

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Circuit 6: Representing Frederick and Montgomery Counties

DaVina Richardson

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

Beatrice Lee

Circuit 8: Representing Baltimore City

Dr. Edwin Green

Circuit 8: Representing Baltimore City

Benia Richardson

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Agnes Marie Smith
Executive Assistant

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IT Functional Analyst

Alexis Thomason
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Lakira Whitaker
Volunteer Activities Coordinator II

Crystal Young, MSW
Administrator

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