



**SECOND QUARTER
FISCAL YEAR 2026
REPORT**
(October 1st 2025 – December 31st 2025)

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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

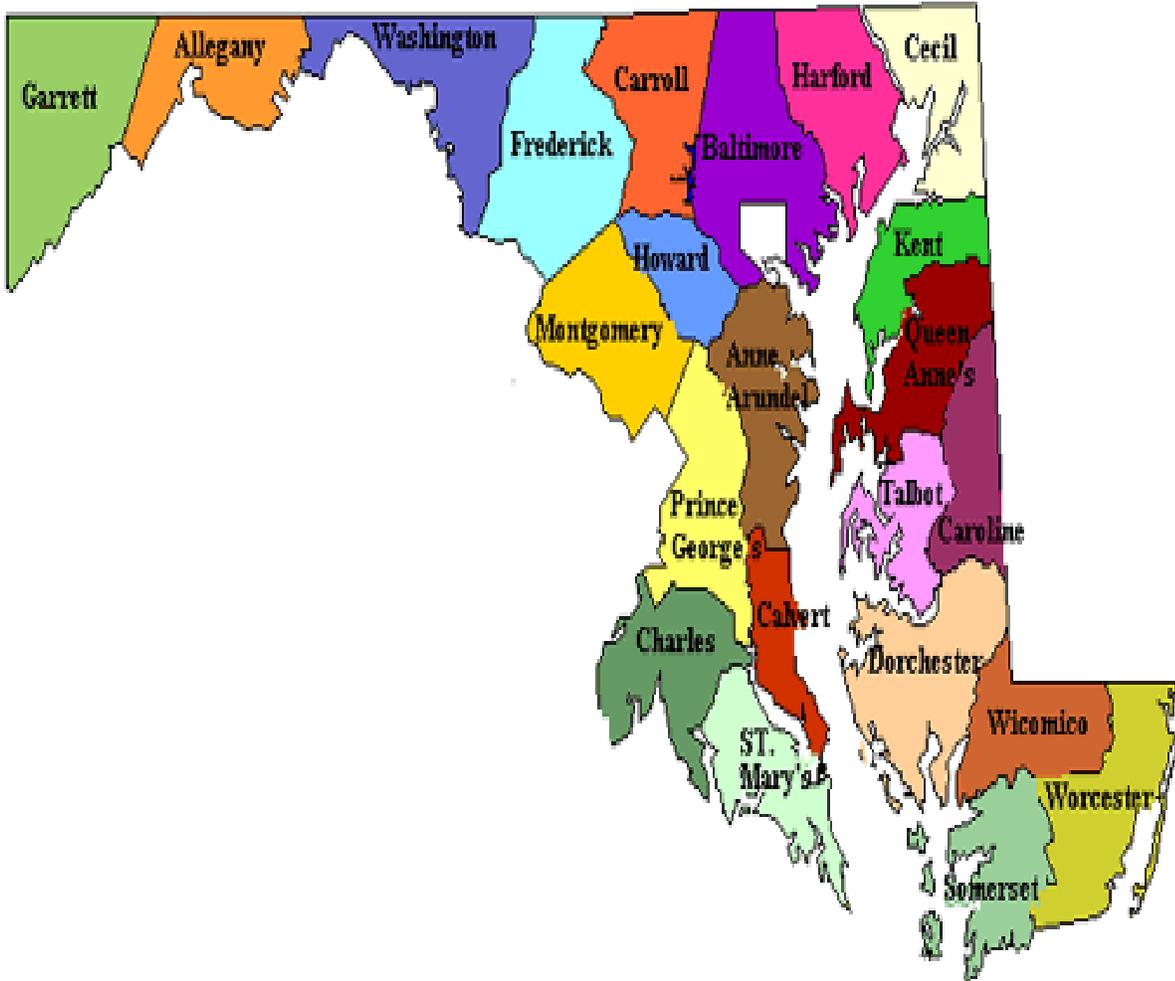
CRBC would like to acknowledge the commitment, dedication, passion and service of all stakeholders on behalf of Maryland's most vulnerable children including:

- ★ 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 2nd 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: Allegany, Calvert, Caroline, Dorchester, Garrett, Kent, Queen Anne’s, Somerset and Worcester counties. Therefore, this report only contains review findings and recommendations for 15 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).

2nd 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	Anne Arundel	1	0	1	6	0	4	12	3
02	Baltimore County	6	0	0	7	1	4	18	5
03	Carroll	0	0	0	4	0	0	4	1
04	Cecil	1	2	0	0	0	1	4	1
05	Charles	0	0	0	1	0	3	4	1
06	Frederick	1	0	0	2	0	1	4	1
07	Harford	2	0	0	0	0	2	4	1
08	Howard	0	0	0	2	0	2	4	1
09	Montgomery	5	0	1	9	2	7	24	6
10	Prince George's	2	0	1	4	0	9	16	4
11	St. Mary	1	0	0	1	0	2	4	1
12	Talbot	1	0	1	1	0	1	4	1
13	Washington	0	0	0	0	1	3	4	1
14	Wicomico	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	1
15	Baltimore City	2	3	4	21	1	4	35	11
15	Statewide Totals	22	5	8	58	5	46	144	39
	Percentages	15%	3%	6%	40%	4%	32%	100%	

CRBC conducted a total of 144 individual out-of-home case reviews (each case reviewed represents 1 child/youth) in 15 Jurisdictions on 39 boards that held reviews during the 2nd 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 (144)

Gender Totals

Male	Female
77 (53%)	67 (47%)

Gender by Plan

Male (77)

Non-Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non-Relative C & G	Reunification	APPLA	Relative Placement for Adoption
15 (19%)	3 (4%)	4 (5%)	29 (38%)	23 (30%)	3 (4%)

Female (67)

Non-Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non-Relative C & G	Reunification	APPLA	Relative Placement for Adoption
7 (10%)	2 (3%)	4 (6%)	29 (44%)	23 (34%)	2 (3%)

Ethnicity Overall

African American	Caucasian	Native American	Other
96 (67%)	38 (26%)	1 (1%)	9 (6%)

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	4	0	8	3	0	23
2_age 6 thru 10	19	1	2	7	1	0	30
3_age 11 thru 13	11	0	2	3	0	0	16
4_age 14 thru 16	18	0	1	2	4	1	26
5_age 17 thru 19	2	0	0	2	0	33	37
6_age 20	0	0	0	0	0	12	12
Totals	58	5	5	22	8	46	144

Jurisdictional Case Reviews

Anne Arundel County



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

- Non Relative Adoption: 1 case
- Non Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Reunification: 6 cases
- APPLA: 4 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 11 of 12 cases reviewed.

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

The local department was not implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for any of the cases.

Category of APPLA plan (4 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence: 4 cases

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 4 cases)

3 of 4 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	2
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	6					
2 to 3 years						1
3 years or more						1
Totals → 12	6			1	1	4

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 12 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 was made for 6 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for 2 of 3 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

2 of the 12 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 9 of 12 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

8 of the 12 cases reviewed had a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 7 cases had 2 placement changes and 1 case had 4 or more changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for all 8 cases.

The following levels of care were found in 8 most recent placement changes:

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- 3 case(s) move did not occur for a positive reason
- 1 case(s) was transitioning towards permanency goal
- 4 case(s) placement with relatives

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

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

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

- 7 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 8 cases

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

- Yes, for 8 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of the 12 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 10 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 8 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 7 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 9 eligible child/youth reviewed.

- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 3 of 12 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 6 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 6 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 5 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 5 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 10 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 10 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 8 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 10 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: 2 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes for the 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 3 of 12 children/youths had been met.

Education

9 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 9 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth graduated high school and 2 children/youths refused to attend school.

3 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 10 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 9 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 6 cases)

3 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

2 youths participated in paid 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 3 youths were appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

5 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

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

The local board agreed that 5 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.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (1 case)

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

An adoptive home study was completed 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)

10 of 12 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	7		6
No	5	12	6

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily	3		
Once a week	4		1
More than once a week			
Once a month			5
More than once a month			
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	4		
Unsupervised	3		6

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	3		
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	2		4
Visitation Center/LDSS	3		
Public Area			
Child's/Youth's Placement			
Other			

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	3		4
No	8	8	8

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 6 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place the siblings together who did not reside with each other for the 3 children/youths. 3 children/youths have visits with sibling 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 12 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Second Quarter Anne Arundel County Barriers
AG	Lack of concurrent planning.
AE	Worker failed to submit proper paperwork for time TPR filing.
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource/service.
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AS	Lack of follow up.
EA	Youth not enrolled in school.
EZ	Other education barrier.
IB	Youth not employed or transitioning out of care.
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
IZ	Other independence barrier.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HB	Dentals not current.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.
HC	Vision not current.
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan.

Baltimore County



Baltimore County had a total of 18 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 6 case(s)
- Reunification: 7 case(s)
- APPLA: 4 case(s)
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 1 case(s)

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 15 of 18 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 the 4 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (4 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (4)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 4 cases)

In 3 of 4 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified, and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 3 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	3			3		
7 to 11 months		1				1
1 to 2 years	4			2		2
2 to 3 years				1		
3 years or more						1
Totals → 18	7	1		6		4

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all of the 18 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 7 cases. 7 children/youths were a post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was made for 1 case.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for 2 of the 7 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

In 5 of 18 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 15 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

8 of the 18 cases reviewed had a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 5 cases had 1 placement change, 2 case had 2 changes, 1 case had 3 changes and none of the cases had 4 or more changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 4 of 8 cases.

The following levels of care were found in the 8 most recent placement changes:

- 5 case(s) were in a less restrictive placement
- 3 case(s) were the same level of care

The primary reasons for the most recent placement changes were:

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

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

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

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

- 7 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 7 case(s)

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

- Yes, for 7 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 6 of the 18 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 14 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 13 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 10 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 2 eligible children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 5 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 monitored regularly for 6.

- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was monitored at least quarterly for the 3 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: No children/youths have refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 12 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for 12 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 5 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, with no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth has substance abuse problems.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 7 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 7 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 18 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 6 of the 18 children/youths had been met.

Education

18 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational Program. 11 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 2 youths were attending trade school. 1 youth graduated high school. 2 children/youths refused to attend school and 3 children/youths were under the age of 5.

6 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan, and there was a copy of the 504/IEP plan in 4 of the 6 children/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 7 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 11 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 – 5 cases)

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

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

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

None of the 5 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 – 5 cases)

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

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

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

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)

3 youth were receiving HOUSING?

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (10 cases)

4 of 10 youths received adoptive counseling with conditions.

Pre-Adoptive Placement (10 cases)

10 children/youths with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The family structure was comprised of a married couple for 1 case, a single female for 8 cases, and a single male for one case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was a foster parent-relative for 1 case, and a non-relative foster parent for 9 cases.

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

- 2 case(s) 4-6 months
- 8 case(s) 21 months or more

An adoptive home study was completed for all 10 cases.

A family social summary was given to all 10 cases.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for all 10 children/youths.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (5 cases)

Post-adoptive services were needed for all 10 children/youths. The service needed was medical for all 10 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for all 10 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were not approved for any of the 10 cases.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for all 10 cases.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

7 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 16 of 18 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	5	3	6
No	13	15	12

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

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	4		4
Unsupervised	1	3	2

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	1	3	2
No	4		4

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 11 of 18 children/youths had siblings in care. 5 children/youths had 1 sibling in care. 12 had two siblings in care. Efforts were made to place both siblings together who did not reside with each other for 9 children/youths. No children/youth 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 18 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Second Quarter Baltimore County Barriers
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AO	No sibling or family visits.
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
AZ	Other agency related barriers.
AL	No service agreement with youth.
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home.
BH	Issues related to substance abuse.
BG	Refusal to locate or maintain employment.
BY	Child/youth has runaway history.
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier.
EA	Youth not enrolled in school.

EB	Youth not attending school or in GED program.
ED	No current IEP.
EF	School not meeting youths behavioral needs.
EZ	Other education barrier.
CN	Disagreement with permanency plan.
DI	Not following through on service agreement objectives.
DY	No family related barriers.
DZ	Other family related barrier.
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.
5D	Over age 18 and still in care.
IB	Youth not employed and transitioning out of care.
IZ	Other independence barrier.
MC	Youth refuses mental treatment including therapy.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
1K	No service agreement with child.
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior.
SZ	Other safety barrier.



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

- Reunification: 4 cases

Permanency

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

The local juvenile court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 1 case.

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

Category of APPLA plan (none)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – none)

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	1					
7 to 11 months	3					
1 to 2 years						
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						
Totals →4	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 1 case. Efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process were made for the 1 case.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

2 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 4 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

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

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 1 of 2 cases.

The following level of care was found for the 2 most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) was a more restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 case(s) placement not due to provider issue
- 1 case(s) allegation of provider abuse/neglect

Child specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 2 case(s) mental health

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 none of the 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: 3 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 4 children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that all 3 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: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 2 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues: 3 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for all 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 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: None of the 4 children/youths had a substance abuse issue.
- 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 3 of 4 children/youths had been met.

Education

3 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 enrolled in school, or another educational/vocational program had a 504 or IEP plan or 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 of 3 children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program.

The local board agreed that all 3 children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program was being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 1 case)

1 youth was not participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

1 youth did not participated in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

The local board agreed that the 1 youth was not being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 1 case)

1 youth was not receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

1 youth did not received appropriate services for independent living due to mental health reasons.

1 youth did not complete a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

The local board agreed that the 1 youth was not receiving appropriate 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 (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 not completed for the 1 case.

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

Post-adoptive services were needed for 1 child/youth. The service needed was medical for the 1 child/youth.

Post adoptive subsidies was needed for the 1 case.

Post adoptive subsidies was not 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)

3 of 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	3	1	1
No	1	3	3

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

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

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	2		1
Other Agency Representative			

Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member		1	
CASA			
Foster Parent	1		
Other			
Therapist			

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

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

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 3 of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care. All 3 children/youths had 2 siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 2 children/youths. 3 children/youths with a sibling in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 3 children/youths have visits with siblings who are 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	Second Quarter Carroll County Barriers
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AG	Lack of concurrent planning.
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home.
CY	No concurrent plan by the court.

Cecil County



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

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

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 (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

Permanent Connections APPLA (1 case)

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

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	2					1
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						
Totals →4	2			1		1

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 3 of 4 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department did not have a signed service agreement for any of the cases. 1 child/youth over the age of 14 did not have a signed youth transitional plan. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 2 of the 4 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Regular Foster Care
2	Formal Kinship Care
1	Own Dwelling

3 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 4 of the 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. The 1 case had 1 placement change.

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

The following level of care was found for the 1 most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) was less restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes was:

- 1 case(s) was transitioning towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

Child specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

- No, for the one case.

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

- Yes, for the 1 case.

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of 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: 1 child/youth 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 3 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 2 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: No child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 2 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 1 child/youth had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for both children/youths.

- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: children/youth with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, and did not have an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 1 child/youth had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Standard Health Exams: 1 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 the 4 children/youths were enrolled in school. 2 children/youths were enrolled in Pre-K through 12th grade and 1 child/youth was enrolled in college. 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

1 child/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 3 of the 4 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 – 1 case)

1 youth was not participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth was not referred to summer or year round training and employment opportunities.

The local board agreed that the 1 youth was not appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 1 case)

1 youth was not receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living when they leave home care.

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

The local board agreed that 1 youth was receiving 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 were provided to the 1 youth.

The local board agreed with the transitional housing plan for 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. 1 child/youth was under the age of consent and no children/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 an unmarried 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 (none)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

It is unknown if post-adoptive services were needed for the 1 child/youth.

An adoptive home study was not applicable 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.

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	3	2	
No	1	2	4

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

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

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	2	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	1	1	
Visitation Center/LDSS	2		
Public Area		1	
Child's/Youth's Placement			
Other			

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes			
No	3	2	

Siblings/Visits

2 of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care. Two children/youths had 2 siblings not in care.

No efforts have been made to place siblings together for the 2 children/youth with siblings in care. Both children visit with their other siblings in care; no children/youth visit with siblings 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	Second Quarter Cecil County Barriers
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
BF	Not following up on referrals.
CY	No concurrent plan by court.
IZ	Other independence barrier.
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy.
MD	Youth non-compliant with medication.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.
MA	Youth has not been assessed for mental health concerns.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.

Charles County



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

- APPLA: 3 cases
- Reunification: 1 case

Permanency

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

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence: 2 cases
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement: 1 case

Permanent Connections (3 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

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

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate to meet the needs of children/youths for the 3 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Regular Foster Care
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Other

1 of 4 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 4 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

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

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for none of the 2 cases.

The following level of care was found for the 2 most recent placement changes:

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

Child 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 2 of the 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 2 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: 4 children/youths had completed medical records.
- Prescription Medication: 1 child/youth was taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 1 child/youth.
- 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: 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 substance abuse issues.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 1 child/youth had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- 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

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

1 child/youth enrolled in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 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 1 child/youth in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that the 1 child/youth educational goals are being met.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

1 youth was participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth was participating in work experience relevant to career field of choice.

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

None of the youths were referred to summer or year round training and 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)

1 youth was receiving required independent living skills to adequately prepare for independent living when they leave out of home care.

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

1 youth did not receive appropriate independent living skills due to mental health reasons.

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.

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)

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	2
No	3	3	2

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

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

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			

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	1		2
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

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

Code	Second Quarter Charles 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 barrier.
EZ	Other education barrier.
DG	Home study not approved.
DZ	Other family related barrier.
5D	Over age 18 and still in care.
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior.

Frederick County



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

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

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 2 of the 4 of the cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plans set by the local Juvenile Court for 2 of 4 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case)

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

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 2 of the 4 cases. 1 child/youth was a post-TPR child under the age of 14. 1 child had a youth transition plan.

Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 2 of the 4 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for 2 of 4 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

3 of 4 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 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. The 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 more restrictive placement

The Primary positive reason for the most recent placement change:

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

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 related 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 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: 1 child/youth 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 department reported that none of the 4 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: Neither of the 2 children/youths refused to take prescribed medicine.
- Mental Health Issues: 2 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 2 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 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 of the 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: The local board agreed behavioral issues for the 1 case are being addressed.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that none of the health needs of the 4 children/youths had been met.

Education

4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 1 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade, 1 youth was enrolled in a GED program, and 1 child/youth was under age 5. 1 child/youth not enrolled graduated high school.

2 of 4 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 1 child/youth 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 – 1 case)

1 youth was participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

None of the youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant career field of choice.

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

1 youth was 20 years old and was not earning a livable wage.

The local board did not agree that the 1 youth was being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 1 case)

1 youth was receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

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

The local board agreed that the 1 youth was receiving appropriate independent living skills.

The Local Department has identified 1 permanent connection to the child.

The Local Board agreed that the identified permanent connection was appropriate.

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

Child's Consent to Adoption (1 case)

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 (1 case)

Adoptive counseling was provided in the last 6 months for 1 child/youth.

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

An 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)

2 of 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	4	1	
No		3	4

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

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

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	2		
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		
Visitation Center/LDSS	2		
Public Area	1	1	
Child's/Youth's Placement			
Other			

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	2	1	
No	2	3	

Siblings/Visits

2 of the 4 children/youths had 1 sibling in care. Efforts have been made to place both children/youth with siblings in care. 2 children/youth have siblings who are not in care and all 4 children/youth visit with their siblings.

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	Second Quarter Frederick County Barriers
AG	Lack of concurrent planning.
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource.
AS	Lack of follow up.
HC	Vision not current.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
EZ	Other education barrier.



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

- Non-Relative Adoption: 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 none of the 4 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (2)

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

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for none of the 4 cases.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 2 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for both cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for 1 of 2 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

In 2 of the 4 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 4 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 2 of the 4 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. Both cases had 1 placement change.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement change for none of the 2 cases.

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

- 2 case(s) was less restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 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?

- Yes, 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 all 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: 3 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: Appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 2 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 2 of the 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 4 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 3 of 4 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: 3 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 3 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.

- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 1 of 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 2 of the 3 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 4 children/youths 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 1 of 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 2 of the 4 children/youths had been met.

Education

3 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 refused to attend school.

1 of 3 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan, and 2 children/youths had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in their records.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 2 of 3 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 2 of 3 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 participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

The local board agreed that 3 youths were not being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

1 youth was 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 mental health reasons.

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

The local board agreed that none of the 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. It is unknown if 2 children/youths consented to adoption.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (2 cases)

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

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

- 2 case(s) 4 to 6 months

Adoptive home study was completed and approved for the 2 cases.

A family social summary was given for the 1 of 2 cases.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for the 2 children/youths.

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 all 4 cases reviewed.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	1		
No	3	4	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	1		
Visitation Center/LDSS			
Public Area			

Child's/Youth's Placement			
Other			

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	1		
No			

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 2 children/youths had siblings in care. Both children/youths had 2 siblings 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 a sibling in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. None of the 2 children/youths have visits with 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 3 of 4 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Second Quarter Harford County Barriers
3Z	Other management barrier.
IZ	Other independence barrier.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
AL	No service agreement with youth.
BH	Issues related to substance abuse.
EZ	Other education barrier.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.



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

- Reunification: 2 case
- APPLA: 2 cases

Permanency

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (2)

Permanent Connections (2 cases)

The 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						
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	2					2
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						
Totals →4	2					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 have signed service agreement for any of the 4 cases.

It is unknown if efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for any of the 4 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	None
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Residential Treatment Center
1	Non-Relative

In 1 of 4 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 4 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

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

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement change for 1 of the 2 cases.

The following level of care was found for the 2 most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) was less restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason.
- 1 case(s) move was a placement with relatives.

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:

- 1 case(s) was behavioral.
- 1 case was due to a mental health issue.

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

- Yes, for both cases.

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

- Yes, for both cases.

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 3 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 3 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 that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for all 4 eligible children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that none of the children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for 1 child/youth.
- Psychotropic Medication: 1 child/youth was taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for 1 child/youth.
- Refused Prescribed Medicine: 1 of the 4 children/youths refused prescription medicine.
- Mental Health Issues: All 4 children/youths had mental health issues.

- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for all 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 of the 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not Applicable.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 1 child/youth had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Standard Health Exams: No child/youth refused to comply with standard health exam.

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

Education

1 child/youth reviewed was enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 2 children/youth not enrolled in school graduated high school. 1 child refused to attend school or other educational/vocational program.

1 child/youth in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and a copy in child/youth record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for the 1 child/youth educational/vocational program.

The local board agreed that 3 of the 4 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. Both youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

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

All 3 youths were referred to summer or year-round training and/or employment opportunities.

1 youth was 20 years old and was not earning a livable wage.

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

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

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

1 youth was not receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living due to mental health reasons.

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

The local board agreed that all 4 youths were receiving appropriate independent living skills.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 1 case)

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

Housing has not been specified for 1 youth transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options were not provided to the 1 youth.

The local board did not agree with the transitional housing plan for the 1 youth.

Child's Consent to Adoption (none)

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)

3 of 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

2 of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care. The 2 children/youths had 3 siblings in care. Efforts were not made to place siblings in care together for the 2 children/youth. 1 child visits with siblings in care. 2 children/youth have siblings 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	Second Quarter Howard County Barriers
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AS	Lack of follow up.
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource and service.
EZ	Other education barrier.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
HD	No follow-up or medical referrals.
SA	No current safe custody & guardianship.



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

- Non-Relative Adoption: 5 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Reunification: 9 cases
- APPLA: 7 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 2 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 21 of 24 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified concurrent permanency plans for 8 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for 1 of the 8 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (7 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (7)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 7 cases)

All 7 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified, and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 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			2		
7 to 11 months				2		1
1 to 2 years	2	1		1	1	4
2 to 3 years	4	1				2
3 years or more						
Totals → 24	9	2		5	1	7

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department did not have a signed service agreement for 12 of the 24 cases. 6 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 10 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were not appropriate for 6 of the 12 cases, reviewed.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	None
4	Formal Kinship Care
6	Regular Foster Care
2	Restricted (Relative) Foster Care
2	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
4	Therapeutic Group Homes
2	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Non-Relative
1	Own Dwelling

In 8 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 22 of 24 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 8 of the 24 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 7 of the cases had 2 placement changes and 1 case had 1 placement change.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 8 cases.

The following levels of care were found for the 8 most recent placement changes:

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

Primary reason for the most recent placement changes included:

- 4 case(s) transition towards permanency goal
- 2 case(s) had placement with relatives
- 1 case had placement with siblings
- 1 case move did not occur for positive reason

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 case(s) provider request
- 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:

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

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

- Yes, for 8 cases

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

- Yes, for 8 cases

Health/Mental Health

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

- Current Vision: 4 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 1 child/youth 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 23 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 19 of the 24 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 7 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 7 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 5 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 5 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 17 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 16 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 15 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 24 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 of the 24 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 1 of 24 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 5 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 1 of 5 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the children/youth refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 15 of the 24 children/youths had been met.

Education

18 of 24 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 16 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth was enrolled in a GED program and 1 youth was enrolled in college, 3 children/youths graduated high school. 1 child/youth refused to attend school. 2 children/youths were under the age of 5.

7 of the 24 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/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 16 children/youths.

The local board agreed that 21 of the 24 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. 1 child/youth did not participate in unpaid work experience due to being medically fragile and 1 did not participate in unpaid work due to mental health reasons.

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

1 youth is 20 years old and was earning a livable wage.

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

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

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

8 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 8 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 youth transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options were provided to the 2 youth.

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

The local board agreed that 2 youth 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. 2 children/youth consented to adoption. 1 child/youth did not want to be adopted and 4 children/youth were under the age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (7 cases)

4 of 7 children/youths received adoptive counseling with conditions.

Pre-Adoptive Placement (7 cases)

All 7 children/youths with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The family structure was comprised of 4 married couples, a single female for 3 cases. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was a relative for 2 children/youth, and non-relative foster parent for 5 cases.

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
- 5 case(s) 21 months or more

Adoptive home study was completed and approved for 5 of the cases.

A family social summary was given for 6 cases.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for all 7 children/youths.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

5 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	15	7	11
No	10	17	13

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily	1		
Once a week	8	3	
More than once a week			
Once a month	5	4	11
More than once a month			
Quarterly	1		
Yes, but undocumented			

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	7	5	2
Unsupervised	7	2	9

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	7	5	2
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	6	1	6
Visitation Center/LDSS	7	3	
Public Area		2	3
Child's/Youth's Placement			
Other	1	1	1

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	4	1	7
No	18	17	14

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 24 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Second Quarter Montgomery County Barriers
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AS	Lack of follow up general.
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource and service.
AK	No service agreement with parents.
EZ	Other education barrier.
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
IB	Youth not employed and transitioning out of care.
IZ	Other independence barrier.
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HB	Dentals not current.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.
HC	Vision not current.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
SA	No current safe custody & guardianship.



Prince George's County had a total of 16 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 2 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Reunification: 4 cases
- APPLA: 9 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 15 of 16 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 2 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (9 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (7)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (2)

Permanent Connections (9 cases)

All 9 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified, and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 9 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	3					4
7 to 11 months				1	1	1
1 to 2 years	1					2
2 to 3 years				1		2
3 years or more						
Totals → 16	4			2	1	9

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 16 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 3 cases. 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 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
4	None
1	Formal Kinship Care
2	Regular Foster Care
2	Treatment Foster Center (Private)
1	Teen Mother Programs
3	Therapeutic Group Homes
3	Independent Living Residential Program

In 9 of the 16 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 12 of 16 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 7 of the 16 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 5 cases had 1 placement change, 1 case had 2 placement changes and 1 case had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 3 of 7 cases.

The following levels of care were found for the 7 most recent placement changes:

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 4 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

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

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

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

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 3 cases

Health/Mental Health

- **Developmental/Special Needs:** The local department reported that 7 of 16 children/youths reviewed had developmental or specials needs.
- **Current Physical:** 11 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- **Current Vision:** 12 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- **Current Dental:** 8 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.

- Completed Medical Records: 6 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 4 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 4 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 3 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 9 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 9 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 7 of 9 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 9 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: 7 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 7 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 2 of 4 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 1 child/youth refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board agreed that health needs of 6 of 16 children/youths were met.

Education

11 of the 16 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 8 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.

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

5 of the 14 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 2 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

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

The local board agreed that 11 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 10 cases)

2 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

2 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.

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

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

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

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

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

The local board agreed that 5 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 2 youths.

The local board agreed with the transitional housing plan for the 2 youths.

The local board agreed that both 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. 2 children/youths were under the age of consent.

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 pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple for the 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was 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 not completed and approved for 1 case.

A family social summary was not given for the 1 case.

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

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 Grassroots, Heart Gallery Adopt Site and Adopt Us Kids.

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

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (2 cases)

Post-adoptive services were needed for 2 children/youths. The service needed was medical both cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for 2 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were not approved for the 2 cases.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for the 2 cases.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

5 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 12 of 16 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	8	3	4
No	8	13	12

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily	1		
Once a week	2		
More than once a week			
Once a month			
More than once a month	1		
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented	4	3	4

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

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	2		
Other Agency Representative	1		
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other			
Therapist			

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home	5	1	4
Visitation Center/LDSS			
Public Area			
Child's/Youth's Placement		2	
Other	3		

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	5	1	4
No	3	2	

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 5 children/youths had siblings in care. 2 children/youths had 1 sibling in care and 3 children/youths had 2 siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 5 children/youths. 3 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 16 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Second Quarter Prince George's County Barriers
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AO	No sibling or family visits.
BE	Non-compliant with service agreement.
BD	Child has behavior problems in the home.
BF	Not following up on referrals.
BH	Issues related to substance abuse.
BU	Undocumented child/youth.
BY	Child/youth has runaway history.
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier.
CY	No concurrent plan by court.
CZ	Other court related barrier.
EA	Youth not enrolled in school.
ED	No current IEP.
EB	Youth not attending school or in GED program.
EZ	Other education barrier.
FG	No concurrent permanency plan in place.
DI	Not following through on service agreement objectives.
DY	No family related barriers.
DZ	Other family related barrier.
IB	Youth not employed and transitioning out of care.
IZ	Other independence barrier.
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
HD	No follow-up on medical referrals.
HZ	Other physical health barrier.
LZ	Other placement barrier.
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior.
SZ	Other safety barrier.
1K	No service agreement with child.
5D	Over age 18 and still in care.



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

- Reunification: 1 case
- Non-Relative Adoption: 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 identified a concurrent permanency plan for 1 case.

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

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						
7 to 11 months						1
1 to 2 years	1					
2 to 3 years						1
3 years or more				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 had a signed service agreement for none of the 4 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

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

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 appropriate follow-up occurred on all health-related concerns for 2 children/youths.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 2 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: 1 child/youth was taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- 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: 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 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 thru 12th grade and 1 youth was attending college.

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 all 3 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that the 3 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.

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

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 and 1 youth did not participate due to being medically fragile.

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

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

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

1 youth did not participate due to mental health reasons and 1 youth did not participate to to being medically fragile.

1 youth 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)

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 did not document efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 1 child/youth not placed in a pre-adoptive home. The 1 child/youth was not 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 service was needed for the 1 child/youth. The service 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 local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for 1 case.

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	2		1
No	2	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	1		1
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

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

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			

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative

Yes	1		
No	1		1

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 all 4 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Second Quarter St. Mary's County Barriers
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AO	No sibling or family visits.
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 with the court.
EB	Youth not attending school or in GED program.
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services.
EE	School not implementing IEP.
EF	School not meeting youths behavioral needs.
EZ	Other education barrier.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
FG	No concurrent permanency plan in place.
HC	Vision not current.
LZ	Other placement barrier.
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior.
5D	Over age 18 and still in care.



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

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

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 (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

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

The Board agreed that the service agreement was appropriate for the 4 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Residential Group Homes
1	Therapeutic Group Homes
1	Temporary Respite Care

1 of the 4 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 3 of 4 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

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

The local department did not held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for the 2 cases.

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

- 1 case(s) were less restrictive placement
- 1 case(s) were more restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

- 2 case(s) behavioral

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

- Yes, 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: 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 3 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 3 of the 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 4 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 4 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the children/youths 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 2 of 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 of the 4 children/youths with mental health issues was transitioning out of care had an identified plan to obtain services in the adult mental health care system.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 4 children/youths had substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 1 child/youth.
- Standard Health Exams: 1 of 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 thru 12th grade. 1 child/youth not attending school graduated high school.

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

A current progress report/report card was available to review for all 3 children/youths in Pre-K thru 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)

1 youth was participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth was participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

2 youths were referred to summer or year-round training and/or 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 prepare for independent living.

4 youths had 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 – 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 were not 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 (1 case)

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

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

- 1 case(s) 1 to 3 months

Adoptive home study was not completed and approved for 1 case.

A family social summary was not given for the 1 case.

The local board agreed that the pre-adoptive placement was not appropriate for the 1 case.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

3 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	1		
More than once a week			
Once a month			1
More than once a month			
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	1		
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

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

Code	Second Quarter Talbot County Barriers
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home.
CY	No concurrent plan with the court.
DA	Disrupted Pre Adoption placement.
DF	Disrupted finalized adoption.
DZ	Other family related barrier.
IZ	Other independence barrier.
IB	Youth not employed and transitioning out of care.
EB	Youth not attending school or in GED program.
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy.
HB	Dentals not current.
LZ	Other placement barrier.



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

- Relative Placement for 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 identified a concurrent permanency plan for any of the cases.

Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)
- Transition to an adult: (2)

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 the 3 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department did not hold a family involvement meetings prior to entry for any of the cases.

Service Agreements: The local department has 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 was made for 1 case.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
1	None
1	Formal Kinship Care
2	Therapeutic Group Homes

3 of 4 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 3 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 1 placement change.

The local department did not hold a family involvement meeting for the placement change for the 1 case.

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

- 1 case(s) was a less restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) transitioned towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 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

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 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: 3 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 3 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 3 of the 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: 1 child/youth was taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 4 children/youths refused to take prescription medicine.
- Mental Health Issues: 2 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 2 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: None of the 4 children/youths had 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 3 of 4 children/youths had been met.

Education

2 of 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 1 child/youth was in Pre-K thru 12th grade and 1 youth was enrolled in college. 1 youth not enrolled in school already graduated high school. 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

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

Current progress report card was available for review for the 1 child/youth 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)

2 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

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

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

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

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

The local board agreed that the 3 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.

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 pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple for the 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was 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 not completed and approved for 1 case.

A family social summary was not given for the 1 case.

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

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

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for the 1 case.

Post adoptive subsidies was approved for the 1 case.

A plan for post adoption agreement with siblings to include visits, telephone calls and letters was established for 1 case.

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

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.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 2 of 4 children/youths had siblings in care. Both children/youths had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 2 children/youths. 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 board identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	Second Quarter Washington County Barriers
5D	Over age 18 and still in care.
AL	No service agreement with youth.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.



Wicomico County had a total of 3 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- AAPLA: 3 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department’s permanency plan for all 3 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court did not identified a concurrent permanency plan for any case.

Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

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

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 3 cases)

All 3 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the board found the identified Permanent connection appropriate for the 3 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): It is unknown if the local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for the 3 cases.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement 2 of the 3 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was made for the 1 case.

The local board agreed that the service agreement was appropriate for the 1 of 2 signed case.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	Restricted Foster Care (Relative)
1	Treatment Foster Care

1 of the 3 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 3 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

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

A family involvement meeting was not held for the placement changes for the 1 case.

The following level of care was found for the 1 most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) was less restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) placement with relatives

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

- 1 case(s) behavioral

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included

- 1 case(s) incompatible match

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 none of 3 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 2 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: None of the 3 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 1 child/youth 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 none of 3 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that none of 3 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 1 child/youth was taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Psychotropic Medication: 1 child/youth were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 3 children/youths refused to take prescription medicine.
- Mental Health Issues: 3 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for 2 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 1 of 3 children/youths.

- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 3 children/youth with mental health issues who were 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: No, for the 2 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 1 of 2 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exam: 1 child/youth refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of none of the 3 children/youths had been met.

Education

1 of 3 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 1 child/youth was enrolled in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 1 child/youth refused to attend school and 1 child/youth did not attend school due to other reasons.

1 child/youth in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan but did not had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was not available for review for the 1 child/youth in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that the 1 child/youth was not being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

None of the 3 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

None of the 3 youths were referred to summer of year round training and employment opportunities.

The local board agreed that none of the 3 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

None of the 3 youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

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

The local board agreed that none of the 3 youths were receiving appropriate 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)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

2 of 3 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed all 3 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

None of the 3 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 1 of 3 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Second Quarter Wicomico County Barriers
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
BE	Non-compliant with service agreement.
BF	Not following up on referrals.
EA	Youth not enrolled in school.
ED	No current IEP.
EZ	Other education barrier.
IB	Youth not employed and transitioning out of care.
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence.
1D	In appropriate time frame.
IZ	Other independence barrier.
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy.
MD	Youth non-compliant with medication.
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.



Baltimore City had a total of 35 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 2 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 3 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 4 cases
- Reunification: 21 cases
- APPLA: 4 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 1 case

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 29 of the 35 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 (4 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (4)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 4 cases)

3 of 4 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for 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	3		2	1	3	1
7 to 11 months	6	1	1			2
1 to 2 years	7			1		
2 to 3 years	5				1	
3 years or more						1
Totals → 35	21	1	3	2	4	4

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 26 of the 35 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 5 cases. 2 children/youths were a Post-TPR child under the age of 14. 5 children/youths did not had any transitional plan. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 17 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreement was appropriate for 3 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

In 20 of the 35 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 31 of the 35 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 11 of the 35 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 3 cases had 1 placement change, 6 cases had 2 placement changes and 2 cases had 3 placement changes.

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:

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) were transitioning towards permanency goal
- 1 case(s) placement with relatives
- 8 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 11 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
- 6 case(s) behavioral
- 1 case(s) other

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 13 of the 35 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.

- Current Physical: 17 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 12 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 11 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 7 of the 35 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 12 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 11 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 8 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 8 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 3 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 30 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 26 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 13 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 4 of 30 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: 4 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 3 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 14 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 6 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 2 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 6 of the 35 children/youths had been met.

Education

27 of the 35 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 27 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 2 children/youths not attending school graduated high school. 3 children/youths refused to attend school. 3 children/youths were under the age of 5.

13 of the 27 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan, and 7 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 15 of the 27 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 18 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 13 cases)

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

2 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.

1 youth was over the age of 20 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 – 13 cases)

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

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

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

- Housing (Transitioning Youth –1 youth)
(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 were 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. 3 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 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:

- 3 case(s) 21 months or more

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

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of 35 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 29 of the 35 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	22	8	5
No	13	27	30

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week	13	3	2
More than once a week		2	1
Once a month	6	2	
More than once a month	3	1	2
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	10	5	1
Unsupervised	12	3	4

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	10	5	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	7	1	3
Visitation Center/LDSS	5	1	1
Public Area	7	3	
Child's/Youth's Placement	1	2	
Other	2	1	

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	4	1	1
No	24	18	17

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 19 of 35 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 12 children/youths. 11 children/youths with a sibling in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 16 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 22 of the 35 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Second Quarter Baltimore City Barriers
2A	Inadequate casework services.
2B	Lack of progress in implementation.
2Z	Other implementation barrier.
3E	Inadequate information on Chessie case plans.
3F	Lack of documentation.
3Z	Other management barrier.
4A	Poor coordination within DSS.
AG	Lack of concurrent planning.
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.

AS	Lack of follow up (General).
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource.
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home.
BG	Refusal to locate or maintain employment.
CY	No concurrent plan by the court.
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services.
ED	No current IEP.
EE	School not implementing IEP.
EZ	Other education barrier.
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
IB	Youth not employed and transitioning out of care.
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence.
IZ	Other independence barrier.
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.
HG	Delay in scheduling medical appointments.
LB	Youth needs less restrictive placement.
LZ	Other placement barrier.
MA	Youth has not been assessed for mental health concerns.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
SA	No current safe custody & guardianship.

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.

2nd Quarter 2026 CRBC Metrics

Recommendation Reports to DSS - Number Sent:	144
Recommendation Reports to DSS - Number Sent on Time:	144
Recommendation Reports to DSS - Percentage Sent on Time:	100%
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Number of Responses Received: ¹	111
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Percentage of DSS Responses:	77%
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Number Received on Time:	91
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Percentage Received on Time	82%
Number of Boards Held	39
Recommendation Reports - Number of DSS Agreement:	111
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of DSS Agreement:	100%
Recommendation Reports - Number of DSS Disagreement:	0
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of DSS Disagreement:	0%
Recommendation Reports - Number of Blank/Unanswered: ²	0
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of Blank/Unanswered:	0%
Percentage of REUNIFICATION Children Reviewed for the Period:	40%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT - Adoption Children Reviewed:	4%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT - C & G Children Reviewed:	3%
Percentage of ADOPTION Children Reviewed for the Period:	15%
Percentage of CUSTODY/GUARDIANSHIP Children Reviewed for the Period:	6%
Percentage of APPLA Children Reviewed for the Period:	32%

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.



The State Board

Nettie Anderson-Burrs (Chair)

Circuit 4: Representing Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties

Delores Alexander (Vice Chair)

Circuit 3: Representing Baltimore and Harford Counties

Amy Potler

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

Dr. Corinne Vinopol

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

Dr. Elaine Reed

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

Sandra "Kay" Farley

Circuit 6: Representing Frederick and Montgomery Counties

Nathaniel Wallace

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

Circuit 8: Representing Baltimore City

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Crystal Young, MSW
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