CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Maryland.gov



FIRST QUARTER FISCAL YEAR 2027 REPORT

(July 1st 2026 – September 30th 2026)

Citizens Review Board for Children
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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.

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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



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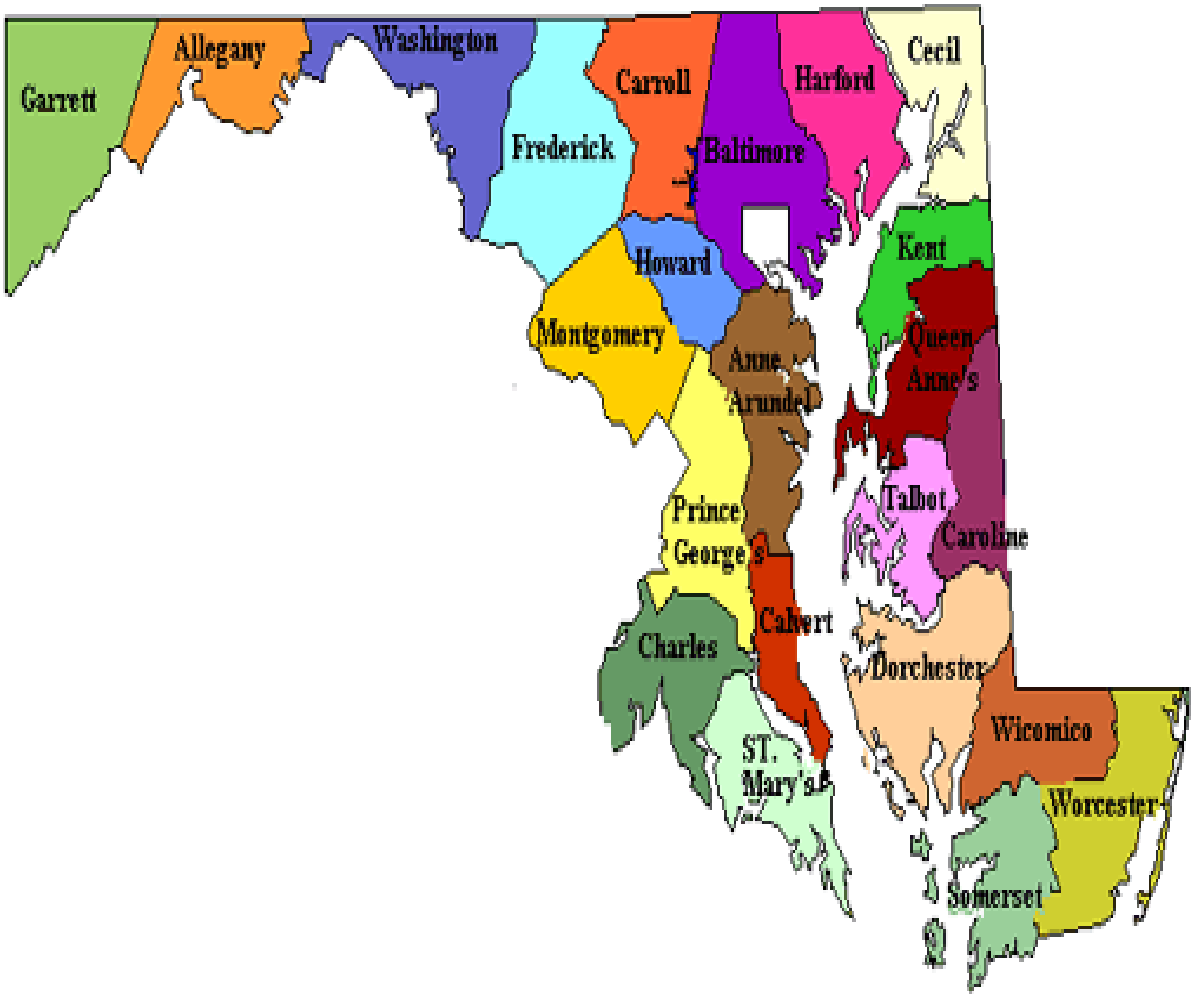
Introduction

The following pages contain data from CRBC's out-of-home-placement case review findings and recommendations for the 1st Quarter of Fiscal Year 2027.



CRBC conducts regular out-of-home placement case reviews in all 24 Maryland jurisdictions, including Baltimore City throughout the year. For this quarterly report, the following counties did not have regularly scheduled case reviews during the quarter: Caroline, Carroll, Charles, Garrett, Howard, Kent, Queen Ann's, Wicomico and Worcester countries. Therefore, this report only contains review findings and recommendations for 15 jurisdictions, including Baltimore City that had regularly scheduled reviews.

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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 **P**lanned **P**ermanent **L**iving **A**rrangement (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).

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1st Quarter 2027 Case Review Statistics

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

Jurn #	County	Non-Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non-Relative C & G	Reunification	Relative Placement for Adoption	APPLA	TOTAL	# Boards Held
01	Allegany	3	0	0	0	0	1	4	1
02	Anne Arundel	0	0	1	1	1	1	4	1
03	Baltimore County	3	1	0	8	1	11	24	6
04	Calvert	0	0	0	3	0	1	4	1
05	Cecil	0	0	0	4	0	4	8	2
06	Dorchester	1	0	0	1	0	2	4	1
07	Frederick	1	0	0	5	0	1	7	2
08	Harford	0	0	2	2	0	7	11	3
09	Montogomery	4	0	1	9	0	6	20	5
10	Prince George's	5	0	2	3	1	8	19	5
11	St. Mary	0	0	0	4	0	0	4	1
12	Somerset	0	0	0	2	1	1	4	1
13	Talbot	1	0	0	0	0	3	4	1
14	Washington	3	0	0	4	1	0	8	2
15	Baltimore City	1	4	3	22	4	8	42	12
16	Statewide Totals	22	5	9	69	9	54	167	44
	Percentages	13%	3%	5%	42%	5%	32%	100%	

CRBC conducted a total of 167 individual out-of-home case reviews (each case reviewed represents 1 child/youth) in 15 Jurisdictions on 44 boards that held reviews during the 1st quarter of fiscal year 2027.

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 (167)

Gender Totals

Male	Female
82 (49%)	85 (51%)

Gender by Plan

Male (82)

Non-Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non-Relative C & G	Reunification	APPLA	Relative Placement for Adoption
13 (16%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	36 (44%)	27 (34%)	2 (2%)

Female (85)

Non-Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non-Relative C & G	Reunification	APPLA	Relative Placement for Adoption
9 (11%)	3 (4%)	7 (8%)	33 (39%)	27 (32%)	6 (7%)

Ethnicity Overall

African American	Caucasian	Asian	Other
98 (59%)	61 (37%)	6 (4%)	2 (1%)

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	15	4	0	9	1	0	29
2_age 6 thru 10	16	0	2	7	2	0	27
3_age 11 thru 13	12	3	1	3	2	0	21
4_age 14 thru 16	19	1	1	1	4	3	29
5_age 17 thru 19	7	0	1	2	0	37	47
6_age 20	0	0	0	0	0	14	14
Totals	69	8	5	22	9	54	167

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Jurisdictional Case Reviews

Allegany County

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

- Non-Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- 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 plan for any of the cases.

Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence: 1 case

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				2		
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years						1
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more				1		
Totals ➔ 4				3		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 did not have a signed service agreement for any of the cases. 2 children/youths were post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for none of the cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangment (LA)
2	Regular Foster Care
1	Residential Group Home
1	Own Dwelling

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

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

Placement Stability

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

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for none of the 3 cases.

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement change included:

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

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

- 2 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 3 cases

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

- Yes, for 3 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 1 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: 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 1 of the 4 eligible children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 3 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 1 child/youth was taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Psychotropic Medication: None of the children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Not applicable.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 1 child/youth had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 1 child/youth had a mental health diagnosis.

- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.

- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.

- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.

- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.

- Behavioral Issues: 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 the 4 children/youths had been met.

Education

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

1 of 2 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's/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 2 children/youths 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 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 required Independent Living skills to adequately prepare for independent living.

  1 youth did not complete a life assessment.

  The local board agreed the 1 youth was not receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 2 children/youths were under the age of consent. 1 child/youth was unable to consent due to being medically fragile.

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 married couple for the 2 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) 7 to 9 months

An adoptive home study was not completed for the 2 cases.

A family social summary was not given for the 2 cases.

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (3 cases)

Post adoptive services were needed for the 3 children/youths. The service that was needed was medical for the 3 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for the 3 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were approved for the 3 cases.

The Board found the post-adoptive services were appropriate for 3 cases.

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			
More than once a month			
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented	2		1

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

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

2 children/youths had siblings in care. Both children/youths had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were made to place both siblings together who did not reside with each other for the 2 children/youths.

Summary

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

Barriers/Issues

Code	First Quarter Allegany County Barriers
DY	Bio Family noncompliant
DZ	Other Family Related Barrier.
HC	Vision Not Current.
AN	Youth Placed Outside Of Home Jurisdiction.
BZ	Other Child/youth Related Barrier.
EZ	Other Education Barrier.
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.
DZ	Other Family Related Barrier.
IC	Inadequate Preparation For Independence (General).
IZ	Other Independence Barrier
MC	Youth Refuses Mental Health Treatment Including Therapy
MZ	Other Mental Health Barrier
5D	Over Age 18 And Still In Care.

Anne Arundel County

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

- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Relative Placement for 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 identified a concurrent plan for none of the cases.

Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence: 1 case

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						
7 to 11 months	1	1			1	
1 to 2 years						1
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						
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 all 4 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department did not have a signed service agreement for any of the cases. 1 child/youth was a post-TPR child under the age of 14. 1 child/youth did not have a youth transition plan. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for the 2 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were not appropriate for any of the cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

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

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

Placement Stability

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 none 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 4 eligible child/youth reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that all 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.

- Prescription Medication: 2 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: 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: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 3 of 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 3 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- 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 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 all 4 children/youths had been met.

Education

3 of 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 1 child/youth was enrolled in Pre-K through 12th grade and 2 children/youths were enrolled in GED program. 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

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

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

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

  2 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

  Both youth were referred to summer or year round training and employment opportunities.

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

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

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

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

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

  1 youth did not complete life skill assessment.

  The local board agreed that 1 of the 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 was provided to 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. 1 child/youth was 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 family structure was comprised of a single female for the 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was a 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)

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

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

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 3 of 4 children/youths had siblings in care. 3 children/youths had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were not made to place both siblings together who did not reside with each other for the 3 children/youths. All 3 children/youths have visits with their 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	First Quarter Anne Arundel County Barriers
AQ	Worker Did Not Submit Referral For Needed Resource/Service
AG	Lack of Concurrent Planning
AS	Lack of Follow-Up (General)
EZ	Other education barrier
IZ	Other independence barrier
MZ	Other mental health barrier.

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Baltimore County

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

- Non-Relative Adoption: 3 case(s)
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 1 case(s)
- Reunification: 8 case(s)
- APPLA: 11 case(s)
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 1 case(s)

Permanency

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

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (11 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (8)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (3)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 11 cases)

All 11 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified, and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 11 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	5	1	1	2		4
7 to 11 months						4
1 to 2 years	3					
2 to 3 years				1		2
3 years or more						1
Totals ➔24	8	1	1	3		11

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 had a signed service agreement for 10 cases. 2 children/youths were a post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 10 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements was appropriate for the 9 of 10 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	None
5	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
2	Independent Living Residential Program
3	Formal Kinship Care
5	Therapeutic Group Home
3	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
3	Regular Foster Care
1	Other
1	Residential Treatment Center

In 14 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 23 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

10 of the 24 cases reviewed had a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 9 cases had 1 placement change and 1 case had 2 changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 1 of 10 cases.

The following levels of care were found in 10 most recent placement changes:

- 3 case(s) were same level of care
- 6 case(s) were less restrictive level of care
- 1 case(s) was more restrictive level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

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

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

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

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

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

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

- No, for 9 cases
- N/A, placement from shelter or temp placement for 1 case

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

- Yes, for 9 cases
- N/A, Runaway, SILA or living arrangement for 1 case

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 8 of the 24 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.

- Current Physical: 17 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 11 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 5 eligible children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 9 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 15 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 15 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 14 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 14 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 24 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 19 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for 19 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 17 of 19 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 19 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: 4 children/youths have substance abuse problems.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 of 4 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 8 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 7 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 1 child/youth refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 10 of the 24 children/youths had been met.

Education

15 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational Program. 13 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 youth was attending college and 1 youth was enrolled in GED program. 3 youths graduated high school. 2 children/youths refused to attend school and 4 children/youths were under the age of 5.

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

The local board agreed that 14 children/youths enrolled in school, or another educational/vocational program were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 16 cases)

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

  3 youths did not participate due to mental health reasons.

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

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

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

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

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 16 cases)

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

  4 youths did not receive appropriate services due to mental health reasons.

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

The local board agreed that 12 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 the 2 youths transitioning out of care.

  Alternative housing options was provided to both youths.

  The local board agreed with the transitional housing plan for the 2 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. 4 children/youths were under the age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (4 cases)

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

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

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

An adoptive home study was not completed for the 4 cases.

A family social summary was not given for any of the cases.

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)
Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (3 cases)

Post-adoptive services were needed for 3 children/youths. The services needed were medical for the 3 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for all 3 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were not approved for any of the 3 cases.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for 3 cases.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 23 of 24 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	9	5	15
No	15	19	9

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week	4	1	
More than once a week			
Once a month		1	3
More than once a month	1	1	3
Quarterly	1		2
Yes, but undocumented	3	2	7

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	4	2	3
Unsupervised	5	3	12

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		1	
Other Agency Representative	1		2
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member		1	1
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other	3		
Therapist			

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home	5	2	11
Visitation Center/LDSS	2	1	3
Public Area	2	1	
Child's/Youth's Placement		1	1
Other			

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	2	1	10
No	7	4	5

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 5 of 24 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place both siblings together who did not reside with each other for 1 child/youth. 2 children/youths had visits with their siblings who were not in care.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 24 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	First Quarter Baltimore County Barriers
BD	Child Has Behavior Problems In The Home.
DZ	Other Family Related Barrier.
HC	Vision Not Current.
AK	No Service Agreement With Parents/Guardian.
CN	Board Disagreement With Permanency Plan.
HD	No Follow Up On Medical Referrals.
AN	Youth Placed Outside Of Home Jurisdiction.
AL	No Service Agreement With Youth.
AG	Lack Of Concurrent Planning.
BD	Child Has Behavior Problems In The Home.
BH	Issues Related To Substance Abuse.
BZ	Other Child/Youth Related Barrier.
CY	No Concurrent Plan By Court
FG	No Concurrent Permanency Plan In Place.
HA	Annual Physicals Not Current.
HB	Dentals Not Current.
SB	Youth Engages In Risky Behavior.
MC	Youth Refuses Mental Health Treatment Including Therapy.
5D	Over Age 18 And Still In Care.
AO	No Sibling Or Family Visits.
IC	Inadequate Preparation For Independence (General).
EZ	Other Education Barrier.
EB	Youth Not Attending School.
EA	Youth Not Enrolled In School Or In Ged Program.
DF	Disrupted Finalized Adoption.
BF	Not Following Up On Referrals.
BE	Non-Compliant With Service Agreement.
ID	Ready by 21 Not Implemented.
IB	Youth Not Employed And Transitioning Out Of Care.
IA	Transitional Housing Has Not Been Identified.
IZ	Other Independence Barrier.
MZ	Other Mental Health Barrier.
DK	Resource Family not Maintaining Contact With The Department.
BY	Child/Youth Has Runaway History
DL	Bio Family not maintaining contact with the Department.
CZ	Other Court Related Barrier.
FZ	Other Permanency Barrier.
DI	Bio Family not Following Through On Service Agreement Objectives.
DY	Bio Family noncompliant.

Calvert County

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

- Reunification: 3 cases
- APPLA: 1 cases

Permanency

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

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

Permanent Connections (1 case)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months						
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	3					
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						1
Totals →4	3					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 agreements were appropriate for the 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 the 2 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangment (LA)
2	Residential Treatment Center
1	Regular Foster Care
1	Own Dwelling

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

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

Placement Stability

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

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

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

- 1 case(s) was the same level of care
- 1 case(s) was more restrictive level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

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

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

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 1 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.

- Current Physical: 3 children/youths had a current physical exam.

- Current Vision: 4 children/youths had a current vision exam.

- Current Dental: 4 children/youths had a current dental exam.

- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 1 child/youth reviewed.

- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 2 of 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.

- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 3 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for both children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 3 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 3 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 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 problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

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

Education

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

2 of the 4 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/report card was available for review for the 3 of 4 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

  1 youth was employed or 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/or employment opportunities.

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

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

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

  2 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

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

  The local board agreed that both 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 was 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.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

1 of the 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

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

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

2 of the 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. None of the 2 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their sibling who did not reside with them. 2 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	First Quarter Calvert County Barriers
AN	Youth Placed Outside Of Home Jurisdiction.
AK	No Service Agreement With Parents/Guardian.
AL	No Service Agreement With Youth.
AO	No Sibling Or Family Visits.
BD	Child Has Behavior Problems In The Home.
CY	No Concurrent Plan By Court
DF	Disrupted Finalized Adoption.
SB	Youth Engages In Risky Behavior.
DZ	Other Family Related Barrier.
HA	Annual Physicals Not Current.
5D	Over Age 18 And Still In Care.
EZ	Other Education Barrier.

Cecil County



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

- Reunification: 4 cases
- APPLA: 4 case

Permanency

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

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (4 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (4)

Permanent Connections APPLA (4 cases)

2 of 4 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified, and the local board agreed that the connection was appropriate for the 2 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 4 of 8 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department did had a signed service agreement for 2 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 4 cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
3	None
1	Therapeutic Group Home
3	Residential Group Home
1	Own Dwelling

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

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for 6 of the 8 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

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

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 3 of 4 cases..

The following level of care was found for the 4 most recent placement changes:

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

Child specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

- Yes, for 4 cases

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

- Yes, for 4 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 6 of 8 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 7 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 3 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 4 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 3 children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported 2 of 8 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 5 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 5 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 4 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for 4 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 3 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 7 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 7 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.

- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 4 of 7 of children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 child/youth with mental health issues was transitioning out of care, had an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: 4 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 1 of 4 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 6 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 4 of the 6 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 3 of the 8 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 3 of 8 children/youths had been met.

Education

5 of the 8 children/youths were enrolled in school. All 5 children/youths were enrolled in Pre-K through 12th grade. 3 children/youths not attending school graduated high school.

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

The local board agreed that 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 – 5 cases)

  2 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- Housing (Transitioning Youth – 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)

6 of 8 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	3	3	2
No	5	5	6

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

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

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

Summary

Based on the findings of the review, the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 6 of 8 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	First Quarter Cecil County Barriers
AN	Youth Placed Outside Of Home Jurisdiction.
AL	No Service Agreement With Youth.
IZ	Other Independence Barrier.
EZ	Other Education Barrier.
HB	Dentals Not Current.
HC	Vision Not Current.
HD	No Follow Up On Medical Referrals.
AR	Missing Or Lack Of Documentation.
AK	No Service Agreement With Parents/Guardian.
CY	No Concurrent Plan By Court
MZ	Other Mental Health Barrier.
BE	Non-Compliant With Service Agreement.
BF	Not Following Up On Referrals.
BH	Issues Related To Substance Abuse.
BZ	Other Child/Youth Related Barrier.
HA	Annual Physicals Not Current.
BG	Refusal To Locate Or Maintain Employment.
ED	No Current IEP.
IC	Inadequate Preparation For Independence (General).
MC	Youth Refuses Mental Health Treatment Including Therapy.
MD	Youth Non-Compliant With Medication.
BD	Child Has Behavior Problems In The Home.
BY	Child/Youth Has Runaway History

Dorchester County

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

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

Permanency

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

The local Juvenile Court 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 (1)
- Transition to an adult (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 2 cases)

Both APPLA cases had a permanent connections identified, and the local board agreed the connection was appropriate for the 2 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for none of the 4 cases. 1 child/youth was a Post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was made for 1 case.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
1	Residential Treatment Center
2	Residential Group Home

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

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

Placement Stability

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

It is unknown if 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 same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- 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

Child specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 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 1 case

Health/Mental Health

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

- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 2 of 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Both children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 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: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

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

Education

3 of 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 2 children/youths were in Pre-k through 12th grade. 1 child/youth was enrolled in a GED program. 1 youth not attending school graduated high school.

All 3 children/youths had a 504 or IEP plan or had a copy found in children/youths records.

All 3 children/youths had a current progress report card available for review.

The local board agreed the educational goals were met for the 3 children/youths.

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 paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

  None of the 3 youths were referred to summer or year round vocational 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 appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

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

  The local board agreed that 1 youth was 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. 1 child/youth consented to adoption.

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 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

A home study was completed for the 1 case.

A family social summary was given for the 1 case.

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

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

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.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

Siblings/Visits

2 of 4 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were not made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 2 children/youths. All 2 children/youths with a sibling in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. Both 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 4 of 4 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	First Quarter Dorchester County Barriers
AN	Youth Placed Outside Of Home Jurisdiction.
AK	No Service Agreement With Parents/Guardian.
AR	Missing Or Lack Of Documentation.
AL	No Service Agreement With Youth.
BD	Child Has Behavior Problems In The Home.
BZ	Other Child/Youth Related Barrier.
IZ	Other Independence Barrier.
IC	Inadequate Preparation For Independence (General).
HB	Dentals Not Current.
HD	No Follow Up On Medical Referrals.

Frederick County

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

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

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 5 of 7 cases.

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 (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	3					
1 to 2 years	1					
2 to 3 years						1
3 years or more	1					
Totals ➔7	5			1		1

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 7 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department did not have a signed service agreement for 5 of 7 cases. 1 child/youth was a post-TPR child under the age of 14. 1 child/youth had no youth transition plan. Efforts to involve parents in the development of the service agreement was made for all 5 signed cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	Therapeutic Group Home
1	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
1	Residential Treatment Center
3	Own Dwelling

2 of 7 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 4 of 7 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

None of the 7 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 3 of 7 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 7 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 3 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 5 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for all 5 children/youths requiring follow-ups.

- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 2 of 7 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 4 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 4 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 4 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 4 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 2 of the 7 children/youths refused to take prescribed medicine.
- Mental Health Issues: 6 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 6 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 6 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 of 6 children/youths with mental health issues was transitioning out of care and had no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: 2 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 7 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 2 of 7 children/youths had been met.

Education

6 of 7 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 5 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade and 1 youth was enrolled in college. 1 child/youth not enrolled graduated high school.

4 of 6 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 5 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 4 cases)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 1 child//youth was under the age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

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

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

- 1 case(s) 4 to 6 months

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

A family social summary was not 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 (1 case)

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

Post adoptive subsidies were 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.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

6 of 7 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

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

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

2 of the 7 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 a sibling in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 1 child/youth 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 7 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	**First Quarter Frederick 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.
BZ	Other Child/Youth Related Barrier.
EZ	Other Education Barrier.
DZ	Other Family Related Barrier.
HB	Dentals Not Current.
HC	Vision Not Current.
5D	Over Age 18 And Still In Care.
AG	Lack Of Concurrent Planning.
AS	Lack Of Follow-up (General).
SA	No Current Safe Custody & Guardianship
AQ	Worker Did Not Submit Referral For Needed Resource/Service.
FA	Board Does Not Agree With Current DSS Permanency Plan.
LA	Youth Needs More Restrictive Placement.

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Harford County

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

- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 2 cases
- APPLA: 7 cases
- Reunification: 2 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 11 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 (7 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (7)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 7 cases)

6 of 7 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified, and the local board agreed that the connection was appropriate for the 6 cases

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 7 cases.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 6 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 7 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 5 of 6 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	None
1	Independent Living Residential Program
3	Formal Kinship Care
2	Diagnostic Center
2	Residential Group Home
1	Teen Mother Program
1	Own Dwelling

In 2 of the 11 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 10 of 11 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 7 of the 11 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 3 cases had 1 placement changes, 3 cases had 3 placement changes and 1 case had 4 or more placement changes.

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

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 7 case(s) placement change is not due to provider specific issue

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

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

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

- Yes, for 7 cases

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 5 of the 11 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 9 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 7 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 6 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: Appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 5 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 6 of the 11 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 6 children/youths were taking prescription medication.

- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 6 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 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: 2 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 9 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 7 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 4 of 9 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 2 of the 9 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: None of the children/youths had a substance abuse problem
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 3 of 4 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 1 of the 11 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 4 of the 11 children/youths had been met.

Education

5 of 11 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational Program. 4 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade and 1 youth was in college. 4 children/youths not enrolled in school graduated high school and 1 child/youth refused to attend school. 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

3 of 4 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 the 2 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 9 cases)

  4 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

  Alternative housing options was provided to the 1 youth.

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

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

2 of 11 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	5	2	1
No	6	9	10

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

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

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	2	2	
Other	2		

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

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 4 children/youths had siblings in care. 3 children/youths had 1 sibling in care and 1 child/youth had 3 siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 1 child/youth. 2 children/youths with a sibling in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 4 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 7 of 11 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	First Quarter Harford County Barriers
AN	Youth Placed Outside Of Home Jurisdiction.
AL	No Service Agreement With Youth.
EZ	Other Education Barrier.
IZ	Other Independence Barrier.
AR	Missing Or Lack Of Documentation.
HB	Dentals Not Current.
HD	No Follow Up On Medical Referrals.
SA	No Current Safe Custody & Guardianship
AK	No Service Agreement With Parents/Guardian.
IC	Inadequate Preparation For Independence (General).
HA	Annual Physicals Not Current.
HC	Vision Not Current.
MD	Youth Non- Compliant With Medication.
MZ	Other Mental Health Barrier.
EA	Youth Not Enrolled In School Or In Ged Program.
EB	Youth Not Attending School.
MC	Youth Refuses Mental Health Treatment Including Therapy.
BF	Not Following Up On Referrals.
BG	Refusal To Locate Or Maintain Employment.
4A	Poor Coordination Within DSS.
2A	Inadequate Casework Services.
2B	Lack Of Progress In Implementation.
2E	Inadequate Preparation For Independence.
2H	Failure to Implement Accepted CRBC Recommendations.
IA	Transitional Housing Has Not Been Identified.
IB	Youth Not Employed And Transitioning Out Of Care.
BD	Child Has Behavior Problems In The Home.
BE	Non-Compliant With Service Agreement.
BB	Refusal to Sign Service Agreement (new)
MA	Youth Has Not Been Assessed For Mental Health Concerns.
ID	Ready by 21 Not Implemented.
ED	No Current IEP.
EE	School Not Implementing IEP or IEP not individualized.

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Citizens Review Board for Children

Montgomery County

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

- Non-Relative Adoption: 4 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Reunification: 9 cases
- APPLA: 6 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 16 of 20 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified concurrent permanency plans for 4 cases.

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

Category of APPLA plan (6 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (5)
- Transition to an Adult Supportive Living Arrangement (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 6 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	1					1
7 to 11 months	1					
1 to 2 years	6					
2 to 3 years	1			4	1	2
3 years or more						3
Totals ➔20	9			4	1	6

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 16 of 20 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 4 cases.
4 children/youths were post-TPR children under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 7 cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	None
4	Treatment foster care (private)
2	Independent living residential program
3	Formal kinship care
2	Therapeutic group home
3	Regular foster care
1	Other
1	Diagnostic center
1	Alternative housing units
1	Treatment foster care

In 7 of 20 cases reviewed, the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities, which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

In 7 of the 20 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 1 case had 1 placement change, 5 cases 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 all 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) were same level of care
- 1 case(s) was a more restrictive level of care

Primary positive reason for the most recent placement changes included:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 2 case(s) founded incident of provider abuse/neglect
- 5 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
- 2 case(s) behavioral
- 1 case(s) child request removal

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

- Yes, for 6 cases
- Unknown – info not available for 1 case

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

- Yes, for 6 cases
- N/A Runaway, SILA or living arrangement for 1 case

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 10 of the 20 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 16 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 15 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 16 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-up occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 16 children/youths.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 14 of the 20 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 10 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 10 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 9 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 9 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 6 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 18 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 17 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 17 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 18 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 of the 20 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 2 children/youths.

- Behavioral Issues: 5 children/youths had behavioral issues.

- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 4 of 5 children/youths.

- Standard Health Exams: None of the 20 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 16 of the 20 children/youths had been met.

Education

14 of 20 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 12 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 2 children/youths were enrolled in a GED program. 1 child/youth refused to attend school. 3 children/youths graduated high school and 2 children/youths were under the age of 5.

11 of the 14 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 9 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 9 children/youths.

The local board agreed that 13 of 14 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 9 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 youth did not complete a life skill assessment due to being medically fragile and 2 youths did not complete it due to mental health reasons.

The local board agreed that 6 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 the 2 youths transitioning out of care.

  Alternative housing options were provided to the 2 youths.

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

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 1 child/youth consented to adoption and 1 child/youth did not wanted to be adopted. 2 children/youths were under the age of consent. 1 child/youth had a concurrent plan of reunification and did not consented. 2 children/youth did not consented due to relative placement.

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 family structure was comprised of a married couple for the 3 cases. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was a non-relative foster parent for the 3 cases.

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

- 1 case(s) 4 to 6 months
- 1 case(s) 10 to 12 months
- 1 case(s) 21 months or more

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

A family social summary was given for all 3 cases.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for 2 of the 3 children/youths.

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 Family Find as an adoptive resource. 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 (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

11 of 20 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 19 of 20 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	10	4	4
No	10	16	16

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily	2		
Once a week	5	2	
More than once a week			
Once a month	3		4
More than once a month		2	
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	4	1	3
Unsupervised	6	3	1

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	2		3
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member	2	1	
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other			
Therapist			

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	3	1	1
No	7	3	3

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 11 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 6 children/youths. 6 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 9 children/youths had visits with their siblings who were not in care.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review, the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 20 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	First Quarter Montgomery County Barriers
HA	Annual Physicals Not Current.
HB	Dentals Not Current.
HC	Vision Not Current.
AS	Lack Of Follow-Up (General)
MZ	Other Mental Health Barrier.
HD	No Follow Up On Medical Referrals.
EZ	Other Education Barrier.
FA	Board Does Not Agree With Current DSS Permanency Plan.
AQ	Worker Did Not Submit Referral For Needed Resource/Service.
AL	No Service Agreement With Youth.
IZ	Other Independence Barrier.
MC	Youth Refuses Mental Health Treatment Including Therapy.
ED	No Current IEP.
MA	Youth Has Not Been Assessed For Mental Health Concerns.
8C	Lack Of Job Training Opportunities.

Prince George's County

Prince George's County had a total of 19 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 5 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 2 cases
- Reunification: 3 cases
- APPLA: 8 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 1 case

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 19 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 6 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for 5 of 6 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (8 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (7)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (1)

Permanent Connections (8 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	1	1		2	1	2
7 to 11 months						2
1 to 2 years	1			2		2
2 to 3 years				1	1	
3 years or more	1					2
Totals ➔19	3	1		5	2	8

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 19 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 7 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for the 7 cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
4	None
3	Treatment foster care (private)
2	Formal kinship care
3	Therapeutic group home
2	Pre-finalized adoptive home
3	Regular foster care
2	Teen mother program

In 11 of the 19 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 of 19 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 8 of the 19 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 4 cases had 1 placement change, 3 cases 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 none of the 8 cases.

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

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

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

- No, for 8 cases

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

- Yes, for 4 cases
- N/A Runaway, SILA or living arrangement for 4 cases

<u>Health/Mental Health</u>

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 9 of 19 children/youths reviewed had developmental or specials needs.

- Current Physical: 16 children/youths had a current physical exam.

- Current Vision: 15 children/youths had a current vision exam.

- Current Dental: 17 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 7 children/youths.
- Completed Medical Records: 13 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 11 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 11 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 6 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 6 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 2 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 13 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 13 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 10 of 13 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 13 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: 3 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 3 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 6 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 5 of 6 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 19 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board agreed that health needs of 14 of 19 children/youths were met.

Education

13 of the 19 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 13 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth not enrolled in school graduated high school and 4 children/youths refused to attend school. 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

10 of the 13 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 8 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

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

The local board agreed that all 13 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 13 cases)

  4 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

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

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 13 cases)

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

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

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

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

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

  Alternative housing options was not provided to the 1 youth.

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

The local board agreed that the 1 youth was not 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 consented to adoption. 2 children/youths were under the age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (1 case)

One child received adoptive counseling in the last 6 months.

Pre-Adoptive Placement (4 cases)

4 children/youths with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple for the 2 cases, a single female for 1 case and a single male for 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was non-relative foster parent for 2 cases and fictive-foster parent for 2 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
- 2 case(s) 21 months or more

Adoptive home study was completed and approved for 1 of 4 cases.

A family social summary was given for 1 case.

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (4 cases)

Post adoptive services were needed for the 4 children/youths. The service that was needed was medical for the 4 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for the 4 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies was approved for 1 of 4 cases.

The Board found the post-adoptive services were appropriate for 4 cases.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

7 of 19 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 18 of 19 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	9	1	6
No	10	18	13

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

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	1		
Unsupervised	8	1	6

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	2		3
No	7	1	3

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 7 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 4 children/youths. 2 children/youths had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 2 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 19 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	First Quarter Prince George County Barriers
BD	Child Has Behavior Problems In The Home.
BZ	Other Child/Youth Related Barrier.
EZ	Other Education Barrier.
DL	Bio Family not maintaining contact with the Department.
DZ	Other Family Related Barrier.
MZ	Other Mental Health Barrier.
HZ	Other Physical Health Barrier.
EB	Youth Not Attending School.
5B	Lack Of Planning & Service For Restricted Home.
CY	No Concurrent Plan By Court
MC	Youth Refuses Mental Health Treatment Including Therapy.
AK	No Service Agreement With Parents/Guardian.
AN	Youth Placed Outside Of Home Jurisdiction.
AL	No Service Agreement With Youth.
AR	Missing Or Lack Of Documentation.
BH	Issues Related To Substance Abuse.
IC	Inadequate Preparation For Independence (General).
IA	Transitional Housing Has Not Been Identified.
IB	Youth Not Employed And Transitioning Out Of Care.
ID	Ready by 21 Not Implemented.
IZ	Other Independence Barrier.
HA	Annual Physicals Not Current.
HB	Dentals Not Current.
HC	Vision Not Current.
5D	Over Age 18 And Still In Care.
SB	Youth Engages In Risky Behavior.
EA	Youth Not Enrolled In School Or In Ged Program.
BG	Refusal To Locate Or Maintain Employment.
BY	Child/Youth Has Runaway History
DF	Disrupted Finalized Adoption.
LZ	Other Placement Barrier.
LA	Youth Needs More Restrictive Placement.
DA	Disrupted Pre-Adoption Placement.
HD	No Follow Up On Medical Referrals.
AO	No Sibling Or Family Visits.
BU	Undocumented Child/Youth

St. Mary's County

St. Mary's 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 all 4 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for all 4 cases.

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

Category of APPLA plan (none)

Permanent Connections (none)

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
3	Formal Kinship Care
1	Regular Foster Care

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

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for 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 1 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 1 child/youth had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 1 child/youth had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 1 child/youth had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: Not applicable for the 4 children/youths.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 1 of the 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: None of the 4 children/youths were taking prescription medication.

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

Education

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

2 of 4 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 2 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

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 – 1 case)

  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.

  The local board agreed 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 did not complete a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

  The local board agreed that the 1 youth was being appropriately prepared for independent living skills.

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

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

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes			
No	3		

Siblings/Visits

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

Summary

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

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	**First Quarter St. Mary County Barriers**
AK	No Service Agreement With Parents/Guardian.
BD	Child Has Behavior Problems In The Home.
BH	Issues Related To Substance Abuse.
SB	Youth Engages In Risky Behavior.
AN	Youth Placed Outside Of Home Jurisdiction.
EZ	Other Education Barrier.
DY	Bio Family noncompliant.
FZ	Other Permanency Barrier.

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Somerset County

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

- Relative Placement for Adoption: 1 case
- Reunification: 2 cases
- APPLA: 1 case

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 2 of 4 cases reviewed.

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

The local department was implementing the concurrent plan for the 3 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						
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years		1				
2 to 3 years	2					
3 years or more						1
Totals =>4	2	1				1

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): It is unknown if the local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 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 was made for the 2 cases.

The local board agreed the service agreement was appropriate for the 2 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangment
4	Treatment Foster Care (Private)

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 all 4 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

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

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 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: 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 of 4 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 3 of 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: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 3 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 4 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 3 of 4 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 problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

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

Education

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 enrolled in college.

1 of 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 for review for all 3 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 3 of 4 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.

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

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

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 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 1 youth was receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

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 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 1 case.

A family social summary was not given for none of the case.

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

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	3		1
No	1	4	3

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

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

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	2		

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

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 3 of 4 children/youths had siblings in care. 3 children/youths had 2 siblings in care. Efforts were not made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 3 children/youths. 3 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 3 children/youths had visits with their sibling 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	First Quarter Somerset County Barriers
AN	Youth Placed Outside Of Home Jurisdiction.
FA	Board Does Not Agree With Current DSS Permanency Plan.
AR	Missing Or Lack Of Documentation.
BH	Issues Related To Substance Abuse.
EZ	Other Education Barrier.
HB	Dentals Not Current.
HD	No Follow Up On Medical Referrals.

Talbot County

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

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

Permanency

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

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

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 3 cases)

All 3 APPLA cases 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						1
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years						1
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more				1		1
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 1 case. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was made for 1 case.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangment
1	Non-Relative
1	Regular Foster Care
2	Therapeutic Group Home

1 of the 4 children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings 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 the 4 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

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

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 2 of 3 cases.

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

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

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

- Yes, for 3 cases.

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

- Yes, for 3 cases.

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 3 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 3 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 1 of 4 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 3 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department did not ensure 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 department reported that 1 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: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 2 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 1 child/youth was taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth 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 3 children/youths.

- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 of the 3 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care did not have an identified plan to obtain services in the adult mental health care system.

- Substance Abuse: 1 of the 4 children/youths had substance abuse problem.

- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.

- Behavioral Issues: 1 of 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.

- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 1 child/youth.

- Standard Health Exams: 2 of 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 of 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 2 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade and 1 youth was enrolled in college. 1 child/youth not attending school graduated high school.

2 of 3 children/youths in Pre-K thru 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/report card was available to review for 2 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 1 of 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.

  None of the 4 youths were referred to summer or year-round training and/or employment opportunities.

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

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 youth were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

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

The local board agreed that none of the 4 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 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. It is unknown if 1 child/youth consented to adoption.

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 the 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 1 of 4 children/youths had siblings in care. 1 child/youth had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were not made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 1 child/youth. 1 child/youth with siblings in care did not have visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 1 child/youth had visits with their sibling 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 3 of 4 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	First Quarter Talbot County Barriers
AN	Youth Placed Outside Of Home Jurisdiction.
AL	No Service Agreement With Youth.
AR	Missing Or Lack Of Documentation.
IC	Inadequate Preparation For Independence (General).
IZ	Other Independence Barrier.
BE	Non-Compliant With Service Agreement.
BF	Not Following Up On Referrals.
BZ	Other Child/Youth Related 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 On Medical Referrals.
SA	No Current Safe Custody & Guardianship
AK	No Service Agreement With Parents/Guardian.

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Washington County

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

- Non-Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- Reunification: 4 cases
- APPLA: 1 case

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 7 of 8 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				2		
1 to 2 years	4					
2 to 3 years						1
3 years or more						
Totals =>8	4			3		1

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 5 of 8 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 3 cases. 2 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 4 cases.

The local department agreed the service agreement is appropriate for the 3 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Formal Kinship Care
4	Regular Foster Care
1	Residential Treatment Center
1	Non-Relative

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

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

Placement Stability

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

The local department did not had a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for any of the 4 cases.

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

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

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

- Yes, for 4 cases

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

- Yes, for 4 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 5 of 8 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 7 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 3 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 5 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 2 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 3 of the 8 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 4 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 4 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 8 children/youths refused to take prescription medicine.

- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 4 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 3 of 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 of the 4 children/youths with mental health issues was transitioning out of care, did not have an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 8 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 of 3 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 1 of the 8 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 3 of 8 children/youths had been met.

Education

5 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 5 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 1 child/youth refused to attend school and 2 children/youths were under the age of 5.

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

Current progress report card was available for review for 5 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 4 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 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 none of the youths were 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.

  None of the youths completed a life skills assessment.

  The local board agreed that none of the 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 (3 cases)

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

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

- 1 case(s) 12 to 15 months
- 2 case(s) 16 to 20 months

Adoptive home study was completed and approved for 2 of 3 cases.

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

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 8 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	5	2	1
No	3	6	7

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

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

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 4 of 8 children/youths had siblings in care. 2 children/youths had 1 sibling in care and 2 children/youths had 2 siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 4 children/youths. 2 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 3 children/youths had visits with their sibling 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 7 of 8 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	First Quarter Washington County Barriers
AN	Youth Placed Outside Of Home Jurisdiction.
AR	Missing Or Lack Of Documentation.
AL	No Service Agreement With Youth.
BD	Child Has Behavior Problems In The Home.
ED	No Current IEP.
HB	Dentals Not Current.
HC	Vision Not Current.
HD	No Follow Up On Medical Referrals.
AK	No Service Agreement With Parents/Guardian.
2A	Inadequate Casework Services.
2Z	Other Implementation Barrier.
4Z	Other Coordination Barrier.
FA	Board Does Not Agree With Current DSS Permanency Plan.
HA	Annual Physicals Not Current.
EZ	Other Education Barrier.
MA	Youth Has Not Been Assessed For Mental Health Concerns.
MC	Youth Refuses Mental Health Treatment Including Therapy.
CY	No Concurrent Plan By Court
BE	Non-Compliant With Service Agreement.
BF	Not Following Up On Referrals.
EA	Youth Not Enrolled In School Or In Ged Program.
IC	Inadequate Preparation For Independence (General).
IZ	Other Independence Barrier.

Baltimore City

Baltimore City had a total of 42 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 1 case
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 4 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 3 cases
- Reunification: 23 cases
- APPLA: 7 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 4 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 28 of the 42 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 8 cases.

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

Category of APPLA plan (7 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (6)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 7 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	1	1	2		2	1
7 to 11 months	4	2				2
1 to 2 years	12	1	2	1		2
2 to 3 years	5				1	2
3 years or more	1					
Totals ➔42	23	4	4	1	3	7

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 22 of the 42 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 5 cases. 4 children/youths were a Post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 21 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreement was appropriate for the 5 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
16	Treatment foster care (private)
2	Independent living residential program
9	Formal kinship care
5	Therapeutic group home
2	Pre-finalized adoptive home
1	Regular foster care
1	Residential treatment center
1	Diagnostic center
1	Relative
1	Residential group home
1	Teen mother program
2	Restriicted (relative) foster care

In 14 of the 42 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 41 of the 42 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 11 of the 42 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 3 cases had 1 placement change, 7 cases had 2 placement changes, and 1 case had 3 placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 5 of 11 cases.

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

- 4 case(s) were less restrictive level of care
- 4 case(s) were more restrictive level of care
- 3 case(s) were same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

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

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

- Yes, for 10 of 11 cases

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

- Yes, for 11 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 20 of the 42 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 35 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 31 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 20 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 23 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 17 of the 42 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 16 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 16 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 9 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 9 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 26 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 24 of 26 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 18 of 26 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 26 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 1 child/youth.

- Behavioral Issues: 13 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 10 of 13 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 3 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 19 of the 42 children/youths had been met.

Education

30 of the 42 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 28 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade and 2 youths were enrolled in college. 2 children/youths not attending school graduated high school and 1 child/youth refused to attend school. 9 children/youths were under the age of 5.

13 of the 28 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan, and 10 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 20 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 23 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 16 cases)

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

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

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

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

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

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 16 cases)

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

  10 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 –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. 3 children/youths were under the age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (4 cases)

4 children/youths with a plan of adoption 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 2 cases and a unmarried couple for 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was foster parent relative for 3 cases and foster parent non-relative for 1 case.

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

- 4 case(s) 21 months or more

An adoptive home study was completed for the 4 placements and approved. A family social summary was given for the 4 cases.

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (3 cases)

Post adoptive services were needed for the 1 of 3 children/youths. The services needed were mental health, educational and DDA support services for the 1 case.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for 2 of 3 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were approved for the 1 of 2 cases.

The Board found the post-adoptive services were appropriate for the 3 cases.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

1 of 42 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 38 of the 42 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	22	12	6
No	20	30	36

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week	17	7	4
More than once a week	2	4	1
Once a month	3	1	
More than once a month			1
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	11	7	2
Unsupervised	11	5	4

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	11	6	2
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other		1	
Therapist			

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home	5	2	4
Visitation Center/LDSS	8	2	2
Public Area	6	5	
Child's/Youth's Placement	3		
Other		3	

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	1	1	2
No	21	10	4

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 26 of 42 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 22 children/youths. 16 children/youths with a sibling in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 19 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 36 of the 42 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	First Quarter Baltimore City Barriers
AK	No Service Agreement With Parents/Guardian.
AS	Lack Of Follow-Up (General).
EZ	Other Education Barrier.
HD	No Follow Up On Medical Referrals.
FA	Board Does Not Agree With Current DSS Permanency Plan.
HB	Dentals Not Current.
HC	Vision Not Current.
AQ	Worker Did Not Submit Referral For Needed Resource/Service.
AR	Missing Or Lack Of Documentation.
AN	Youth Placed Outside Of Home Jurisdiction.
EA	Youth Not Enrolled In School Or In Ged Program.
HA	Annual Physicals Not Current.
2E	Inadequate Preparation For Independence.
IC	Inadequate Preparation For Independence (General).
HH	Refusal of Medical Appointments.
CY	No Concurrent Plan By Court
EE	School Not Implementing Iep/IEP not individualized.
2H	Failure to Implement Accepted CRBC Recommendations.
MA	Youth Has Not Been Assessed For Mental Health Concerns.
MG	Delay In Scheduling Appointment.
LA	Youth Needs More Restrictive Placement.
ED	No Current IEP.
DI	Bio Family not Following Through On Service Agreement Objectives.
DY	Bio Family noncompliant.
DZ	Other Family Related Barrier.
CH	Legal Representation For Child.
IZ	Other Independence Barrier.
AG	Lack Of Concurrent Planning.
AO	No Sibling Or Family Visits.
AL	No Service Agreement With Youth.
SA	No Current Safe Custody & Guardianship.
BH	Issues Related To Substance Abuse.
BD	Child Has Behavior Problems In The Home.
ID	Ready by 21 Not Implemented.
BF	Not Following Up On Referrals.
BZ	Other Child/Youth Related Barrier.
MC	Youth Refuses Mental Health Treatment Including Therapy.
4A	Poor Coordination Within Dss.

4B	Poor Inter-County State Coordination
4L	Needs Immigration Attorney
4Z	Other Coordination Barrier.
AZ	Other Agency Related Barriers.
AE	Worker Failed To Submit Proper Paperwork For Timely Tpr Filing.
2A	Inadequate Casework Services.
2B	Lack Of Progress In Implementation.
2Z	Other Implementation Barrier.

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.

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

1st Quarter 2027 CRBC Metrics

Recommendation Reports to DSS - Number Sent:	167
Recommendation Reports to DSS - Number Sent on Time:	167
Recommendation Reports to DSS - Percentage Sent on Time:	100%
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Number of Responses Received:[1]	103
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Percentage of DSS Responses:	62%
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Number Received on Time:	71
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Percentage Received on Time	69%
Number of Boards Held	44
Recommendation Reports - Number of DSS Agreement:	103
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:	41%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT - Adoption Children Reviewed:	5%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT - C & G Children Reviewed:	3%
Percentage of ADOPTION Children Reviewed for the Period:	13%
Percentage of CUSTODY/GUARDIANSHIP Children Reviewed for the Period:	5%
Percentage of APPLA Children Reviewed for the Period:	33%

[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.

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

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 Worchester 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

Nathanial 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

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

CRBC Team

Hassan Aslam
Information Technology Officer

Michele Foster, MSW
Child Welfare Specialist

Nikia Greene
Child Welfare Specialist

LeShae Harris
Office Clerk II

Cindy Hunter-Gray
Lead Secretary

Marlo Palmer-Dixon, M.P.A
Child Welfare Specialist

Hope Smith
IT Functional Analyst

Alexis Thomason
Assistant Administrator

Lakira Whitaker
Volunteer Activities Coordinator II

Crystal Young, MSW
Administrator

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