



**THIRD QUARTER
FISCAL YEAR 2026
REPORT**
(January 1st 2026 – March 31st 2026)

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Our Mission Statement

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

Our Vision Statement

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

Discrimination Statement

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

Confidentiality

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

CRBC Acknowledgements

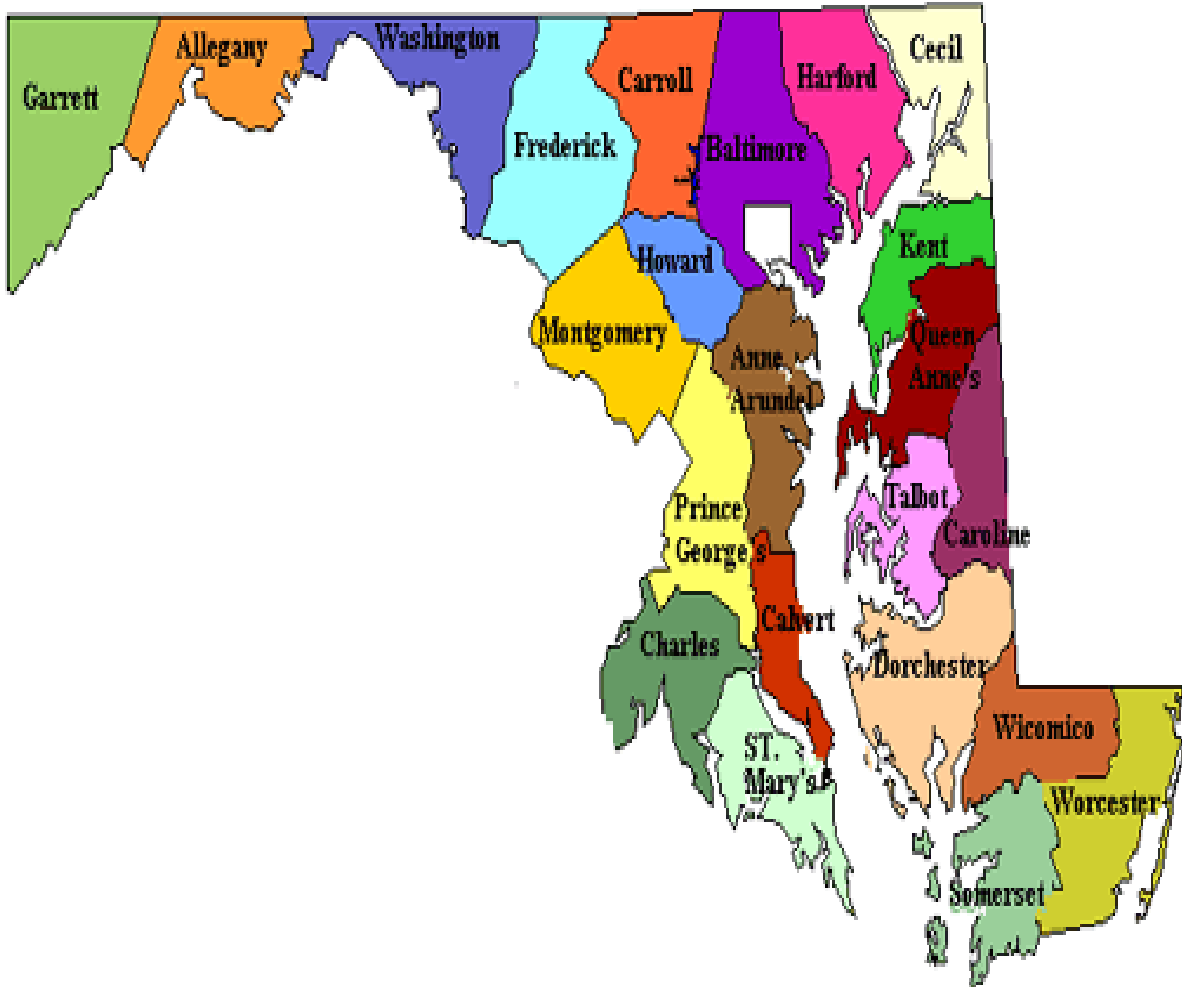
CRBC would like to acknowledge the commitment, dedication, passion and service of all stakeholders on behalf of Maryland's most vulnerable children including:

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

*Thank
You*

Introduction

The following pages contain data from CRBC’s out-of-home-placement case review findings and recommendations for the 3rd Quarter of Fiscal Year 2026.



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

Targeted Review Criterion

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

Reunification:

- ★ Already established plans of Reunification for youth 10 years of age and older. CRBC will conduct a review for a child 10 years of age and older who has an established primary permanency plan of Reunification and has been in care 12 months or longer.

Adoption:

- ★ Existing plans of Adoption. CRBC will conduct a review of a child that has had a plan of Adoption for over 12 months. The purpose of the review is to assess the appropriateness of the plan and identify barriers to achieve the plan.
- ★ Newly changed plans of Adoption. CRBC will conduct a review of a child within 5 months after the establishment of Adoption as a primary permanency plan. The purpose is to ensure that there is adequate and appropriate movement by the local departments to promote and achieve the Adoption.

Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA):

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

Older Youth Aging Out

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

Re-Review Cases:

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

Permanency Plan Hierarchy

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

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

Family-Centered Practice Model

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

3rd Quarter 2026 Case Review Statistics

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

Jurn #	County	Non-Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non-Relative C & G	Reunification	Relative Placement for Adoption	APPLA	TOTAL	# Boards Held
01	Allegany	2	0	0	2	0	0	4	1
02	Anne Arundel	0	0	0	1	0	3	4	1
03	Baltimore County	2	2	1	14	0	11	30	8
04	Cecil	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	1
05	Dorchester	0	0	0	3	0	1	4	1
06	Frederick	3	0	0	0	0	1	4	1
07	Harford	3	0	0	0	0	4	7	2
08	Howard	0	0	0	2	0	2	4	1
09	Kent	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	1
10	Montgomery	1	0	2	7	0	6	16	4
11	Prince Georges	2	0	1	6	0	11	20	5
12	Queen Anne	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	1
13	St. Mary	1	0	0	3	0	0	4	1
14	Washington		2	0	2	0	0	4	1
15	Worchester	1	0	0	2	0	1	4	1
16	Baltimore City	9	18	4	29	0	3	63	18
15	Statewide Totals	26	22	8	74	0	45	175	48
	Percentages	15%	13%	5%	42%	0%	25%	100%	

CRBC conducted a total of 175 individual out-of-home case reviews (each case reviewed represents 1 child/youth) in 15 Jurisdictions on 48 boards that held reviews during the 3rd quarter of fiscal year 2026.

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

- Permanency Plan - (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (E))
- Placement Plan - (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (I))
- Progress towards Permanent Placement - (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F))
- Case Planning
- Health/Mental Health (family article 5-545)
- Education (family article 5-545)
- Ready by 21
 - Employment (14 and older)
 - Independent Living Skills (14 and older)

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

Total Reviewed (175)

Gender Totals

Male	Female
75 (43%)	100 (57%)

Gender by Plan

Male (75)

Non-Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non-Relative C & G	Reunification	APPLA	Relative Placement for Adoption
9 (12%)	7 (9%)	3 (4%)	38 (51%)	18 (24%)	0 (0%)

Female (100)

Non-Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non-Relative C & G	Reunification	APPLA	Relative Placement for Adoption
17 (17%)	15 (15%)	5 (5%)	36 (36%)	27 (27%)	0 (0%)

Ethnicity Overall

African American	Caucasian	Other
121 (69%)	43 (25%)	11 (6%)

Age Range by Permanency Plan

[RU] = Reunification [RA] = Relative Adoption [RG] = Relative C & G
 [AD] = Non-Relative Adoption [CG] = Non-Relative C & G [AP] = AAPLA

AGE RANGE	RU	RA	RG	AD	CG	AP	Totals
1_age 0 thru 5	15	0	10	19	1	0	45
2_age 6 thru 10	22	0	6	2	3	0	33
3_age 11 thru 13	9	0	5	1	1	0	16
4_age 14 thru 16	22	0	0	4	1	2	29
5_age 17 thru 19	6	0	1	0	2	31	40
6_age 20	0	0	0	0	0	12	12
Totals	74	0	22	26	8	45	175

Jurisdictional Case Reviews

Allegany County



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

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

Permanency

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

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent plan for 2 of 4 cases.

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

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

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	Pre-finalized adoptive home
1	Regular Foster Care
1	Treatment foster care (private)

Two 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. The 3 cases had 1 placement change.

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

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

- 2 case(s) were the same level of care
- 1 case is more restrictive

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 2 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:

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

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

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

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: 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 2 of the 3 eligible children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 4 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: NA
- 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: No children/youth 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: No child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: NA.
- Behavioral Issues: No children/youth had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: N/A.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

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

Education

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

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

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

The local board agreed that 3 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals and 1 was N/A under the age of 5.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – No cases)
- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – No cases)
- 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 consented and 1 of the 3 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 (2 cases)

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (2 cases)

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

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for both cases.

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

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

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

One 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	3
No	4	2	1

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week			

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

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

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

Barriers/Issues

There are no reported barriers for Allegany County for the Third Quarter.

Anne Arundel County



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

- Reunification: 1 case
- APPLA: 3 cases

Permanency

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

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

The local department is implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court in one of the cases.

Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence: 3 cases

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 4 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department did not have signed service agreements for 2 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were not documented in either case.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

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

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

Placement Stability

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

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

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

- 4 case(s) was in a less restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- 2 case(s) were transitioning towards permanency goal

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

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

- Yes, for the 2 cases

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

- Yes, for the 2 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that none of the children/youth reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 2 of 4 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 2 of 4 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on 1 of 4 health concerns noted by a physician for 4 eligible child/youth reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 2 of 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 4 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 4 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: 1 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths had behavioral issues.

- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes for the 2 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: No children/youth refused to comply with standard health exams.

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

Education

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

None of the children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 2 of the 4 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 4 cases)

1 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

1 youth was unable to participate due to being medically fragile

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

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

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

3 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

1 youth was unable to participate due to being medically fragile

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

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

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

Child’s Consent to Adoption (None)

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. No child/youth consented to adoption.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (1 case)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (None)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

3 of 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

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

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that no children/youths had siblings.

Summary

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

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Third Quarter Anne Arundel County Barriers
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource/service.
AS	Lack of follow-up (General).
IZ	Other independence barrier.
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
HD	No follow-up or medical referrals.
EZ	Other education barrier.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.



Baltimore County had a total of 30 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 2 case(s)
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 2 case(s)
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case(s)
- Reunification: 14 case(s)
- APPLA: 11 case(s)

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 29 of 30 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 7 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 7 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (11 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (9)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (2)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 11 cases)

In 9 of 11 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified, and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 9 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	7		2		1	3
7 to 11 months	3			1		3
1 to 2 years	4					3
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more				1		2
Totals → 30	14		2	2	1	11

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all of the 30 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 5 cases. 2 children/youths were a post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was made for all 5 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for 4 of the 5 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
5	None
1	Formal Kinship Care
2	Regular Foster Care
9	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Residential Group Homes
1	Teen Mother Programs
5	Therapeutic Group Homes
2	Independent Living Residential Program
3	Residential Treatment Centers
1	Own Dwelling

In 17 of 30 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 25 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

13 of the 30 cases reviewed had a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 12 cases had 1 placement change, and 1 case had 3 changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 4 of 13 cases.

The following levels of care were found in the 13 most recent placement changes:

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

The primary reasons for the most recent placement changes were:

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

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

- 2 case(s) provider home closed
- 1 case(s) incompatible match
- 10 case(s) placement not due to provider issue

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

- 10 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?

- No, for 13 cases

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

- Yes, for 13 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 13 of the 30 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 21 children/youths had a current physical exam.

- Current Vision: 12 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 22 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 11 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 17 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 17 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 15 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 15 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 24 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for 24 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 19 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 24 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, with no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: 5 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 5 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 13 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 12 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 30 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 11 of the 30 children/youths had been met.

Education

24 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 21 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth was enrolled in a GED program and 2 youths were enrolled in college. 1 youth graduated high school. 3 children/youths refused to attend school and 2 children/youths were under the age of 5.

15 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan, and there was a copy of the 504/IEP plan in 9 children/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 10 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 23 children/youths enrolled in school, or another educational/vocational program were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 18 cases)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4 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 – 6 cases)
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Housing had been specified for 5 of 6 youths transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options were provided to the 5 youths.

The local board agreed with the transitional housing plan for 5 of 6 youths.

The local board agreed that 5 of 6 youths were being appropriately prepared to transition out of care.

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

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 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was a non-relative foster parent for 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 not completed 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 (2 cases)

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

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

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (3 cases)

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

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for all 3 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were not approved for the 3 cases.

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

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

3 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 25 of 30 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	16	7	14
No	14	23	16

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily	5	2	
Once a week	2	1	1
More than once a week			



CRBC

Citizens Review Board for Children

Once a month	1	1	1
More than once a month	6		4
Quarterly			1
Yes, but undocumented	2	3	7

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	4	1	1
Unsupervised	12	6	13

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

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home	12	5	12
Visitation Center/LDSS	1		
Public Area			
Child's/Youth's Placement	3	1	2
Other		1	

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	11	6	11
No	5	1	3

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 10 of 30 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place both siblings together who did not reside with each other for 5 children/youths. 5 children/youth had visits with their siblings who were not in care.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 28 of 30 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Third Quarter Baltimore County Barriers
5D	Over age 18 and still in care.
3F	Lack of documentation.
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AS	Lack of follow up (General).
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AO	No sibling or family visits.
AZ	Other agency related barriers.
BB	Child's age.
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home.
BE	Non-compliant with service agreement.
BG	Refusal to locate or maintain employment.
BH	Issues related to substance abuse.
BU	Undocumented child/youth.
BY	Child/youth has runaway history.
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier.
DI	Not following through on service agreement objectives.
DG	Home study not approved.
DF	Disrupted finalized adoption.
DY	No family related barriers.
DZ	Other family related barriers.
CZ	Other court related barrier.
EA	Youth not enrolled in school.
EB	Youth not attending school or GED program.

EZ	Other education barrier.
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
MA	Youth has not been assessed for mental health concerns.
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy.
MD	Youth non-compliant with medication.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior.
IZ	Other independence barrier.
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
IB	Youth not employed and transitioning out of care.
SZ	Other safety barrier.
LD	Housing has not been identified for youth aging out of care.



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

- Non-Relative Adoption: 2 case(s)
- Reunification: 1 case

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department’s permanency plan for 1 of 3 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 3 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (none)

Permanent Connections APPLA (none)

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department did not have a signed service agreement for any of the cases. 2 children/youth over the age of 14 have a signed youth transitional plan. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 2 of the 3 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

All 3 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 3 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

All 3 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. All 3 cases had 1 placement change.

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes was:

- 3 case(s) same level of care

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

Child specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

- Yes, for 1 case.

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

- Yes, for 3 cases.

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 1 of 3 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 3 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: None of the 3 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 3 child/youth 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 2 children/youths.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported none of the 3 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: None of the 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Not applicable.
- Psychotropic Medication: None of the children/youth were taking psychotropic medication
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Not applicable.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the children/youths refused to take prescription medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 3 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 3 child/youth had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 2 of 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 3 children/youth with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, and did not have an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.

- Behavioral Issues: 1 child/youth had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 2 child(ren)/youth(s).
- Substance Abuse: None of the children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.

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

Education

2 of the 3 children/youths were enrolled in school. 2 children/youths were enrolled in Pre-K through 12th grade and 1 child/youth was enrolled in college. 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

None of the 2 children/youths enrolled in school, or another educational/vocational program had a 504 or IEP plan or had a copy in the child/youth's record.

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

The local board agreed that 1 of 2 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 – none)
- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – none)
- Housing (Transitioning Youth – none)
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 2 children/youths were under the age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (2 cases)

2 children/youths with a plan of adoption was 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) 10 to 12 months

Adoptive home study was not completed for the 2 cases.

A social summary was not given for the 2 cases.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for the 2 cases.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (2 cases)

Post-adoptive services were needed for the 2 children/youths. The services need was mental health for the 2 cases.

It is unknown if post adoptive subsidies were needed for the 2 cases.

The local board found the post adoptive services appropriate for the 2 cases.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 3 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes		2	
No	3	1	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		2	
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes			
No		2	

Siblings/Visits

2 of the 3 children/youths had siblings in care. Both children/youths had 2 siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together for the 2 children/youths. 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 2 of 3 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Third Quarter Cecil County Barriers
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
AK	No service agreement with parents.
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services.
EE	School not implementing IEP.
EF	School not meeting youth's behavioral needs.
EZ	Other education barrier.
MA	Youth has not been assessed for mental health concerns.
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
HC	Vision not current.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.
DD	Home study not completed.
2Z	Other implementation barrier.



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

- Reunification: 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 permanency plan for any of the 4 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (1)

Permanent Connections APPLA (1 case)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	None
1	Formal Kinship Care
1	Residential Group Home

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

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

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

- 3 case(s) were a less restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 3 case(s) transition towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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 2 of 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 3 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 4 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 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 3 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 2 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 2 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 1 child/youth was taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 1 of 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 1 child/youth had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: No, for the 1 child/youth.

- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 child/youth with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, did not had an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health System.
- 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: No, 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 3 of 4 children/youths had been met.

Education

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

1 child/youth had a 504 or IEP plan or had a copy found in children/youths records.

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

The local board agreed that 1 child/youth was being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 1 case)

1 youth did not participate 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 – 3 cases)

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

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

The local board agreed none of the youths were receiving appropriate independent living skills.

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

Child’s Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

3 of 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

3 of 4 children/youths had siblings in care. All 3 children/youths had 2 siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 3 children/youths. 3 children/youths with a sibling in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 3 children/youths have visits with siblings who are not in care.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 3 of 4 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Third Quarter Dorchester County Barriers
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
CY	No concurrent plan by court.
EA	Youth not enrolled in school.
EZ	Other education barrier.
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
IZ	Other independence barrier.
IB	Youth not employed and transitioning out of care.
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HD	No follow-up on medical referrals.



Frederick 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 3 of 4 cases reviewed.

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

Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months				1		
7 to 11 months				1		
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 a family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 4 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for any of the 4 cases. 3 children/youths were a post-TPR child under the age of 14. 1 child had a youth transition plan.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

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

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

Placement Stability

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

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of 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 all 4 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 3 of the 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.

- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 2 children/youths refused to take prescribed medicine.
- 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: 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 none of the health needs of 3 of 4 children/youths had been met.

Education

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

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

A current progress report/report card was available for review for both 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 – 3 cases)

2 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 of the 2 youth was participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant career field of choice.

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

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

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

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

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

The local board agreed that 2 youths were 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 (1 case)

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 1 child/youth consented to adoption and 1 child/youth did not want to be adopted.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (1 case)

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

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

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

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

- 1 case(s) 16 to 20 months

An adoptive home study was completed and approved for the 1 case.

A family social summary was given for the 1 case.

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

3 of 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

None of the 4 children/youths had 1 sibling 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	Third Quarter Frederick County Barriers
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource/service.
AS	Lack of follow-up (General).
CA	TPR not granted.
EZ	Other education barrier.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
HC	Vision not current.
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan.



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

- Non-Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- APPLA: 4 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department’s permanency plan for all 7 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for none of the 7 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (4 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (3)
- Transition to an adult (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 4 cases)

3 of the 4 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
1 to 2 years				2		1
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						2
Totals →7				3		4

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 5 of the 7 cases.

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 were made for the 3 cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
1	Regular Foster Care
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Residential Group Homes
1	Teen Mother Programs
1	Therapeutic Group Homes

In 5 of the 7 cases reviewed, the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities, which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

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

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

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) transition towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

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

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

- Yes, for 2 cases

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

- Yes, for 2 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 3 of 7 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 7 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 6 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 7 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 7 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 3 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 1 child/youth was taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 1 child/youth.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.

- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 3 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, had an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: 1 of the 7 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 3 of 4 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 6 of the 7 children/youths had been met.

Education

3 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational Program. 2 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade and 1 youth was enrolled in college. 1 child/youth not attending school graduated high school. 3 children/youths were under the age of 5.

1 of 2 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan, and none of the 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 1 of 2 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 2 of 3 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 4 cases)

2 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Housing (Transitioning Youth –2 case)

(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 both youths.

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

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 2 children/youths were under the age of consent and 1 child/youth did not want 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 family structure

was comprised of a married couple for all 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) 1 to 3 months
- 2 case(s) 21 months or more

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

A family social summary was given for the 2 of 3 cases.

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

4 of 7 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	3	1	1
No	4	6	6

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week			
More than once a week			
Once a month	1	1	
More than once a month	2		

Quarterly			1
Yes, but undocumented			

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

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

Summary

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

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Third Quarter Harford County Barriers
AR	Missing of lack of documentation.
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
ED	No current IEP.
EZ	Other education barrier.
EE	School not implementing IEP .
IZ	Other independence barrier.
IB	Youth not employed and transitioning out of care.
MA	Youth has not been assessed for mental health concerns.
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy.
HD	No follow-up or medical referrals.
HC	Vision not current.
CI	Child in pre-adaptive home, but adoption not finalized.
CY	No concurrent plan by court.
CF	Appeal by birth parents.



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

- Reunification: 2 case
- APPLA: 2 cases

Permanency

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (2)

Permanent Connections (2 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department did not have signed service agreements for any of the 4 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 1 case.

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)
2	Formal Kinship Care
1	Therapeutic Group Homes
1	Independent Living Residential Program

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

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

Placement Stability

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

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

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 2 case(s) 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) was behavioral

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

- Yes, for both cases

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

- Yes, for both cases

Health/Mental Health

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

- 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 a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 1 child/youth had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exam.

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

Education

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

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

A current progress report card was available for review for none of the children/youths.

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 – 3 cases)

1 youth was participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

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

3 youths were 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 3 youths were 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 (none)

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

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	1		2
No	3	4	2

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			2
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

2 of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care. 2 children/youths had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were made to place siblings in care together for the 2 children/youth. 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 all 4 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Third Quarter Howard County Barriers
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource/services.
AS	Lack of follow-up (General).
HB	Dentals not current.
HD	No follow-up or medical referrals.
EZ	Other education barrier.
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan.

Kent County



Kent County had a total of 2 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- APPLA: 1 case
- Reunification: 1 case

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 2 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 (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

Permanent Connections (1 case)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

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

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	None
1	Other

None of the 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 1 of the 2 signed cases.

Placement Stability

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

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

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 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 change included:

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

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

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

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

- Yes, for 1 case

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

- Yes, for 2 cases

Health/Mental Health

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

- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 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 of the 2 children/youths had substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 1 child/youth had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Standard Health Exam: None of the 2 children/youths refused to comply with health exams.

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

Education

2 children/youths were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 1 child/youth was in Pre-K through 12th grade and 1 youth was enrolled in college.

1 of 2 children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program had a 504 or IEP plan and 1 child/youth had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

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

The local board agreed that 1 of the 2 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 – 2 cases)

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

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

None of the youths were 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 (2 cases)

1 youth was receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living when they leave home care.

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

The board agreed that the 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)

Not applicable.

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

All 2 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 2 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes			
No	1		

Siblings/Visits

None of the 2 children/youths had siblings in care.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 1 of 2 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Third Quarter Kent County Barriers
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services.
EE	School not implementing IEP.
EZ	Other education barrier.
LA	Youth needs more restrictive placement.
LZ	Other placement barrier.
HC	Vision not current.



Montgomery County had a total of 16 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 1 case
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 2 cases
- Reunification: 7 cases
- APPLA: 6 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 12 of 16 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified concurrent permanency plans for 7 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for none of the 7 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (6 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (6)

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				2	
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	1			1		4
2 to 3 years	5					1
3 years or more						1
Totals → 16	7			1	2	6

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 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 were made for 8 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were not appropriate for all 4 cases reviewed.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Formal Kinship Care
3	Regular Foster Care
8	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Residential Treatment Centers
1	Own Dwelling
1	Other

In 5 of 16 cases reviewed, the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities, which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

In 3 of the 16 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 2 of the 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 3 cases.

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

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

Primary reason for the most recent placement changes included:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

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

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

- Yes, for 3 cases

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

- Yes, for 3 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 3 of the 16 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 15 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 14 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 15 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 11 of the 16 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 5 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 5 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: 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 13 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 12 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 11 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 13 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 2 of 4 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 16 children/youth refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 12 of the 16 children/youths had been met.

Education

12 of 16 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 10 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 2 youths were enrolled in college. 1 child/youth not attending school graduated high school. 2 children/youths refused to attend school. 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

4 of the 10 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 11 children/youths.

The local board agreed that 14 of the 16 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 8 cases)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – none)

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 1 child/youth did not want to be adopted.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

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

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

- 1 case(s) 21 months or more

Adoptive home study was not completed for the 1 case.

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)

9 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	9	4	
No	7	12	16

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week	8	4	
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	5	1	
Unsupervised	4	3	

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	1		
No	15	16	16

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 7 children/youths had siblings in care. 4 children/youths had 1 sibling in care and 3 children/youths had 2 siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 6 children/youths. 7 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 3 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 16 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Third Quarter Montgomery County Barriers
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource or service.
AS	Lack of follow-up (General).
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home.
BF	Not following up on referrals.
EB	Youth not attending school or in GED program.
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
LA	Youth needs more restrictive placement.
SA	No current safe custody & guardianship.
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
HD	No follow up on medial referrals.
IZ	Other independence barrier.



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

- Non-Relative Adoption: 2 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Reunification: 6 cases
- APPLA: 11 cases

Permanency

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

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (11 cases)

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

Permanent Connections (11 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	2					
7 to 11 months	1					4
1 to 2 years	3			2		5
2 to 3 years						1
3 years or more					1	1
Totals →20	6			2	1	11

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 11 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 the 11 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 11 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
3	None
1	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
1	Regular Foster Care
7	Treatment Foster Center (Private)
1	Residential Group Homes
1	Therapeutic Group Homes
3	Independent Living Residential Program
2	Residential Treatment Centers
1	Own Dwelling

In 10 of the 20 cases reviewed, the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities, which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

In 9 of the 20 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 7 cases had 1 placement change, 1 case had 3 placement changes and 1 case had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 3 of 9 cases.

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included

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

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

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

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

- No, for 9 cases

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

- Yes, for 8 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 6 of 20 children/youths reviewed had developmental or specials needs.
- Current Physical: 17 children/youths had a current physical exam.

- Current Vision: 18 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 18 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 4 children/youths.
- Completed Medical Records: 14 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 9 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 9 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: None of the 20 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 15 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 15 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 12 of 15 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 15 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: 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 the 6 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 20 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board agreed that health needs of 14 of 20 children/youths were met.

Education

14 of the 20 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 11 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth was enrolled in a GED program and 2 youths were enrolled in college.

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

5 of the 11 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 4 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

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

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

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 17 cases)

5 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

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

2 youths were over the age of 20 employed 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 – 17 cases)

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

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

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

- Housing (Transitioning Youth – 4 cases)
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Housing had been specified for 4 youths transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options was provided to 4 youths.

The local board agreed with the transitional housing plan for the 4 youths.

The local board agreed that all 4 youths were being appropriately prepared to transition out of care.

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 2 children/youths were under the age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (2 cases)

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

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

- 2 case(s) 21 months or more

Adoptive home study was not completed and approved for the 2 cases.

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

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (2 cases)

Post-adoptive services were needed for 2 children/youths. The service needed was medical for 1 case and mental health for 1 case.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for both cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were not approved for the 2 cases.

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

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

5 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 16 of 20 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	4	3	7
No	16	17	13

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

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	2	1	1
Unsupervised	2	2	6

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 2 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 none of the 2 children/youths. 2 children/youths did not 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 19 of 20 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Third Quarter Prince George's County Barriers
5D	Over age 18 and still in care.
1K	No service agreement with child.
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AO	No sibling or family visits.
BD	Child has behavior problems in the home.
BH	Issues related to substance abuse.
BF	Not following up on referrals.
BG	Refusal to locate or maintain employment.
BY	Child/youth has runaway history.
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier.
CN	Disagreement with permanency plan.
DI	Not following through on service agreement objectives.
DF	Disrupted finalized adoption.
DZ	Other family related barrier.
DH	Pre-adoptive family cannot decide to adopt
EA	Youth not enrolled in school.
EB	Youth not attending school or in GED program.
EZ	Other education barrier.
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence.
IZ	Other independence barrier.
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.
HC	Vision not current.
HZ	Other physical health barrier.
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior.
FG	No concurrent permanency plan in place.
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.



Queen Anne's County had a total of 2 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 1 case
- APPLA: 1 case

Permanency

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case)

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

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 1 of 2 cases reviewed.

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

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

All of the 2 cases reviewed none of 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 1 of 2 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

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

It is unknown if local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for both cases.

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 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:

- 2 case(s) behavioral

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

- Yes, for 2 cases

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

- Yes, for 2 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that none of 2 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: Yes, for 1 of 2 children/youths.
- Current Vision: No, for both children/youths.
- Current Dental: 1 of 2 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: Not applicable
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that none of the 2 child/youth had completed medical records.
- Prescription Medication: 2 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for both children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 1 child/youth was taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Mental Health Issues: 1 child/youth had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: No, for the 1 child/youth.

- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 child/youth with mental health issues was 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 problems.
- 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.

The local board found that the health needs of none of the 2 children/youths had been met.

Education

All 2 children/youths reviewed was enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 1 child/youth was in Pre-K through 12th grade and 1 youth was enrolled in college.

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

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

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

None of the 2 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth did not participate due to mental health reasons.

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

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

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

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

1 youth was not receiving required independent living skills due to mental health reasons.

The local board agreed that none of the 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.

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)

Both cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for the 2 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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	2		
Quarterly		1	
Yes, but undocumented			

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that none of the 2 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 did not make adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 1 of 2 cases reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Third Quarter Queen Anne's County Barriers
AG	Lack of concurrent planning.
AR	Missing of lack of documentation.
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AL	No service agreement with youth.
BF	Not following up on referrals.
BH	Issues related to substance abuse.
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier.
CY	No concurrent plan by court.
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services.
EF	School not meeting youths behavioral needs.
EZ	Other education barrier.
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
IB	Youth not employed or transitioning out of care.
IZ	Other independence barrier.
HA	Annual physicals not current.

HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.
LA	Youth needs more restrictive placement.
LC	Current provider unable or unwilling to meet youth's needs.
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy.
MD	Youth non-compliant with medication.
MA	Youth has not been assessed for medical health concerns.



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

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

Permanency

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

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 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 (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			1		
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years						
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						
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 agreement for none of the 3 cases. 1 child/youth was a Post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was not made for any of the 3 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
3	Formal Kinship Care
1	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home

All 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: 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 appropriate follow-up occurred on all health-related concerns for none of the 3 children/youths.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 3 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: Not applicable.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Not applicable.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Not applicable.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 4 children/youths had substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 1 child/youth had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

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

Education

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

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

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

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

Ready By 21

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

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – none)

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

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

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

- 1 case(s) 21 months or more

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

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

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

Adoptive Recruitment none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

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

Post adoptive subsidies was needed for the 1 case.

Post adoptive subsidies was not approved for the 1 case.

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

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

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

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			3
Visitation Center/LDSS			
Public Area			
Child's/Youth's Placement			
Other	3		

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

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 3 of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care. 3 children/youths had 2 siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 3 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

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

Code	Third Quarter St. Mary County Barriers
AK	No service agreement with parents.
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home.
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier.
ED	No current IEP.
EZ	Other education barrier.
HD	No follow-up or medical referrals
HC	Vision not current.



CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children
Washington County



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

- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 2 cases
- Reunification: 2 cases

Permanency

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

The local juvenile court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the 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						
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	2		2			
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						
Totals = 4	2		2			

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department did not hold a family involvement meetings prior to entry for any of the 4 cases.

Service Agreements: The local department did not have a signed service agreement for any of the 4 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was made for 4 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were not appropriate for the 4 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

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

The local board agreed with the department’s placement plan for 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 2 placement changes.

It is unknown if the local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement change for the 1 case.

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

- 1 case(s) was same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 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/youth 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: 3 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 4 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 2 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 1 of 3 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 2 of the 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 2 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 1 child/youth was taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 of the 4 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 the 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 4 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 4 children/youths had substance abuse problem.

- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 4 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 1 of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 2 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 enrolled in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

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

The local board agreed that 2 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 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 the 1 youth was not being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

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

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

The local board agreed that the 1 youth was not receiving appropriate independent living skills.

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

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

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

- 1 case(s) 21 months or more

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

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

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (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	4	1	1
No		3	3

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

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

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that all 4 children/youths had siblings in care. 4 children/youths had 3 siblings in care. Efforts were not made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 4 children/youths. 4 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them.

Summary

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

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Third Quarter Washington County Barriers
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
AL	No service agreement with youth.
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home.
BF	Not following up on referrals.
CY	No concurrent plan by the court.
DY	No family related barriers.
ED	No current IEP.
EE	School not implementing IEP.
EZ	Other education barrier.
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HB	Dentals not current.
HD	No follow-up or medical referrals
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
IZ	Other independence barrier.
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan.



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

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

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 1 case.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plans 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 connections 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 to 2 years	1			1		
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						
Totals =>4	2			1		1

Case Planning

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

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Formal Kinship Care
1	Restricted Foster Care (Relative)
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Diagnostic Center

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

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

Placement Stability

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

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

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

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

The primary reason for the 2 most recent placement changes were:

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

Provider specific issues for the 2 most recent placement changes included:

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

Child specific issues for the 2 most recent placement changes included:

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

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

- Yes, for 1 case

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

- Yes, for 2 cases

Health/Mental Health

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

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

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

Education

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

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

A current progress report/report card was available for review for all 4 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 not employed or 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 the 1 youth was not 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 skill assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

The local board agreed the 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 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 pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple for the 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was fictive kin-foster parent for the 1 case.

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

- 1 case(s) 12 to 15 months or more

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

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

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

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

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for the 1 case.

Post adoptive subsidies were not approved for the 1 case.

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

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

2 of 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

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

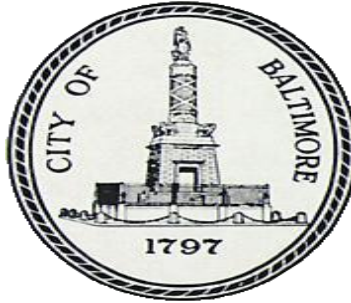
Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 3 of 4 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Third Quarter Worcester County Barriers
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AG	Lack of concurrent planning.
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home.
BH	Issues related to substance abuse.
BY	Child/youth has runaway history.
CI	Child in pre-adoptive home, but adoption not finalized
CY	No concurrent plan by court.
MA	Youth has been assessed for mental health reasons.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.
IZ	Other planning barrier.
SA	No current safe custody & guardianship.



Baltimore City had a total of 63 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 9 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 18 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 4 cases
- Reunification: 29 cases
- APPLA: 3 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 45 of the 63 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 16 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plans set by the local Juvenile Court for 11 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (3)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 3 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	7		12	7	3	
7 to 11 months	2		4			2
1 to 2 years	6		2	2		1
2 to 3 years	11				1	
3 years or more	3					
Totals →63	29		18	9	4	3

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 47 of the 63 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 1 case. 6 children/youths were a Post-TPR child under the age of 14. 10 children/youths did not have any transitional plan. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 34 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreement was appropriate for 1 of the 63 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
22	Formal Kinship Care
1	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
11	Regular Foster Care
14	Restricted Foster Care (Relative)
9	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Residential Group Homes
3	Therapeutic Group Homes
1	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Relative

In 28 of the 63 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 62 of the 63 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 11 of the 63 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 6 cases had 1 placement change, and 5 cases had 2 placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 9 of 11 cases.

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 3 case(s) placements were with relatives
- 8 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

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

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

- Yes, for 6 cases

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

- Yes, for 10 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 25 of the 63 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 47 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 39 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 26 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 28 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 17 of the 63 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 19 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for 18 of 19 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: 3 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 35 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 33 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 25 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 35 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: 16 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 9 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 17 of the 63 children/youths had been met.

Education

48 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 48 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 1 child/youth refused to attend school. 14 children/youths were under the age of 5.

12 of the 48 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan, and 5 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 19 of the 48 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 25 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 13 cases)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- Housing (Transitioning Youth –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. 4 children/youths were under the age of consent. 3 children/youths did not want to be adopted.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (8 cases)

8 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 5 cases and a single female for 3 cases. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was foster parent relative for 1 case and foster parent non-relative for 7 cases.

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

- 1 case(s) 16 to 20 months
- 7 case(s) 21 months or more

A home study was completed for 5 placements and approved. A family social summary was given for 4 cases.

The local board agreed that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for all 8 cases.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (5 cases)

Post adoptive services were needed for 2 of 5 children/youths. Services that were needed were medical, mental health, education and DDA support services for the 2 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for the 1 case.

Post adoptive subsidies were approved for the 1 case.

The Board found the post-adoptive services were appropriate for 4 of 5 cases.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

2 of 63 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 59 of the 63 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	39	14	4
No	24	49	59

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week	17	4	1
More than once a week	4	3	
Once a month	8	2	1
More than once a month	10	5	2
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	25	9	4
Unsupervised	14	5	

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	20	4	2
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member	5	5	
CASA			
Foster Parent			2
Other			
Therapist			

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home	7		1
Visitation Center/LDSS	16	2	1
Public Area	12	5	
Child's/Youth's Placement	2	1	2
Other	2	1	

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	5		
No	48	44	36

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 36 of 63 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 32 children/youths. 22 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 54 of the 63 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Third Quarter Baltimore City Barriers
AA	ICPC issues.
AG	Lack of concurrent planning.
AN	Youth placed outside oh home jurisdiction.
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
AE	Worker failed to submit proper paperwork for timely TPR filing.
AS	Lack of follow-up (General).
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource or service.
AZ	Other agency related barrier.
BF	Not following up on referrals.
BU	Undocumented child/youth.
BZ	Oher child/youth related barrier.
CF	Appeal by birth parents.
CY	No concurrent plan by court.
DD	Home study not completed.
DG	Home study not approved.
DZ	Other family related barrier.
2A	Inadequate casework services.
2B	Lack of progress in implementation.
2E	Inadequate preparation for independence.
2Z	Other implementation barrier.
3F	Lack of documentation.
3H	Lack of awareness of policy.
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
IZ	Other independence barrier.
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
EA	Youth not enrolled in school.
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services.
ED	No current IEP.
EE	School not implementing IEP.

EF	School not meeting youth behavioral needs.
EZ	Other education barrier.
4A	Poor coordination within DSS.
4I	Interstate compact delays.
4Z	Other coordination barrier.
MA	Youth has not been assessed for mental health concerns.
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy.
MD	Youth non-compliant with medication.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
SA	No current safe custody & guardianship

Required Supporting Documentation for CRBC Reviews

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

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

Recommendations to All Local Departments of Social Services (LDSS)

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

Independent Living

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

Permanent Connections

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

Adoption

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

3rd Quarter 2026 CRBC Metrics

Recommendation Reports to DSS - Number Sent:	175
Recommendation Reports to DSS - Number Sent on Time:	160
Recommendation Reports to DSS - Percentage Sent on Time:	91%
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Number of Responses Received: ¹	111
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Percentage of DSS Responses:	63%
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Number Received on Time:	86
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Percentage Received on Time	77%
Number of Boards Held	48
Recommendation Reports - Number of DSS Agreement:	109
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of DSS Agreement:	98%
Recommendation Reports - Number of DSS Disagreement:	2
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:	42%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT - Adoption Children Reviewed:	0%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT - C & G Children Reviewed:	13%
Percentage of ADOPTION Children Reviewed for the Period:	15%
Percentage of CUSTODY/GUARDIANSHIP Children Reviewed for the Period:	5%
Percentage of APPLA Children Reviewed for the Period:	25%

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

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



The State Board

Nettie Anderson-Burrs (Chair)

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Delores Alexander (Vice Chair)

Circuit 3: Representing Baltimore and Harford Counties

Amy Potler

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

Dr. Corinne Vinopol

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

Dr. Elaine Reed

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

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Circuit 6: Representing Frederick and Montgomery Counties

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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

Citizens Review Board for Children

1100 Eastern Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21221 • Phone: (410) 238-1320

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



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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