



## MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 9, 2015

TO: Directors, Local Departments of Social Services  
Assistant Directors for Social Services

FROM: Deborah Ramelmeier, Executive Director  
Social Services Administration

RE: Inter-Country Adoptions Tracking

### Background:

As part of Maryland's Child and Family Services Plan, we are required to report the number of children who are adopted from other countries and who have entered into state custody as a result of the disruption of a placement for adoption or the dissolution of an adoption, the agencies who handled the placement or the adoption, the plans for the child, and the reasons for the disruption or dissolution.

### Definitions:

The term **disruption** is used to describe an adoption process that ends after the child is placed in an adoptive home and before the adoption is legally finalized, resulting in the child's return to (or entry into) foster care or placement with new adoptive parents.

The term **dissolution** is generally used to describe an adoption in which the legal relationship between the adoptive parents and adoptive child is severed, either voluntarily or involuntarily, after the adoption is legally finalized. This results in the child's return to (or entry into) foster care or placement with new adoptive parents.

**Agency who handled the placement or the adoption.** This is the agency that facilitated the placement of the child in the adoptive home, and who assisted the adoptive family in finalizing the adoption of the child.

**The plans for the child.** Upon entry into foster care, a permanency plan for the child should be established. The reason(s) for the disruption or dissolution should be identified.

**Action Needed by Local Departments:**

Each Local Department will be responsible for tracking and reporting the number of children who are adopted from other countries and who have entered into state custody as a result of the disruption of a placement for adoption or the dissolution of an adoption, the agencies who handled the placement or the adoption, the plans for the child, and the reasons for the disruption or dissolution.

These reports will be submitted on a quarterly basis for FY 2016:

July 1, 2015-September 30, 2015	Due: October 15, 2015
October 1, 2015-December 31, 2015	Due: January 15, 2016
January 1, 2016- March 30, 2016	Due: April 15, 2016
April 1, 2016-June 30, 2016	Due: July 15, 2016

Please see attached tracking form. All data shall be submitted electronically to Jennifer McCabe at [Jennifer.mccabe@maryland.gov](mailto:Jennifer.mccabe@maryland.gov). Please contact Jennifer McCabe at 410-767-7114 with any questions.

Attachment