

Workgroup on Children in Unlicensed Settings and Pediatric Hospital Overstays Meeting

Monday February 9, 2026
1:30-3:00 PM

Meeting Objectives: To discuss and vote on the proposed legislative recommendations that will be included in the work groups' final report. To learn about the Voluntary Placement Agreement process and discuss a bill that will be introduced during the 2026 session. To learn about a recently released OPEGA report focused on the Social Services Administration and foster youth who were staying in hotels.

1:30	Welcome & Meeting Objectives	Edward "Ted" Gallo Executive Director State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect
1:35	Legislative Subcommittee Recommendations (Action Item: Work Group Vote)	Jane Krienke, Assistant Vice President, Government Affairs & Policy, Maryland Hospital Association
1:55	Voluntary Placement Agreement (VPA) Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of VPA Process - Background and Barriers - 2026 Proposed Legislation 	<p>Stephen Liggett-Creel, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Human Services</p> <p>Ann Geddes, Director of Child and Older Adult Policy, Mental Health Association of Maryland</p> <p>Damian Lang, Director of Government Relations, Sheppard Pratt</p> <p>Carrie Etheridge, Director of Social Work, Sheppard Pratt</p>
2:25	Office of Program Evaluation & Government Accountability (OPEGA) 2026 Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>"Scoping Evaluation of the Social Services Administration"</u> 	Michael Powell, Director, OPEGA
2:55	Work Group Report Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Timeline - Cornell University Student Assistance 	Ted Gallo Jane Krienke
3:00	Adjourn	

