

# Citizens Review Board For Children



FIRST QUARTER  
FISCAL YEAR 2019 REPORT  
(July 1st 2018 – September 30th 2018)

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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

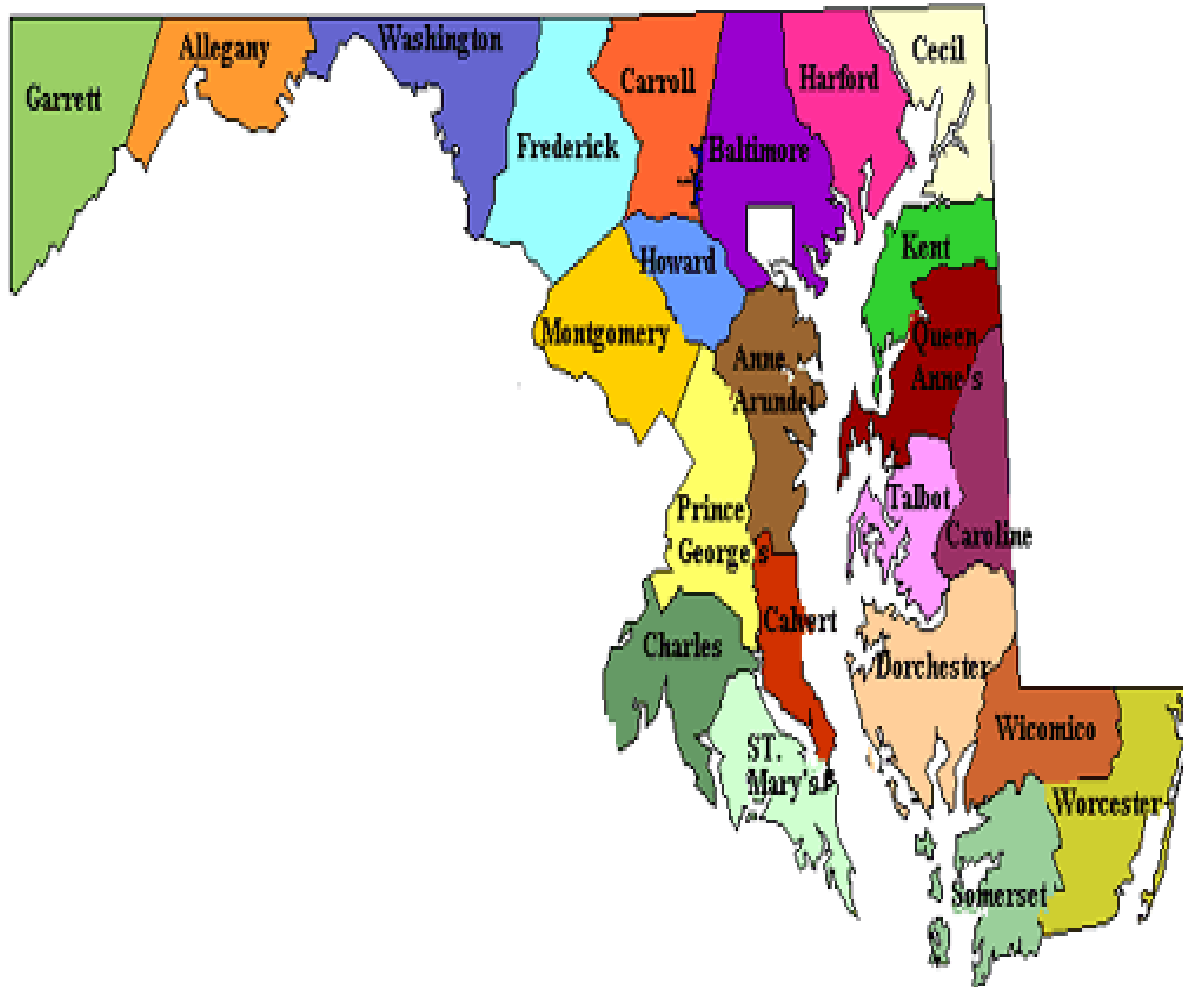
CRBC would like to acknowledge the commitment, dedication, passion and service of all stakeholders on behalf of Maryland's most vulnerable children including:

- ★ 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 1st Quarter of Fiscal Year 2019.



CRBC conducts regular out-of-home placement case reviews in all 24 Maryland jurisdictions including Baltimore City throughout the year. For this quarterly report, the following counties did not have regularly scheduled case reviews during the quarter: Caroline, Carroll, Garrett, Howard, Kent, Queen Anne, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester counties. Therefore, this report only contains review findings and recommendations for the 14 counties and 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 review 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 at age 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 assures 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).

## 1st Quarter 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	Reunification	Relative Placement	Adoption	Custody Guardianship	APPLA	TOTAL	# Boards Held
01	Allegany	2	1	1	0	2	6	1
02	Anne Arundel	4	0	4	0	7	15	2
03	Baltimore County	21	0	6	0	12	39	6
04	Calvert	3	0	3	1	1	8	1
07	Cecil	4	3	2	2	5	16	2
08	Charles	6	0	1	0	1	8	1
09	Dorchester	7	0	1	0	2	10	1
10	Frederick	1	2	1	0	2	6	1
12	Harford	12	0	5	1	2	20	3
15	Montgomery	12	1	6	1	8	28	5
16	Prince Georges	12	0	10	0	14	36	5
18	Saint Mary's	8	1	0	0	0	9	1
19	Somerset	6	2	2	0	0	10	1
21	Washington	5	0	3	1	3	12	2
49	Baltimore City	11	6	9	10	34	70	11
15	<b>Statewide Totals</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>16*</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>43</b>
	<b>Percentages</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>100%</b>	

\*(Note: Relative Placement is the combined total of Relative Placement for Adoption = 9; Relative Placement for Custody/Guardianship = 7)

CRBC conducted a total of 293 individual out-of-home case reviews (each case reviewed represents 1 child/youth) in 15 Jurisdictions on 43 boards that held reviews during the 1st quarter of fiscal year 2019.

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
- Independent Living Skills (14 and older)
- Employment (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)



- Pre-Adoption Services
- Post-Adoption Services
- Child's Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings
- Miscellaneous Findings
- Barriers/Issues to Permanency

## Total Reviewed (293)

### Gender Totals

Male	Female
128 (44%)	165 (56%)

### Gender by Plan

#### Male(128)

Reunification	Relative Placement	Adoption	Custody Guardianship	APPLA
54 (42%)	5 (4%)	25 (20%)	8 (6%)	36 (28%)

#### Female(165)

Reunification	Relative Placement	Adoption	Custody Guardianship	APPLA
60 (36%)	11 (7%)	29 (18%)	8 (4%)	57 (35%)

### Ethnicity Overall

African American	Caucasian	Asian	Other
178 (61%)	87 (30%)	1 (<1%)	27 (9%)

### Age Range by Permanency Plan

[RU] = Reunification

[RA]= Relative Adoption

[RG] = Relative C & G

[AD] = Non Relative Adoption

[CG] = Non Relative C & G

[AP] = Appla

AGE RANGE	RU	RA	RG	AD	CG	AP	Totals
1_age 0 thru 5	17	6	2	24			49
2_age 6 thru 10	24	1	3	8	1		37
3_age 11 thru 13	23	1	2	10	4		40
4_age 14 thru 16	31	1		5	8	4	49
5_age 17 thru 19	17			7	3	45	72
6_age 20	2					44	46
Totals	114	9	7	54	16	93	293

## Jurisdictional Case Reviews

### Allegany County



Allegany County had a total of 6 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

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

#### Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan in all 6 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the 6 cases.

#### Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (2)

#### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 2 cases)

1 of the 2 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connection was appropriate for the 1 case.

#### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

## Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department made efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process in all 6 cases reviewed and had a signed service agreement for 5 cases.

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

## Placement/Living Arrangement

Number of Cases	Placement
1	Pre Finalized Adoptive Home
2	Treatment Foster Care
2	Therapeutic Group Home
1	Unapproved Living Arrangement (LA)

In 2 of the 6 cases reviewed the children 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 5 of the 6 cases reviewed.

## Placement Stability

In 3 of the 6 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 2 cases had 1 placement change and 1 case had 2 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 most recent placement changes:

- 2 cases were in less restrictive placements
- 1 case was a youth on runaway

The local board found that the primary positive reason for the most recent placement change was:

- Transition towards a permanency goal: 1 case

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes were;

- Runaway: 1 case
- Other: 1 case

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

- Placement services were adequate to support the provider: Yes, for 3 cases

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

- Yes: for 2 cases
- N/A – runaway, sila, or other non-provider living arrangement: 1 case

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of the 6 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 6 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 4 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 6 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 4 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 3 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 2 of the 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 of the 3 children/youths with a mental health issue was transitioning out of care and did not have an identified plan to obtain services in the adult mental health care system.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: None of the children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Not applicable.

The local board found that the health needs of 4 of the 6 children/youths had been met.

### Education

3 of the 6 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 2 youths had graduated high school and 1 child was under the age of 5.

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

### Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 4 cases)

1 of the 4 youths was employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience, 2 youths were not and 1 youth was medically fragile and unable to participate.

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

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

The local board agreed that 2 of the 4 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 1 case)

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

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

The local board agreed that the 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. The 1 child/youth with a plan of adoption was under the age of consent.

### Adoptive Placement, Services and Resources (1 case)

#### Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

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

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

- 1 case(s) from 7 to 9 months

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

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

The local board found that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for the child/youth.

Adoptive Recruitment

Not applicable, child/youth already in pre-adoptive home.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post-adoptive services were needed for the child/youth in a pre-adoptive placement. The services that were needed was medical.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources was appropriate for the child/youth in a pre-adoptive placement.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

2 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 6 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	3	2
No	3	4

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		

Unsupervised	3	2
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Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other		

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	3	2
No		

The local board found that 2 of the 6 children/youths had siblings in care and both had visits with their siblings in care.

### Barriers

The following barriers/issues were identified.

- Lack of Special Needs Foster Homes.
- Vision Not Current.
- Other Child/Youth Related Barrier.
- Lack of Local Residential Treatment Facilities.
- Inadequate Preparation for Independence.

### 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 5 of the 6 children/youths reviewed.



## Anne Arundel County



Anne Arundel County had a total of 15 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 4 cases
- Non Relative Adoption: 4 cases
- APPLA: 7 cases

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 14 of the 15 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 1 of the 15 cases.

The local department was not implementing the concurrent plan set by the court in the 1 case.

### Category of APPLA plan (7 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (4)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (3)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 7 cases)

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

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

## Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 9 of the 15 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department made efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process in 11 of the 15 cases reviewed and had a signed service agreement for 7 cases. 1 case was a Post TPR child under the age of 14.

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

## Placement/Living Arrangement

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
4	Pre Finalized Adoptive Home
2	Regular Foster Care
4	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
3	Therapeutic Group Home
1	Residential Treatment Center
1	Unapproved Living Arrangement (LA)

In 6 of the 15 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 13 of the 15 cases reviewed.

## Placement Stability

In 7 of the 15 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 1 case had 1 placement change, 1 case had 2 changes, 2 cases had 3 changes and 3 cases all had 4 or more changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 4 of the 7 cases.

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

- 3 cases had the same level of care
- 2 cases were in less restrictive placements
- 2 cases were in more restrictive placements

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes were;

- Behavioral: 3 cases
- Runaway: 2 cases
- Hospitalization: 1 case

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

- Placement services were adequate to support the provider: Yes, for 7 cases

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

- Yes: for 4 cases
- N/A – runaway, sila, or other non-provider living arrangement: 1 case

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 7 of the 15 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 9 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 9 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 9 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 8 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 9 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 6 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 9 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 6 of 9 the children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 2 of the 9 youths with a mental health issue were transitioning out of care and had an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: 2 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 1 of the 2 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 9 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 8 of the 9 children/youths.

The local board found that the health needs of 8 of the 15 children/youths had been met and 1 child/youth refused to comply with standard health exams.

## Education

10 of the 15 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 2 youths had graduated high school, 1 refused to attend and 2 children were under the age of 5.

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

## Ready By 21

### ➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 10 cases)

3 of the 10 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience and 1 youth was medically fragile and unable to participate.

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

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

The local board agreed that 7 of the 10 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

### ➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 5 cases) (Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Housing had been specified for 2 of the 5 youths transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed that the 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. All 4 children/youth with a plan of adoption were under the age of consent.

## Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (4 cases)

### Pre-Adoptive Placement (4 cases)

All 4 children/youths with an adoption plan were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple in all 4 cases. The relationships to the pre-adoptive children/youths were non relative foster parents in all 4 cases.

Lengths of time in the pre-adoptive placements were as follows:

- 4 case(s) from 21 months or more

A home study was completed and approved in all 4 cases.

The local board agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive families to meet the identified needs of the children/youths in all 4 cases.

The local board agreed that the pre-adoptive placements were appropriate in all 4 cases.

#### Adoptive Recruitment

Not applicable. All 4 children/youths were already placed in pre-adoptive homes.

#### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post adoptive services were needed for all 4 cases. The service that was needed was medical for all 4 cases.

The local board found that the post adoptive services were appropriate for all 4 children/youths.

#### Miscellaneous Findings

##### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

11 cases had a CASA.

##### Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 15 cases.

##### Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	9	5
No	6	10

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	5	2
Unsupervised	4	3

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	5	2
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other		

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	2
No	8	3

The local board found that 6 of the 15 children/youths had siblings in care and all 6 had visits with their siblings in care.

### Barriers

The following barriers/issues were identified.

- Board Does Not Agree with Current Permanency Plan
- No Service Agreement With Youth.
- No Service Agreement With Parents.
- Child Has Behavior Problems In The Home.
- Youth Not Enrolled In School.
- Youth Not Employed and Transitioning Out of Care
- Youth Refuses Mental Health Treatment Including Therapy
- Youth Non-Compliant with Medication
- Annual Physicals Not Current.
- Dentals Not Current.
- Vision Not Current.
- Lack of Local Residential Treatment Facilities.
- Transitional Housing Has not been Identified.

## 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 14 of the 15 children/youths reviewed.

## Baltimore County



Baltimore County had a total of 39 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 21 cases
- Non Relative Adoption: 6 cases
- APPLA: 12 cases

### Permanency

The local boards agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 39 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court identified concurrent permanency plans for 6 of the 39 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent plans set by the court for the 6 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (12 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (11)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (1)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 12 cases)

6 of the 12 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local boards 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	3			5		7
7 to 11 months						2
1 to 2 years	15					
2 to 3 years						1
3 years or more	3			1		2



## Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 39 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department made efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process in 30 of the 39 cases reviewed and had a signed service agreement for 15 cases. 5 cases were Post TPR children under the age of 14.

The local boards agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 15 signed cases.

## Placement/Living Arrangement

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
4	Pre Finalized Adoptive Home
5	Restrictive Relative Foster Care
13	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Therapeutic Group Home
2	Independent Living Residential Program
4	Residential Treatment Center
1	Other
1	Runaway (LA)
8	Trial Home Visit (LA)

In 25 of the 39 cases reviewed the children/youth were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local boards agreed with the department's placement plan for 36 of the 39 cases reviewed.

## Placement Stability

In 25 of the 39 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 23 cases had 1 placement change and 2 cases had 2 placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 24 of the 25 cases.

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

- 7 cases had the same level of care
- 15 cases were in less restrictive placements
- 2 cases were in more restrictive placements
- 1 case was a runaway

The local boards found that the primary positive reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- Transition towards a permanency goal: 9 cases
- Placement with a relative: 4 cases
- Not applicable, move did not occur for a positive reason: 12 cases

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes were:

- Incompatible match: 3 cases

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

- Behavioral: 4 cases
- Runaway: 1 case
- Other: 3 cases

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

- Placement services were adequate to support the provider: Yes, for 25 cases

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

- Yes: for 23 cases
- N/A – runaway, sila, or other non-provider living arrangement: 1 case

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of the 39 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 26 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 25 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 22 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 19 of the 39 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 17 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 17 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 27 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 26 of the 27 children/youths.

- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 3 children/youths with mental health issues who were transitioning out of care had an identified plan to obtain services in the adult mental health care system.
- Substance Abuse: 2 children/youths had substance abuse issues.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No for the 2 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 6 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 4 of the 6 children/youths.

The local boards found that the health needs of 19 of the 39 children had been met. 3 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

### Education

24 of 39 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 2 youths were in college, 6 had graduated high school, 2 refused to attend and 5 were under the age of 5.

The local boards agreed that the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready by 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 19 cases)

7 of the 19 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience and 1 youth was medically fragile and unable to participate.

The local board agreed that 7 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 19 cases)

The local board agreed that 14 of the 19 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 3 of the 6 youths transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed that 3 youths were being appropriately prepared for transitioning out of care.

## Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 3 children/youth with a plan of adoption consented and 3 were under the age of consent.

## Adoptive Placement, Services and Resources (6 cases)

### Pre-Adoptive Placement (6 cases)

4 of the 6 children/youths with an adoption plan were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple in the 4 cases. The relationships to the pre-adoptive children/youths were non relative foster parents in the 4 cases.

Lengths of time in the pre-adoptive placements were as follows:

- 4 case(s) from 21 months or more

A home study was completed and approved in the 4 cases.

The local board agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive families to meet the identified needs of the children/youths in 3 of the 4 cases.

The local board agreed that the pre-adoptive placements were appropriate in the 4 cases.

### Adoptive Recruitment

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 2 children/youths not placed in a pre-adoptive home. The adoptive resource for both cases was Wendy's Wonderful Kids.

The local board agreed that the adoptive recruitment efforts were appropriate.

### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post adoptive services were needed for 3 of the 4 cases. The services that were needed was medical and mental health for 3 cases and educational for 1 case.

The local board found that the post adoptive services were appropriate for the 3 cases.

## 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 39 cases.

### Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	20	20
No	19	19

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		6
Once a week		
More than once a week	3	
Once a month	11	5
More than once a month	3	6
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented	3	3

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	7	3
Unsupervised	13	17

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	5	1
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent	2	2
Other		

Where do Visits Occur ?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home	12	15
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area	5	
Child's/Youth's Placement	3	5
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	14	17
No	6	3

The local boards found that 19 of the 39 children/youths had siblings in care and all 19 had visits with their siblings in care.

### Barriers

The following barriers/issues were identified.

- No service agreement with parents.
- No service agreement with youth.
- Pre-Adoptive resources not identified.
- Lack of concurrent planning.
- Annual physicals not current.
- Dentals not current.
- Vision not current.
- Youth not employed and transitioning out of care.
- Delay in scheduling medical appointment.
- Other physical health barrier.
- Transitional housing not identified.
- Inadequate preparation for independence.
- Issues related to substance abuse.

### 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 34 of the 39 children reviewed.

## Calvert County



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

- Reunification: 3 cases
- Non Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- Non Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- APPLA: 1 case

### Permanency

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

The local juvenile court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the 8 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (APPLA - 1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case)

The 1 APPLA case did not have a permanent connection identified.

### 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
1 to 2 years	3					
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						

### Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement

meetings prior to entry for all 8 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department made efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process in 7 of the 8 cases reviewed and had a signed service agreement for 7 cases. 1 case was a Post TPR child under the age of 14.

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

### Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
3	Pre-finalized Adoption
3	Restricted Relative Foster Care
1	Therapeutic Group Home
1	Residential Treatment Center

In 5 of the 8 cases reviewed, the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdictions 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 8 cases reviewed.

### Placement Stability

In 4 of the 8 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. All 4 cases had 1 placement change.

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

- 3 case(s) had the same level of care
- 1 case(s) were in more restrictive placements

The local board found that the primary positive reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- Transition towards a permanency goal: 3 cases

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

- Sexualized: 1 case

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

- Placement services were adequate to support the provider: Yes, for 4 cases

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

- Yes: for 4 cases



The local department held family involvement meetings for the placement changes for all 4 cases.

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 1 of the 8 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 8 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 8 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 8 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that all 8 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 4 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 5 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 3 of the 5 children/youth.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable, none of the 3 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children/youths had a 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.

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

### Education

7 out of the 8 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program and 1 child was under the age of 5.

The local board agreed that all 7 of the 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)

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

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

The local board agreed that both 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)

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. All 3 children with a plan of adoption were under the age of consent.

## Adoptive Placement, Services and Resources (3 cases)

### Pre-Adoptive Placement (3 cases)

All 3 children/youths with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The family structure was comprised of a married couple in 1 case and a single female in 2 cases. The relationships to the pre-adoptive children/youths were non relative foster parents in all 3 cases.

Lengths of time in the pre-adoptive placements were as follows:

- 3 case(s) from 1 to 3 months

A home study was completed and approved for all 3 cases.

The local board agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive families to meet the identified needs of all 3 children/youths.

The local board found that the pre-adoptive placements were appropriate for 2 of the 3 cases.

### Adoptive Recruitment

Not applicable, all 3 children/youths with a plan of adoption were already placed in pre-adoptive placements.

### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post-adoptive services were needed for all 3 children/youths in a pre-adoptive placement. The service that was needed was medical for all 3 cases.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for all 3 children/youths in a pre-adoptive placement.

### Miscellaneous Findings

#### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 8 cases had a CASA.

#### Risk and Safety

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

#### Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	7	3
No	1	5

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	6	2
Unsupervised	1	1

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	2	2

Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member	3	
Foster Parent	1	
Other		

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	1
No	6	2

The local board found that 5 of the 8 children/youths had siblings in care and all 5 had visits with their siblings in care.

### Barriers

The following barriers/issues were identified.

- None.

### 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 8 children reviewed.

**Cecil County**



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

- Reunification: 4 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody/Guardianship: 3 cases
- Non Relative Adoption: 2 cases
- Non Relative Custody/Guardianship: 2 cases
- APPLA: 5 cases

Permanency

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

The local juvenile court identified concurrent permanency plans for 8 of the 16 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent plans set by the court for the 8 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (5 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (5 cases)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 5 cases)

All 5 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for all 5 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

## 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 made efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process in 11 of the 16 cases reviewed and had a signed service agreement for 9 cases. 2 cases were Post TPR children under the age of 14.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 9 signed cases.

## Placement/Living Arrangement

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
3	Formal Kinship Care
1	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
3	Regular Foster Care
4	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Therapeutic Group Care
3	Residential Treatment Center
1	Secure Detention Facility (LA)

In 5 of the 16 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions 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 16 cases reviewed.

## Placement Stability

In 9 of the 16 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 5 cases had 1 placement change, 2 cases had 2 changes and 2 cases had 3 changes.

The local department held family involvement meetings for the placement changes for 6 of the 9 cases.

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

- 1 case(s) had the same level of care
- 5 case(s) were in less restrictive placements
- 3 case(s) were in more restrictive placements

The local board found that the primary positive reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- Transition towards a permanency goal: 2 cases
- Placement with a relative: 2 cases

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes were:

- Allegation of provider abuse/neglect: 1 case

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

- Behavioral: 3 cases
- Delinquent behavior: 1 case

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

- Placement services were adequate to support the provider: Yes, for 5 cases
- Placement from shelter or temporary placement: 4 cases

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

- Yes: for 9 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: 13 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 14 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 13 of the 16 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files
- Prescription Medication: 10 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 8 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 11 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 11 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable, none of the 11 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: 4 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for all 4 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 11 children/youths had behavioral issues.

- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 11 children/youths.

The local board found that the health needs of 12 of the 16 children/youths had been met and 1 child/youth refused to comply with standard health exams.

### Education

10 of the 16 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 1 youth was in college, 1 youth refused to attend school and 4 children were under the age of 5.

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

### Ready by 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 8 cases)

1 of the 8 youths was employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience, 1 was unable to participate due to mental health reasons and 1 was in a correctional facility.

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

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

The local board agreed that 7 of the 8 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

- Housing(Transitioning Youth aged 20 – 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. Both children/youths with a plan of adoption were under the age of consent.

### Adoptive Placement, Services and Resources (2 cases)

#### Pre-Adoptive Placement (2 cases)

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



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

- 1 case(s) from 21 months or more

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

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

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

### Adoptive Recruitment

The local department did not have documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 1 child/youth not placed in a pre-adoptive home.

### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post adoptive services were needed for the 1 child/youth placed in a pre-adoptive home. The services that were needed were medical, mental health and educational.

The local board found that the post adoptive services were appropriate for the child/youth.

### Miscellaneous Findings

#### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

7 cases had a CASA.

#### Risk and Safety

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

#### Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	8	3
No	8	13

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week	3	1
More than once a week		
Once a month		

More than once a month	4	1
Quarterly	1	1
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	2	
Unsupervised	6	3

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		
Other Agency Representative	1	
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent	1	
Other		

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	3	
No	5	3

The local board found that 7 of the 16 children/youths had siblings in care and all 7 had visits with their siblings in care.

### Barriers

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- No service agreement with parents.
- No service agreement with youth.
- Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
- Youth non-compliant with medication.
- Other child/youth related barrier.
- Other education barrier.
- Annual physicals not current.
- Dental not current.
- Vision not current.

## 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.

## Charles County



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

- Reunification: 6 cases
- Non Relative Adoption: 1 case
- APPLA: 1 case

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 3 of the 8 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court identified concurrent permanency plans for 5 of the 8 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent plans set by the court for the 5 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 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	6					
2 to 3 years				1		1
3 years or more						

## Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department made efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process in all 8 cases reviewed and there were no signed service agreements for any of the 8 cases.

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
2	Restricted (Relative) Foster Care
6	Treatment Foster Care (Private)

In 6 of the 8 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions 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 8 cases reviewed.

## Placement Stability

In 5 of the 8 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. In all 5 cases there was 1 placement change.

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

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

- 1 case(s) had the same level of care
- 2 case(s) were in less restrictive placements
- 1 case(s) was a runaway
- 1 case(s) unknown, information not available

The local board found that the primary positive reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- Placement with a relative: 2 cases

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes were:

- Provider request: 1 case
- Incompatible match: 2 cases

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

- Placement services were adequate to support the provider: 5 cases

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

- Yes: for 5 cases

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that none of the 8 children/youths had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 1 child/youth had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 2 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: None of the 8 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that none of the 8 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: None of the children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: None of the children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 3 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the children with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: None of the children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Not applicable.

The local board agreed that the health needs of the 8 children/youths were not being met.

### Education

5 of the 8 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program and 3 children were under the age of 5.

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

## Ready by 21

### ➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

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

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

The local board agreed that 2 of the 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)

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. Consent was unknown for the 1 child/youth with a plan of adoption.

## Adoptive Placement, Services and Resources (None)

### Pre-Adoptive Placement (None)

The 1 child/youth with a plan of adoption was not placed in a pre-adoptive home.

### Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources

Not applicable

### Adoptive Recruitment

The local board found that the local department did not have documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 1 child/youth not placed in a pre-adoptive home.

### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Not applicable.

## Miscellaneous Findings

### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 8 cases had a CASA.

## Risk and Safety

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

### Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	5	4
No	3	4

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	5	4
Unsupervised		

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent	5	4
Other		

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



Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	5	4

The local board found that 5 of the 8 children/youths had siblings in care and all 5 had visits with their siblings in care.

### Barriers

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- No service agreement with youth.
- No service agreement with parents.
- Annual physicals not current.
- Dentals not current.
- Vision not current.

### 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 8 children reviewed.

## Dorchester County



Dorchester County had a total of 10 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 7 cases
- Non Relative Adoption: 1 case
- APPLA: 2 cases

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 10 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court identified concurrent permanency plans for 5 of the 10 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent plans set by the court for the 5 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (2 cases)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 2 cases)

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

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

## Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 10 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department made efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process in 9 of the 10 cases reviewed and had a signed service agreement for 9 cases. 1 case was a Post TPR child under the age of 14.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 9 signed cases.

## Placement/Living Arrangement

Number of Cases	Placement
2	Regular Foster Care
1	Restricted (Relative) Foster Care
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
4	Residential Group Home
1	Therapeutic Group Home
1	Independent Living Residential Program

In 2 of the 10 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions 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 10 cases reviewed.

## Placement Stability

In 6 of the 10 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. All 6 cases had 1 placement change.

The local department held family involvement meetings for the placement changes for all 6 cases.

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

- 1 case(s) had the same level of care
- 5 case(s) were in less restrictive placements

The local board found that the primary positive reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- Transition towards a permanency goal: 5 cases

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

- Placement services were adequate to support the provider: Yes, for 5 cases
- Placement from shelter or temporary placement: 1 case

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

- Yes: All 6 cases

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 5 of the 10 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 10 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 9 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 10 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 9 of the 10 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files
- Prescription Medication: 7 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 7 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 10 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 10 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable, none of the 10 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 10 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 10 children/youths.

The local board found that the health needs of 9 of the 10 children/youths had been met.

### Education

All 10 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program.

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

## Ready by 21

### ➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 7 cases)

1 of the 7 youths was employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience and 2 were unable to participate due to mental health reasons.

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

### ➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 7 cases)

The local board agreed that 6 of the 7 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

### ➤ Housing(Transitioning Youth aged 20 – 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. Consent was unknown for the 1 child/youth with a plan of adoption.

## Adoptive Placement, Services and Resources (None)

### Pre-Adoptive Placement (None)

Not applicable.

### Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources

Not applicable.

### Adoptive Recruitment

The local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 1 child/youth not placed in a pre-adoptive home. The documented effort was with Wednesday's Child.

### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post adoptive services were needed for the 1 child/youth not placed in a pre-adoptive home. The services that were needed were medical, mental health, educational and Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) services.

The local board found that the post adoptive services were appropriate for the child/youth.

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 10 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	6	3
No	4	7

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised	6	3

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other		

Where do Visits Occur ?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home	2	3
LDSS Visitation Center		

Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement	3	
Other	1	

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	1
No	5	2

The local board found that 4 of the 10 children/youths had siblings in care and all 4 had visits with their siblings in care.

### Barriers

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- No service agreement with parents.
- No service agreement with youth.
- Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
- Youth non-compliant with medication.
- Other independence barrier.
- Vision not current.

### 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 10 children/youths reviewed.

## Frederick County



Frederick County had a total of 6 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

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

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 6 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the 6 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (2)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 2 cases)

Both APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were 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				1		
1 to 2 years	1					
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						2

### Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 2 of the 6 cases reviewed.



Service Agreements: The local department made efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process in 5 of the 6 cases reviewed and had a signed service agreement for 5 cases. 1 case was a Post TPR child under the age of 14.

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

### Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
2	Formal Kinship Care
1	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
1	Regular Foster Care
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Therapeutic Group Home

In 4 of the 6 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions 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 6 cases reviewed.

### Placement Stability

In 3 of the 6 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 2 cases had 2 placement changes and 1 case had 4 or more changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 1 of the 3 cases.

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

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

The local board found that the primary positive reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- Transition towards a permanency goal: 1 case

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

- Behavioral: 1 case
- Other: 1 case

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

- Placement services were adequate to support the provider: Yes, for 2 cases

- Placement services were not adequate to support the provider: Yes, for 1 case

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

- Yes: All 3 cases

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 3 of the 6 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 5 children/youths had received a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 4 children/youths had received a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 6 children/youths had received a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 2 of the 6 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 2 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 youth with mental health issues was transitioning out of care and did not have an identified plan to obtain services in the adult mental health care system.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 1 child/youth had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the child/youth.

The local board agreed that the health needs of 3 of the 6 children/youths had been met. 1 child/youth refused to comply with standard health exams.

## Education

2 of the 6 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 1 youth had graduated high school, 1 refused to attend school and 2 were under age 5.

The local board agreed that the 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)

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

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

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

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

### ➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 1 case)

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

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

The local board agreed that the youth was being appropriately prepared for transitioning 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. The 1 child with a plan of adoption was under the age of consent.

## Adoptive Placement, Services and Resources (1 case)

### Adoptive Placement (1 case)

### Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources

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

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

- 1 case(s) 16 to 20 months

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

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

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

### Adoptive Recruitment

Not applicable, child already placed in a pre-adoptive home.

### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post-adoptive services were needed for the child. The service that was needed was medical.

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

### Miscellaneous Findings

#### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

5 cases had a CASA.

#### Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 6 cases.

### Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	3	3
No	3	3

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

Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented		1

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	3	1
Unsupervised		2

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	2	
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member	1	1
Foster Parent		
Other		

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		2
No	3	1

The local board found that 2 of the 6 children/youths had siblings in care and both had visits with their siblings in care.

### Barriers

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- Other child/youth related barrier.
- Annual physicals not current
- Vision exams not current

### 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 6 children reviewed.

## Harford County



Harford County had a total of 20 regular case reviews that were conducted with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 12 cases
- Non Relative Adoption: 5 cases
- Non Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- APPLA: 2 cases

### Permanency

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

The local juvenile court did not identify concurrent permanency plans for any of the 20 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (2)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 2 cases)

Both APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were 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 to 2 years	7					1
2 to 3 years	3					
3 years or more	2			5		1

### Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 14 of the 20 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department made efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process in 15 of the 20 cases reviewed and had a signed service agreement for 14 cases. 5 cases were Post TPR children under the age of 14.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 14 signed cases.

### Placement/Living Arrangement

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
3	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
2	Regular Foster Care
1	Restricted (Relative) Foster Care
1	Treatment Foster Care (private)
3	Residential Group Home
3	Residential Treatment Center
1	Own Dwelling
3	Diagnostic Center
2	Trial Home Visit (LA)
1	Unapproved Living Arrangement (LA)

In 6 of the 20 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

### Placement Stability

In 12 of the 20 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 7 cases had 1 placement change and 5 cases had 2 placement changes.

The local department held family involvement meetings for the placement changes for 5 of the 12 cases.

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

- 3 case(s) had the same level of care
- 4 case(s) were in less restrictive placements
- 5 case(s) were in more restrictive placements

The local board found that the primary positive reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- Transition towards a permanency goal: 3 cases

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes were;

- Provider home closed: 1 case

- Incompatible match: 1 case

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes were;

- Behavioral: 6 cases

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

- Placement services were adequate to support the provider: All 12 cases

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

- Yes: All 12 cases

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of the 20 children/youths had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 16 children/youths had received a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 18 children/youths had received a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 15 children/youths had received a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 12 of the 20 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 16 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 16 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 18 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 17 of the 18 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable, none of the youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had substance abuse problems.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 18 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 17 of the 18 children/youths.



The local board agreed that the health needs of 12 of the 20 children/youths were being met. 2 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

### Education

17 of the 20 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 2 youths had graduated high school and 1 child was under the age of 5.

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

### Ready by 21

#### ➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 9 cases)

2 of the 9 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience and 4 youths were not able to participate due to mental health reasons

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

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

The local board agreed that 7 of the 9 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

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

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

The local board agreed that the youth was being appropriately prepared for transitioning out of care.

### Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 3 children/youths with a plan of adoption consented and 2 were under the age of consent.

### Adoptive Placement, Services and Resources (5 cases)

#### Adoptive Placement (5 cases)

4 of the 5 children/youths with an adoption plan were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple for 2 cases and a single female for the other 2 cases. The relationships to the pre-adoptive children/youths were non-relative foster parents for the 4 cases.

Lengths of time in the pre-adoptive placements were as follows:

- 1 case(s) from 10 to 12 months
- 3 case(s) from 21 months or more

A home study was completed and approved for the 4 cases.

The local board agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive families to meet the identified needs of the 4 children/youths.

The local board agreed that the pre-adoptive placements were appropriate for the 4 cases.

### Adoptive Recruitment

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 1 child/youth not placed in a pre-adoptive home.

The local board agreed that the adoptive recruitment efforts were appropriate.

### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post-adoptive services were needed for all 5 children/youths. The services that were needed were medical, mental health and educational for all 5 children/youths.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for the 5 children/youths.

### Miscellaneous Findings

#### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

11 cases had a CASA.

#### Risk and Safety

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

#### Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	13	2

No	7	18
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Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week	1	
More than once a week	2	1
Once a month	2	1
More than once a month	4	
Quarterly	4	
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	9	
Unsupervised	4	2

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	9	
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other		

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	
No	12	2

The local board found that 12 of the 20 children/youths had siblings in care and all 12 had visits with their siblings in care.

## Barriers

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
- Appeal by birth parents.
- Not maintaining contact with the department.
- Other independence barrier.
- Other education barrier.
- Other placement barrier.
- Inadequate preparation for independence.
- Annual physicals not current.
- Vision not current.
- Dentals not current.

## 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 the 20 children/youths reviewed.

## Montgomery County



Montgomery County had a total of 28 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 12 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 1 case
- Non Relative Adoption: 6 cases
- Non Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- APPLA: 8 cases

### Permanency

The local boards agreed with the department's permanency plan for 26 of the 28 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the 28 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (8 Cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (4)
- Transition to adult supportive living arrangement (4)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 8 cases)

5 of the 8 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local boards agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 5 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						4
7 to 11 months	1				1	1
1 to 2 years	9	1		3		
2 to 3 years				1		2
3 years or more	2			2		1

## Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 8 of the 28 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department made efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process in 15 of the 28 cases reviewed and had a signed service agreement for 11 cases. 6 cases were Post TPR children under the age of 14.

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

## Placement/Living Arrangement

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Formal Kinship Care
5	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
1	Restricted Foster Home (Relative)
7	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Non Relative
2	Runaway (LA)
10	Trial Home Visit (LA)
1	Unapproved Living arrangement (LA)

In 10 of the 28 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local boards agreed with the department's placement plan for 25 of the 28 cases reviewed.

## Placement Stability

In 14 of the 28 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 4 cases had 1 placement change, 3 cases had 2 changes and 7 cases had 3 changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 6 of the 14 cases.

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

- 7 case(s) had the same level of care
- 4 case(s) were in less restrictive placements
- 3 case(s) was a runaway

The local boards found that the primary positive reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- Transition towards a permanency goal: 11 cases

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

- Behavioral: 1 case
- Runaway: 2 cases

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

- Placement services were adequate to support the provider: 14 cases

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

- Yes: for 11 cases
- N/A – runaway, sila, or other non-provider living arrangement: 3 cases

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 6 of the 28 children/youths had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 23 children/youths had received a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 14 children/youths had received a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 13 children/youths had received a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 6 of the 28 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 13 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 9 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 16 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 16 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 youth with a mental health issue was transitioning out of care and had an identified plan to obtain services in the adult mental health care system and 1 youth did not have an identified plan.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 10 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 9 of the 10 children/youths.

The local boards agreed that the health needs of 9 of the 28 children/youths had been met. 2 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

### Education

23 of the 28 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 1 youth had graduated high school, 3 refused to attend school and 1 child was under the age of 5.

The local boards agreed that all the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready by 21

#### ➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 12 cases)

3 of the 12 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience and 2 youths were unable to participate due to mental health reasons.

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

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

The local boards agreed that 4 of the 12 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living and 2 youths were unable to participate due to mental health reasons.

#### ➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 2 cases) (Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Housing had been specified for 1 of the 2 youths who were transitioning out of care.

The local boards agreed that the youths were being appropriately prepared for transitioning 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 with a plan of adoption consented, 2 consented with conditions and 4 children were under the age of consent.

### Adoptive Placement, Services and Resources (7 cases)

#### Adoptive Placement (7 cases)

5 of the 7 children/youths with an adoption plan were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-



adoptive family structure comprised of a married couple for the 5 children/youths. The relationships to the pre-adoptive children/youths were relative foster parents for 1 case and non relative foster parents for 4 cases.

Lengths of time in the pre-adoptive placements were as follows:

- 1 case(s) from 10 to 12 months
- 2 case(s) from 16 to 20 months
- 2 case(s) from 21 months or longer

A home study was completed and approved for 1 of the 5 cases.

The local boards agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive families to meet the identified needs of the children/youths in all 5 cases.

The local boards agreed that the pre-adoptive placements were appropriate for the 5 cases.

### Adoptive Recruitment

The local boards found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 2 children/youths not placed in a pre-adoptive home. The adoptive resources were a foster mother and a paternal grandmother.

The local boards agreed that the adoptive recruitment efforts were appropriate for both children/youths.

### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post-adoptive services were needed for all 7 adoption cases. The services that were needed were medical for all 7 cases and mental health for 2 cases.

The local boards agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for all 7 cases.

### Miscellaneous Findings

#### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

14 cases had a CASA.

#### Risk and Safety

The local boards agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 26 of the 28 cases.

#### Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	13	7
No	15	21

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	5	2
Unsupervised	8	5

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	3	2
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent	2	
Other		

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	2	2
No	11	5

The local boards found that 20 of the 28 children/youths had siblings in care and all 20 had visits with their siblings in care.

## Barriers

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
- Lack of concurrent planning
- No service agreement with parents.
- No service agreement with youth.
- Annual physicals not current.
- Dentals not current.
- Vision not current.
- Youth not enrolled in school.
- Youth not attending school or in GED program.
- Pre-Adoptive family cannot decide to adopt.
- Other child/youth related barrier.
- Other independence barrier.
- Other agency related barrier.
- Child/youth does not consent.
- No current IEP.
- No follow up on medical referrals.

## 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 25 of the 28 children reviewed.

## Prince George's County



Montgomery County had a total of 36 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 12 cases
- Non Relative Adoption: 10 cases
- APPLA: 14 cases

### Permanency

The local boards agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 36 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 3 of the 36 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent plans set by the court for the 3 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (14 Cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (14)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 14 cases)

7 of the 14 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local boards agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 7 cases.

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

### Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement

meetings prior to entry for all 36 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department made efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process in 22 of the 36 cases reviewed and had a signed service agreement for 4 cases. 2 cases were Post TPR children under the age of 14.

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

#### Placement/Living Arrangement

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Formal Kinship Care
6	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
19	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
3	Therapeutic Group Home
2	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Residential Treatment Center
2	Own Dwelling
2	Trial Home Visit (LA)

In 23 of the 36 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local boards agreed with the department's placement plan for all 36 cases reviewed.

#### Placement Stability

In 19 of the 36 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. All 19 cases had 1 placement change.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for all 19 cases.

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

- 10 case(s) had the same level of care
- 5 case(s) were in less restrictive placements
- 3 case(s) were in less restrictive placements
- 1 case(s) was a runaway

The local board found that the primary positive reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- Transition towards a permanency goal: 4 cases
- Placement with relatives: 1 case
- Placement with siblings: 1 case

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes were:

- Provider home closed: 2 cases
- Allegation of provider abuse/neglect: 2 cases
- Incompatible match: 6 cases

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

- Behavioral: 3 cases
- Delinquent behavior: 2 cases
- Other: 3 cases

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

- Placement services were adequate to support the provider: Yes for all 19 cases

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

- Yes: for all 19 cases

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 7 of the 36 children/youths had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 24 children/youths had received a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 23 children/youths had received a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 16 children/youths had received a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 11 of the 36 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 18 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 15 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 21 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 19 of the 21 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 5 youths with mental health issues, transitioning out of care, did not have an identified plan to obtain services in the adult mental health care system.
- Substance Abuse: 2 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.

- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 5 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 4 of the 5 children/youths.

The local boards agreed that the health needs of 13 of the 36 children/youths had been met.

### Education

19 of the 36 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 3 youths were enrolled in a GED program, 4 were in college, 5 had graduated high school and 5 children were under the age of 5.

The local boards agreed that all the children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready by 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 26 cases)

10 of the 26 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience, and 3 youths were unable to participate due to mental health reasons.

The local boards agreed that 10 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 26 cases)

The local boards agreed that 17 of the 26 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living and 3 youths were unable to participate due to mental health reasons.

- Housing (Transitioning Youth – 9 cases)  
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Housing had been specified for 2 of the 9 youths who were transitioning out of care.

The local boards agreed that the youths were being appropriately prepared for transitioning 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 with a plan of adoption consented, 2 had mental health issues and 6 were under the age of consent.

## Adoptive Placement, Services and Resources (10 cases)

### Adoptive Placement (10 cases)

6 of the 10 children/youths with an adoption plan were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure comprised of a married couple for 4 cases and a single female for 2 cases. The relationships to the pre-adoptive children/youths were relative foster parents for 1 case and non relative foster parents for 5 cases.

Lengths of time in the pre-adoptive placements were as follows:

- 1 case(s) from 1 to 3 months
- 2 case(s) from 4 to 6 months
- 1 case(s) from 16 to 20 months
- 2 case(s) from 21 months or longer

A home study was completed and approved for the 6 cases.

The local boards agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive families to meet the identified needs of the children/youths in all 6 cases.

The local boards agreed that the pre-adoptive placements were appropriate for the 6 cases.

### Adoptive Recruitment

The local boards found that the local department did not have documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 4 children/youths not placed in a pre-adoptive home.

The local boards agreed that the adoptive recruitment efforts were not appropriate for the 4 children/youths.

### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post-adoptive services were needed for 2 of the 6 children/youths placed in an adoptive home. The services that were needed were medical for both cases.

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

## Miscellaneous Findings

### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

8 cases had a CASA.



## Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 34 of the 36 cases.

### Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	21	13
No	15	23

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week	3	1
More than once a week	2	2
Once a month	4	1
More than once a month	7	4
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented	5	5

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	5	
Unsupervised	16	13

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	5	
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other		

Where do Visits Occur ?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home	11	13
LDSS Visitation Center	1	
Public Area	5	
Child's/Youth's Placement	2	
Other	2	

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	13	13
No	8	

The local boards found that 10 of the 36 children/youths had siblings in care and all 10 had visits with their siblings in care.

### Barriers

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- Lack of concurrent planning
- No service agreement with parents.
- No service agreement with youth.
- TPR not granted.
- Pre-Adoptive resources not identified.
- Annual physicals not current.
- Dentals not current.
- Vision not current.
- Youth not employed and transitioning out of care.
- Inadequate preparation for independence.
- Transitional housing has not been identified.

### 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 35 of the 36 children reviewed.

## Saint Mary's County



Saint Mary's County had a total of 9 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 8 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 1 case

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the local department's permanency plan for all 9 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 2 of the 9 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent plans set by the court for the 2 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (None)

Not Applicable.

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – None)

Not Applicable.

### 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	4	1				
2 to 3 years	1					
3 years or more	3					

## Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 9 cases.

Service Agreements: The local department made efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process in 6 of the 9 cases reviewed and did not have a signed service agreement for any of the 9 cases.

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
7	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Residential Treatment Center
1	Diagnostic Center

In 6 of the 9 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions 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 9 cases reviewed.

## Placement Stability

In 4 of the 9 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 3 cases had 1 placement change and 1 case had 2 placement changes.

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

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

- 2 case(s) had the same level of care
- 2 case(s) were in more restrictive placements

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes were:

- Allegation of provider abuse/neglect: 1 case
- Incompatible match: 2 cases

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

- Placement services were adequate to support the provider: Yes for all 4 cases

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

- Yes: for all 4 cases

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of the 9 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 8 children/youths had received a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 9 children/youths had received a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 8 children/youths had received a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 7 of the 9 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 3 of the 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 3 children/youths.

The local board agreed that the health needs of 7 of the 9 children/youths were being met.

## Education

8 of the 9 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 1 child was under the age of 5.

The local board agreed that the children/youths enrolled in school or other educational/vocational program were all being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

- Employment (age 14 and older – 1 case)

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

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

The local board agreed that the youth was receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

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

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. None of the 9 children/youths had a plan of adoption.

Adoptive Placement, Services and Resources (None)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (None)

Not applicable

Pre-Adoptive Services and Resources (None)

Not applicable.

Adoptive Recruitment (None)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (None)

Not applicable.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 8 of the 9 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	8	4
No	1	5

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week		
More than once a week		
Once a month	2	4
More than once a month	6	
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	1	
Unsupervised	7	4

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other	1	

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	7	4
No	1	

The local board found that 6 of the 9 children/youths had siblings in care and all 6 had visits with their siblings in care.

## Barriers

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- Lack of concurrent planning.
- No service agreement with parent.
- No current Safe-C/G.
- Annual physicals not current.

## 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 9 children/youths reviewed.



## Somerset County



Somerset County had a total of 10 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 6 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 2 cases
- Non Relative Adoption: 2 cases

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 6 of the 10 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 7 of the 10 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent plans set by the court for the 7 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (None)

Not applicable.

### Permanent Connections (None)

Not applicable.

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

## Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 10 cases.

Service Agreements: The local department made efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process in 8 of the 10 cases reviewed and had a signed service agreement for 5 cases. 2 cases were Post TPR children under the age of 14.

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

## Placement/Living Arrangement

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Regular Foster Care
6	Restricted (Relative) Foster Care
1	Residential Group Home
2	Trial Home Visit (LA)

In 1 of the 10 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions 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 10 cases reviewed.

## Placement Stability

In 8 of the 10 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. All 8 cases had 1 placement change.

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

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

- 8 case(s) were in less restrictive placements

The local board found that the primary positive reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- Transition towards a permanency goal: 8 cases

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

- Placement services were adequate to support the provider: Yes for all 8 cases

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

- Yes: for all 8 cases

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that none of the 10 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 8 children/youths had received a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 8 children/youths had received a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 3 children/youths had received a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 3 of the 10 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 5 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 7 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 7 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the 7 youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 7 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 7 children/youths.

The local board agreed that the health needs of 3 of the 10 children/youths were being met.

### Education

6 of the 10 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 4 children were under the age of 5.

The local board agreed that the children/youths enrolled in school or other educational/vocational

program were all being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 1 case)

1 youth was employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

The local board agreed that the 1 youth was receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – None)

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

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. 1 child/youth consented and 3 were under the age of consent.

### Adoptive Placement, Services and Resources (4 cases)

#### Pre-Adoptive Placement (4 cases)

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

Lengths of time in the pre-adoptive placements were as follows:

- 2 case(s) from 7 to 9 months
- 1 case(s) from 21 months or more

A home study had not been completed and approved for 2 of the 3 cases.

The local board agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive families to meet the needs of the 3 children/youths.

The local board found that the pre-adoptive placements were appropriate for the 3 cases.

### Adoptive Recruitment

The local board found that the local department did not have documented efforts to find an

adoptive resource for the 1 child/youth not placed in a pre-adoptive home.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post adoptive services were needed for the 3 children/youths placed in pre-adoptive homes. The services needed were medical, mental health and educational for all 3 cases, and respite for 1 case.

The local board found that the post adoptive services were appropriate for the 3 cases.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

1 case had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 10 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	4	
No	6	10

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week		
More than once a week		
Once a month	4	
More than once a month		
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	4	
Unsupervised		

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	4	
Other Agency Representative		

Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other		

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	4	

The local board found that 8 of the 10 children/youths had siblings in care and all 8 had visits with their siblings in care.

### Barriers

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- Pre-Adoptive resources not identified.
- No service agreement with parents.
- Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
- Other family related barrier.
- No current IEP.
- Other education barrier.
- Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
- Annual physicals not current.
- Dentals not current.
- Vision not current.
- No follow up on medical referrals.

### 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 10 children/youths reviewed.

## Washington County



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

- Reunification: 5 cases
- Non Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- Non Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- APPLA: 3 cases

### Permanency

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

The local juvenile court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 1 of the 12 cases.

The local department was not implementing the concurrent plan set by the court for the 1 case.

### Category of APPLA plan (3 Cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (3)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 3 cases)

None of the 3 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified.

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

## Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department made efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process in 8 of the 12 of the cases reviewed and had a signed service agreement for 5 cases. 2 cases were Post TPR children under the age of 14.

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

## Placement

Number of Cases	Placement
2	Pre-finalized Adoptive Home
7	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Therapeutic Group Home
1	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Residential Treatment Center

In 11 of the 12 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions 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 12 cases reviewed.

## Placement Stability

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

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

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

- 3 case(s) were in less restrictive placements

The local board found that the primary positive reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- Transition towards a permanency goal: 1 case

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

- Placement services were adequate to support the provider: Yes for all 3 cases



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

- Yes: for all 3 cases

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of the 12 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 12 children/youths had received a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 9 children/youths had received a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 8 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 7 of the 12 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 9 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 8 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 8 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 8 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the 8 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 1 of the 2 children/youths.

The local board agreed that the health needs of 6 of the 12 children/youths were being met.

### Education

9 of the 12 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 2 youths had graduated high school and 1 child was under the age of 5.

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

## Ready by 21

### ➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 5 cases)

None of the 5 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

The local board agreed that 4 of the 5 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

### ➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 1 case)

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

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

The local board agreed that the youth was not being appropriately prepared for transitioning 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 with a plan of adoption consented and 1 child was under the age of consent.

## Adoptive Placement, Services and Resources (3 cases)

### Pre-Adoptive Placement (3 cases)

2 of the 3 children/youths with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The family structure was comprised of a married couple in both cases. The relationships to the pre-adoptive children/youths were non relative foster parents in both cases.

Lengths of time in the pre-adoptive placements were as follows:

- 2 case(s) 21 months or more

A home study was completed and approved in both cases.

The local board agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive families to meet the identified needs of both children/youths.

### Adoptive Recruitment

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 1 child/youth not placed in a pre-adoptive home. The adoptive resource for the child/youth was Adopt-a-kid.

The local board agreed that the adoptive recruitment efforts were appropriate.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post adoptive services were needed for the 3 children/youths placed in an adoptive home. The services needed were medical for 3 cases and mental health for 2 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)

4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	8	5
No	4	7

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	5	1
Unsupervised	3	4

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	5	1
Other Agency Representative		

Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other		

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	2	4
No	6	1

The local board found that 4 of the 12 children/youths had siblings in care and all 4 had visits with their siblings in care.

### Barriers

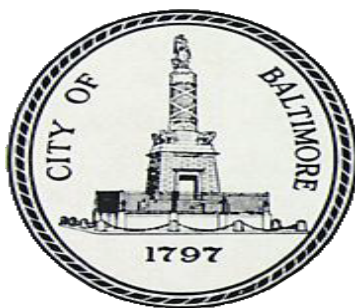
The following barriers/issues were identified:

- Pre-Adoptive resources not identified.
- Dentals not current.
- Vision not current.
- Youth not employed and transitioning out of care.
- Inadequate preparation for independence.

### 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 11 of the 12 children/youths reviewed.

## Baltimore City



Baltimore City had a total of 70 regularly scheduled cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 11 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 6 cases
- Non Relative Adoption: 9 cases
- Non Relative Custody & Guardianship: 10 cases
- APPLA: 34 cases

### Permanency

The local boards agreed with the department's permanency plan for 60 of the 70 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the 70 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (34 cases)

The cases with a plan of APPLA had the following categories of APPLA:

- Emancipation/Independence (33)
- Transition to an Adult Supportive Living Arrangement (1)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 34 cases)

32 of the 34 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local boards agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 32 cases.

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

## Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 14 of the 70 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department made efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process in 53 of the 70 cases reviewed and had a signed service agreement for 35 cases. 7 cases were post TPR children under age 14.

The local boards agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 35 signed cases.

## Placement/ Living Arrangement

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
1	Formal Kinship Care
10	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
6	Regular Foster Care
1	Restricted (Relative) Foster Care
19	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
2	Teen Mother Program
3	Therapeutic Group Home
16	Independent Living Residential Program
2	Residential Treatment Center
3	Non-Relative
3	Own Dwelling
1	Other
1	Own Home/Apartment (LA)
1	Runaway (LA)
1	Unapproved Living Arrangement (LA)

In 44 of the 70 cases reviewed the children were placed in their home jurisdictions in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local boards agreed with the department's placement plan for 67 of the 70 cases reviewed.

## Placement Stability

In 28 of the 70 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 6 cases had 1 placement change, 14 cases had 2 placement changes, 4 cases had 3 placement changes and 4 cases had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 5 of the 28 cases.

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

- 8 case(s) had the same level of care

- 18 case(s) were in less restrictive placements
- 1 case(s) Unknown, information unavailable
- 1 case(s) was a runaway

The local boards found that the primary positive reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- Transition towards a permanency goal: 15 cases

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes were:

- None

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

- Behavioral: 7 cases
- Runaway: 3 cases
- Other: 3 cases

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

- Placement services were adequate to support the provider: Yes, for 27 cases

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

- Yes: for 23 cases
- No: for 1 case
- N/A – runaway, sila, or other non-provider living arrangement: 3 cases

#### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 13 of the 70 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 44 children/youths had received a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 31 children/youths had received a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 25 children/youths had received a current dental exam.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 13 of the 70 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 31 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Psychotropic Medication: 22 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.

- Mental Health Issues: 51 children/youths had mental health issues
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 37 of the 51 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 4 out of 51 youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care and had was an identified plan to obtain services in the adult mental health care system and 11 did not have a plan.
- Substance Abuse: 11 children/youths had a substance abuse problems.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 3 of the 11 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 39 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 33 of the 39 children/youths.

The local boards agreed that the health needs of 13 of the 70 children/youths had been met. 9 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

### Education

31 of the 70 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 7 youths were in college, 17 youths had graduated high school, 8 children/youths refused to attend school, and 7 children were under the age of 5.

The local boards agreed that all of the 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 – 58 cases)

26 of the 58 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience, and 1 youth was medically fragile and unable to participate.

The local boards agreed that 26 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 58 cases)

The local boards agreed that 42 of the 58 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

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

Housing had been specified for 5 of the 20 youths transitioning out of care.



The local boards agreed that 14 youths were being appropriately prepared for transitioning out of care.

### Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 4 children/youths consented to adoption, 2 consented with conditions, 6 children were under the age of consent and 3 were unknown.

### Adoptive Placement, Services and Resources (15 cases)

#### Adoptive Placement (15 cases)

10 of the 15 children/youths with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The family structure was comprised of a married couple for 6 cases and a single female for 4 cases. The relationships to the pre-adoptive children were relative foster parents for 5 cases and non-relative foster parents for the other 5 cases.

Lengths of time in the pre-adoptive placements were as follows:

- 3 case(s) from 12 to 15 months
- 7 case(s) 21 months or more

A home study was completed and approved in 8 of the 10 cases.

The local boards agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive families to meet the identified needs of the children/youths in all 10 cases.

The local boards found that the pre-adoptive placements were appropriate for the 10 cases.

#### Adoptive Recruitment

The local boards found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for 3 of the 5 children/youths not placed in a pre-adoptive home. The adoptive resources were Adoptions Together, Digital Me, Ready and Waiting, Wednesday's Wonderful Child, Adopt Us Kids and a cousin for the 3 cases.

The local boards agreed that the adoptive recruitment efforts were appropriate.

#### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources

Post-adoptive services were needed for 13 cases. The services that were needed were medical for 12 cases, mental health services for 2 cases, educational services for 3 cases and respite services for 1 case.

The local boards agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for the 13 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 67 of the 70 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	33	20
No	37	50

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		1
Once a week	8	6
More than once a week	3	1
Once a month	6	2
More than once a month	11	4
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented	5	6

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	6	
Unsupervised	27	20

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	2	
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member	3	
Foster Parent	1	
Other		

Where do Visits Occur ?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home	19	15
LDSS Visitation Center	2	

Public Area	6	3
Child's/Youth's Placement	4	2
Other	2	

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	10	6
No	23	14

The local boards found that 24 of the 70 children/youths had siblings in care and all 24 had visits with their siblings in care.

### Barriers

The following barriers/issues were identified:

- Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
- No service agreement with youth.
- No service agreement with parents.
- Inadequate preparation for independence.
- Lack of concurrent planning.
- Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
- Missing or lack of documentation.
- Non compliant with service agreement.
- Other child/youth related barrier.
- Other education barrier.
- Youth not attending school or in GED program.
- No current IEP.
- Child has behavior problems in the home.
- Not following up on referrals.
- Refusal to locate or maintain employment.
- Issues related to substance abuse.
- Youth not enrolled in school.
- Youth not receiving adequate services.
- Annual physicals not current.
- Dentals not current.
- Vision not current.
- No follow up on medical referrals.
- Other physical health barrier.
- Transitional housing has not been identified.
- Youth not employed and transitioning out of care.
- Inadequate preparation for independence (general).
- Other independence barrier.
- Other placement barrier.
- Youth has not been assessed for mental health concerns.
- Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy.
- Youth non-compliant with medication.
- No current Safe C/G.

## Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local boards determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 60 of the 70 children/youths reviewed.

### 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 Resources (DHR), Social Services Administration and the Citizens Review Board for Children.

- Each (LDSS) is required to continue to bring the child's complete case records and/or records containing requested supportive documentation to all CRBC case reviews.
- Each (LDSS) should continue supplying CRBC with the most recent and current contact information 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 youth with a permanency plan of reunification.
- Each (LDSS) is required to include the paternal family members as possible resources for all youth who are in out-of-home-placement care.

### Independent Living

- Each (LDSS) is required to improve their efforts with preparing youth that have a plan of APPLA to meet their employment goals.

### Permanent Connections

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

### Adoption

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

1st Quarter 2019  
CRBC Metrics

Total # of Children - Scheduled on the Preliminary:	565
Total # of Children - Closed, Non Submission & Rescheduled:	239
Total # of Children - Eligible for Review:	326
Total # of Children - Reviewed at the Board:	293
Total # of Children - Not Reviewed at the Board:	33
Percentage of Children Reviewed for the Period:	90%
Percentage of Children Not Reviewed for the Period:	10%
Recommendation Reports - Number Sent	293
Recommendation Reports - Number Sent on Time	278
Recommendation Reports - Percent Sent on Time	95%
Recommendation Reports - Number Received – DSS Response	199
Recommendation Reports - Percent Received % - DSS Response	68%
Recommendation Reports - Number Received on Time - DSS Response	86
Recommendation Reports - Percent Received on Time % - DSS Response	43%
Number of Boards Held	43
Recommendation Reports - # of DSS Agreement	198
Recommendation Reports - Percent of DSS Agreement	99%
Recommendation Reports - # of DSS Disagreement	1
Recommendation Reports - Percent of DSS Disagreement	1%
Recommendation Reports - # Blank/Unanswered	0
Recommendation Reports - Percent # Blank/Unanswered	0%
Percentage of REUNIFICATION Children Reviewed for the Period:	39%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT – Adoption Children Reviewed:	3%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT – C & G Children Reviewed:	2%
Percentage of ADOPTION Children Reviewed for the Period:	18%
Percentage of CUSTODY/GUARDIANSHIP Children Reviewed for the Period:	5%
Percentage of APPLA Children Reviewed for the Period:	32%

The State Board

Dr. Theresa Stafford

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

Vacant

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

Delores Alexander (Vice Chairperson)

Circuit 3: Representing Baltimore and Harford Counties

Nettie Anderson-Burrs (Chairperson)

Circuit 4: Representing Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties

Denise Messineo

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

Sandra "Kay" Farley

Circuit 6: Representing Frederick and Montgomery Counties

Davina Richardson

Circuit 7: Representing Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, and St. Mary's Counties

Beatrice Lee

Circuit 8: Representing Baltimore City

Rita Jones

Circuit 8: Representing Baltimore City

Sarah Walker

Circuit 8: Representing Baltimore City

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Issued - Pursuant to Family Law Article Section §5-539.1(b)(3)