



FIRST QUARTER FISCAL YEAR 2024 REPORT (July 1st 2023 – September 30th 2023)

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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

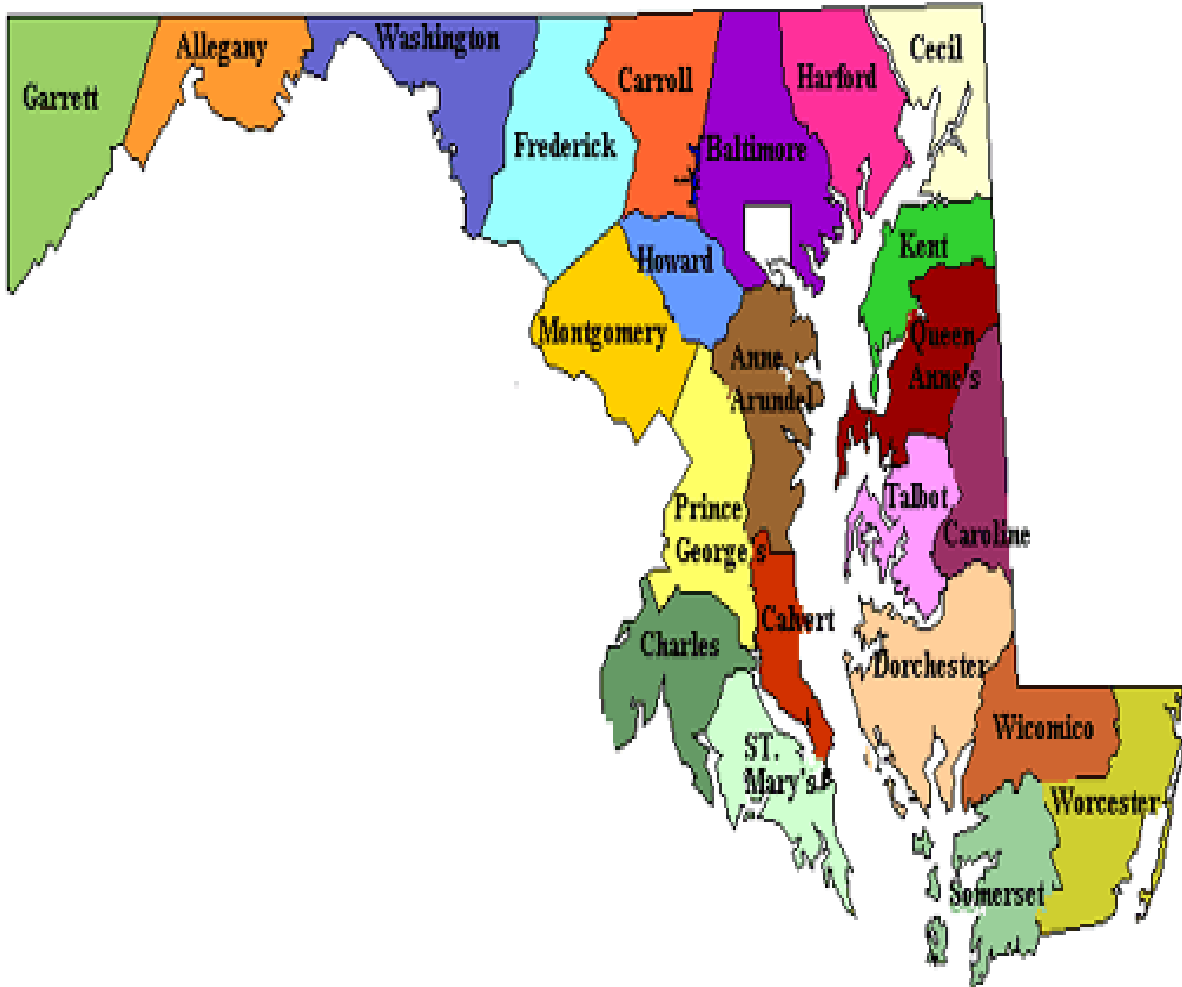
CRBC would like to acknowledge the commitment, dedication, passion and service of all stakeholders on behalf of Maryland's most vulnerable children including:

- ★ 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 2024.



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, Dorchester, Garrett, Howard, Kent, Queen Anne, Wicomico and Worcester counties. Therefore, this report only contains review findings and recommendations for the 15 jurisdictions including Baltimore City that had regularly scheduled reviews.

Targeted Review Criterion

The Social Services Administration (SSA) and the Citizens Review Board for Children (CRBC) together have created a 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 2024 Case Review Statistics

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

Jurn #	County	Non Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non Relative C & G	Reunification	Relative Placement for Adoption	APPLA	TOTAL	# Boards Held
01	Allegany	1	1	0	0	0	1	3	1
02	Anne Arundel	0	0	2	0	0	2	4	1
03	Baltimore County	3	1	1	9	0	6	20	6
04	Calvert	1	0	0	1	0	2	4	1
07	Cecil	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	1
08	Charles	1	0	0	0	0	3	4	1
10	Frederick	3	0	0	2	0	2	7	2
12	Harford	3	0	0	5	0	4	12	3
15	Montgomery	8	3	2	3	0	4	20	5
16	Prince George's	0	0	2	9	0	9	20	5
18	Saint Mary's	3	0	2	0	0	0	5	1
19	Somerset	0	0	0	3	0	1	4	1
20	Talbot	1	1	0	0	0	2	4	1
21	Washington	0	0	1	2	0	4	7	2
49	Baltimore City	8	5	5	8	3	15	41	12
15	Statewide Totals	37	11	15	42	3	52	160	43
	Percentages	23%	7%	9%	26%	2%	33%	100%	

CRBC conducted a total of 160 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 2024.

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

- Permanency Plan - (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (E))
- Placement Plan - (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (I))
- Progress towards Permanent Placement - (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F))
- Case Planning
- Health/Mental Health (family article 5-545)
- Education (family article 5-545)

- Ready by 21
 - Employment (14 and older)
 - Independent Living Skills (14 and older)
 - Housing
(Transitioning Youth age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the time of the review)
- Permanent Connections
- Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)
- Adoptive Services
 - Pre-Adoptive Placement
 - Adoptive Recruitment
 - Post-Adoption Services
- Child's Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings
- Miscellaneous Findings
- Typical Statewide Barriers/Issues to Permanency
 - No Service Agreement with parents
 - No current safety risk
 - Lack of concurrent planning
 - Lack of follow-up (general)
 - Youth placed outside home jurisdiction
 - Youth has not been measured for mental health
 - Other physical health barrier
 - Other service resource barrier
 - Other placement barrier
 - Non-compliance with service agreement
 - Youth engages in risky behavior
 - Health concerns
 - Lack of documentation
- Typical Statewide Barriers/Issues to Adoption
 - Pre-adoptive resources not identified
 - Child in pre-adoptive home, but adoption not finalized
 - Efforts not made to move towards finalization
 - Other court related barrier

Total Reviewed (160)

Gender Totals

Male	Female
93 (58%)	67 (42%)

Gender by Plan

Male (93)

Non Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non Relative C & G	Reunification	APPLA	Relative Placement for Adoption
27 (29%)	7 (8%)	6 (6%)	30 (32%)	21 (23%)	2 (2%)

Female (67)

Non Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non Relative C & G	Reunification	APPLA	Relative Placement for Adoption
10 (15%)	4 (6%)	9 (13%)	12 (18%)	31 (46%)	1 (2%)

Ethnicity Overall

African American	Caucasian	Asian	Other
90 (56%)	60 (38%)	1 (1%)	9 (6%)



Age Range by Permanency Plan

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

AGE RANGE	RU	RA	RG	AD	CG	AP	Totals
1_age 0 thru 5	4	2	0	12	2	0	20
2_age 6 thru 10	7	1	3	17	1	0	29
3_age 11 thru 13	8	0	3	5	1	0	17
4_age 14 thru 16	12	0	5	2	8	2	29
5_age 17 thru 19	10	0	0	1	3	23	37
6_age 20	1	0	0	0	0	27	28
Totals	42	3	11	37	15	52	160

Allegany County



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

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

Permanency

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

The local Juvenile Court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any case.

The local department was not implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for any of the cases.

Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

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

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Formal Kinship Care
1	Psychiatric Respite
1	Therapeutic Group Home

In 2 of the 3 cases reviewed the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in a setting that was in close proximity to their community which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for all 3 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

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

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

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

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

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

- 1 case(s) behavioral issues
- 1 case(s) unrelated to behavioral issues

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

- Yes, for 1 case

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

- Yes, for 2 cases

Health/Mental Health

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

- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 2 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 2 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the 3 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes for the 2 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 3 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 2 of the 3 children/youths had been met.

Education

3 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 3 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade.

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

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

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 1 case)

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

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

1 youth was receiving required independent living skills.

1 youth was receiving required Independent Living skills.

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

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

Not applicable.

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (1 Case)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (None)

Not applicable.

Adoptive Recruitment (1 Case)

The local boards found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the child/youth not placed in a pre-adoptive home. The adoptive resources were Wednesday's Wonderful Kids and the child/youth was listed on Adopt-Us-Kids.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 Case)

Post adoptive services were needed for 1 Child/Youth. The service that was needed was medical.

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 3 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	2
No	2	1

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

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

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	1	1
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement		1
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	1
No		1

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that none of the children/youths had siblings in care.

Summary

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



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

- Non Relative Custody/Guardianship: 2 case(s)
- APPLA: 2 case(s)

Permanency

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

The local Juvenile Court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the 4 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 boards agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 1 case.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 1 case. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for all 4 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 1 of the 4 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

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

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

Placement Stability

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

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

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

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

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

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

- 1 case(s) related to threats of harm to self or others

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

- Yes, for 3 cases

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

- Yes, for 3 cases

Health/Mental Health

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

- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 3 children/youths with mental health issues, were transitioning out of care and had an identified plan to obtain mental health services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: None.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: Yes, for 2 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

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

Education

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

3 of the 4 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 1 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

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

The local board agreed that all 2 of the 4 children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 4 cases)

1 child/youth were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 child/youth were referred to summer or year-round training and/or employment opportunities.

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

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

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

2 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

The local board agreed that 1 youth 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)

The Board did not agree with transitional housing plan for 1 youth.

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (None)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (None)

Not applicable.

Adoptive Recruitment (None)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (None)

Not applicable.

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 4 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	2
No	3	2

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

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

Not Applicable. None of the 4 children/Youths had siblings in care.

Summary

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



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

- Reunification: 9 cases
- Non-Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- APPLA: 6 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 1 case

Permanency

The local boards agreed with the department's permanency plan for 18 of the 20 cases reviewed.

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (6 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (6)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 6 cases)

All 6 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local 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	6			2		1
7 to 11 months	1		1		1	1
1 to 2 years						2
2 to 3 years	1					
3 years or more	1			1		2
Totals → 20	9		1	3	1	6

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 6 of the 20 eligible cases. 4 cases was a Post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for the 6 eligible cases.

The local boards agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 6 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
1	Regular Foster Care
9	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Therapeutic Group Home
3	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Residential Treatment Center
2	Own Home/Apartment (LA)
1	Other (LA)

In 14 of the 20 cases reviewed the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local boards agreed with the department's placement plan for all 20 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 9 of the 20 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 7 cases had 1 placement change, 1 case had 2 changes, and 1 had 4 or more changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 7 out of 9 cases.

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 case(s) provider home closed
- 1 case(s) was an allegation of provider abuse/neglect

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

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

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

- Yes, for 3 cases

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

- Yes, for 9 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 5 of the 20 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 10 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 7 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 11 children/youths had a current dental exam.

- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 4 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 4 of the 20 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 11 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 11 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 8 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 8 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: Yes, 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 13 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 14 children/youths have a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 11 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the 13 children/youths with mental health issues, were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: 3 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 of 3 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 11 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 9 of the 11 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 20 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local boards found that the health needs of 5 of the 20 children/youths had been met.

Education

16 of the 20 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 14 of the 20 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade and 2 youths was in

college. 3 youths refused to attend school and 1 youth did not graduated high school.

10 of the 14 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 7 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 1 of the 14 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local boards agreed that 15 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 11 cases)

5 of the 11 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth were unable to participate due to mental health reasons.

1 youth were unable to participate due to other reasons.

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

3 youth(s) were over 20 years old and were employed and earning a living wage.

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

➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 11 cases)

5 youths were unable to receive appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

3 youths had completed a life skills assessment.

5 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

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

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

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

Alternative housing options were provided for both youths.

The local boards agreed with the transitional housing plan for 2 youths.

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 1 child/youth was unable to consent due to mental health reasons. 1 child/youth was medically fragile and unable to consent. 3 children/youth were under age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (6 cases)

3 of the 6 children/youths with a plan of adoption was placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple and the relationship to the pre-adoptive child was a non-relative foster parent(s). The remaining 3 cases(s) were concurrent plan for non-relative adoption.

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

- 3 case(s) from 7 to 21 months

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

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

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (6 cases)

Post adoptive services were needed for 6 children/youths. The service that was needed was medical.

The local boards found that the post adoptive service was appropriate for 6 children/youths.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local boards 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	16	15
No	3	4

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week		
More than once a week	1	
Once a month	2	2
More than once a month	2	3
Quarterly	3	1
Yes, but undocumented	7	9

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	7	
Unsupervised	9	14

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

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home	9	15
LDSS Visitation Center	1	
Public Area	4	
Child's/Youth's Placement	2	
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	9	10
No	7	5

Siblings/Visits

The local boards found that 7 of the 20 children/youths had siblings in care. 4 of the children/youths had 1 sibling in care and 2 had 2 siblings in care and 6 had 3 siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 7 children/youths. 6 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who are not in care.

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 17 of the 20 children/youths reviewed.



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

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

Permanency

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (2 Case)

Emancipation/Independence: 1 case
Transition to an Adult: 1 case

Permanent Connections (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				1		
2 to 3 years	1					
3 years or more						1
Totals →4	1			1		2

Case Planning

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

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

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

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

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

Placement Stability

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

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 1 of the 4 cases.

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

- 1 case(s) was a runaway

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 case(s) behavioral issues

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

- No, for 1 case

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

- Yes, for 1 case

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that none of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 3 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 1 child/youth had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 1 child/youth had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 1 child/youth reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 1 of the 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 2 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 2 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 2 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 4 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Yes, 1 child/youth with mental health issues was transitioning out of care.

- Substance Abuse: 2 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of none of the 4 children/youths had been met.

Education

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

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

A current progress report/report card was not available for review for the 1 of the 3 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 4 cases)

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

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

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

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

4 youths had completed a life skills assessment.

3 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

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

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

Housing was specified for 1 youth transitioning out of care and information on alternative housing options were provided.

The Board agreed with the transitional housing plan for 1 youth.

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (1 case)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

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

Adoptive Recruitment (None)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

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)

1 case had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	3	2
No	1	2

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

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

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	1	1
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement	1	
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	1
No	1	

Siblings/Visits

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

Summary

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



Cecil County had a total of 5 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 5 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department’s permanency plan for all 5 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified no concurrent permanency plan for any case.

The local department was not implementing any concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the case.

Category of APPLA plan (none)

Permanent Connections (none)

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department did not have a signed service agreement for 1 eligible case. 4 children/youths were a Post-TPR child under the age of 14. No Effort was made to involve the family in the service agreement process were made for 1 eligible case.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Regular Foster Care
4	Own Dwelling

1 child/youth was placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department’s placement plan for all 5 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

None of the 5 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review.

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 4 of the 5 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 4 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 5 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: None.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that none of the 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 2 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for

the 2 children/youths.

- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 3 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: No child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 5 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 5 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 5 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the 5 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 5 children/youths had substance abuse issues.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not Applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for both children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 5 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 4 of the 5 children/youths had been met.

Education

5 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 5 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade.

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

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

The local board agreed that 4 of the 5 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – none)
- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – none)
- Housing (Transitioning Youth – None)
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Not applicable.

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (5 cases)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (5 cases)

All 5 children/youths with a plan of adoption was placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple and the relationship to the pre-adoptive child was a non-relative foster parent(s).

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

- 5 case(s) from 21 months or more

A home study was not completed for all 5 cases and approved for the case.

The local boards agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive family to meet the identified needs of the child in all 5 cases reviewed.

The local boards agreed that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for 5 children/youths.

Adoptive Recruitment (None)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (5 cases)

Post-adoptive services were needed for 1 of the 5 the children/youths. The service that was needed was mental health.

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

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 5 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	5	5

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised		

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No		

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 5 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for all 5 children/youths. 5 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all the 5 children/youths reviewed.



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

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

Permanency

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

The local Juvenile Court identified no concurrent permanency plan for any case.

The local department was not implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court.

Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

- Emancipation (2)
- Transition to an adult (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 3 cases)

All 3 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for 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						
2 to 3 years				1		1
3 years or more						1
Totals →4				1		3

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department had no signed service agreement for the 3 eligible cases. 1 child/youth was a Post-TPR child under the age of 14.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Pre-Finalized Adoption
2	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Independent Living Residential Program

In 2 of the 4 cases reviewed the child/youth was placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their community which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

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

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

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

- 1 case(s) was a less restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- 1 case(s) was transitioning towards permanency goal

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

- No, for the case

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

- Yes, for the case

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 3 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: No child/youth had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: No child/youth had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: No child/youth had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: It is unknown if follow-up health concerns were met.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that none of the children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for 3 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for both children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 3 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 3 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 2 of the 3 children/youths.

Citizens Review Board for Children

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- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable, none of the 3 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: Yes, for 1 child/youth.
- 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.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of the 4 children/youths had not been met.

Education

None of the children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 3 children/youths graduated high school and 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

1 of the 3 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 of the youth employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience is relevant to career field.

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

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

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

3 youths were receiving required independent living skills to adequately prepare for independent living when they leave out of home care.

3 youths had completed a life skills assessment.

The local board agreed that 3 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 youth transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options were provided for the youth.

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

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

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

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

- 1 case(s) 21 months or more

A home study was not completed and approved for the child.

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 found that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for the child.

Adoptive Recruitment (1 case)

Not applicable. The child had already been placed in a pre-adoptive home.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

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)

Yes, 1 case had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised	2	2

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	2
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement		
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	2	2
No		

Siblings/Visits

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

Summary

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



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

- Reunification: 2 cases
- Non-Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- APPLA: 2 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department’s permanency plan for 6 of the 7 cases reviewed.

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

The local department was not implementing the concurrent permanency plans set by the local Juvenile Court for any case.

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			2		
7 to 11 months				1		
1 to 2 years						
2 to 3 years						2
3 years or more						
Totals →7	2			3		2

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 5 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 5 cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	Regular Foster Care
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Therapeutic Group Home
1	Independent Living Residential Program
2	Residential Treatment Center

3 of the 7 children/youths reviewed was placed in their home jurisdiction in a setting that was in close proximity to their community which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for 6 of the 7 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

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

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

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

- 1 case(s) change unrelated to behavior
- 1 case(s) change related to behavior
- 1 case(s) child request removal

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

- 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 5 of the 7 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 5 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 3 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 5 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 5 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 2 of the 7 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 5 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 5 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 5 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 5 children/youths.

- Refused Prescribed Medication: Yes. 2 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 7 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 7 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 7 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: All 7 youths with mental health issues who were transitioning out of care had an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 5 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 5 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 7 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 1 of the 7 children/youths had been met.

Education

5 of the 7 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 5 were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 2 youths not enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program had already graduated high school.

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

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 3 of the 5 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 5 children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 5 cases)

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

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

1 child/youth over 20 years is employed and earning living wage.

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

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

3 youths received appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

1 youth were unable to receive appropriate services due to mental health reasons and 1 youth was unable to receive services for being mentally fragile.

5 youths had completed a life skills assessment.

4 youths was receiving required independent living skills.

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

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

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 did not want to be adopted.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

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

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placements were 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 families to meet the identified needs of the children/youths for the 1 case.

The local board found that the pre-adoptive placements were appropriate for 1 case.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

None.

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 7 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

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

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	2	2
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	1	1
Child's/Youth's Placement		
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	7	7

Siblings/Visits

None of the children/youths had siblings in care.

Summary

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



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

- Reunification: 5 cases
- Non-Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- APPLA: 4 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department’s permanency plan for 10 of 12 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court did not identify any concurrent plan.

The local department was not implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the case.

Category of APPLA plan (4 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (4)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 4 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 9 of the 12 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 4 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 5 cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
3	Regular Foster Care
2	Restrictive Relative Foster Care
2	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Therapeutic Group Home
3	Own Dwelling
1	None

In 10 of the 12 cases reviewed the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

In 4 of the 12 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 3 changes.

It is unknown if the local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 4 cases.

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

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

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

- 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 3 of the 12 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 10 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 8 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 7 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 5 child/youth requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 6 of the 12 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 6 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 5 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 7 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 6 children/youths.

- Refused Prescribed Medication: Yes. 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 7 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 8 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 7 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 youth with mental health issues who was transitioning out of care, did not have an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system. 1 youth with mental health issues who was transitioning out of care had an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: 1 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 8 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 7 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 2 of the 12 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 8 of the 12 children/youths had been met.

Education

8 of the 12 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 7 of the children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade and 1 were in college. 3 children/youths not enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program had already graduated high school and 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

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

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 3 of the 8 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 5 of the 8 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 7 cases)

4 of the 7 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience. All 4 youths were working in field relevant to career choice.

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

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

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

5 youths had completed a life skills assessment.

4 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

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

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 3 cases)
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Housing had been specified for 2 of the 3 youths transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options were provided for all 3 youths.

The local board agreed with the transitional housing plan for 2 youths.

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 2 children/youths consented to adoption and 1 was under the age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (3 cases)

3 children/youths with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The family structure

was comprised of a married couple for each of the 3 cases. The relationship to the pre-adoptive children/youths was a non-relative foster parent(s) for the 3 cases.

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

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

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 the children/youths for all 3 cases.

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

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 11 of the 12 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	3	2
No	9	10

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

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

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	
No		

Siblings/Visits

The local boards found that 4 of the 12 children/youths had siblings in care. 2 of the children/youths had 1 sibling in care and 4 had 2 siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 1 child/youth. 1 child/youth with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them.



Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 11 of the 12 children/youths reviewed.

Citizens Review Board for Children

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

- Reunification: 3 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody/Guardianship: 3 cases
- Non-Relative Adoption: 8 cases
- Non-Relative Custody/Guardianship: 2 cases
- APPLA: 4 case

Permanency

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

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

The local department was not implementing the concurrent permanency plans set by the local Juvenile Court for any of the cases.

Category of APPLA plan (4 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (4)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 4 case)

All 4 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local boards agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 4 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	1		1	5		1
7 to 11 months	2		1			
1 to 2 years				1		
2 to 3 years			1			2
3 years or more				2	2	1
Totals →20	3		3	8	2	4

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 4 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 13 of 20 cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

In 11 of the 20 cases reviewed the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

In 6 of the 20 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 4 cases had 2 placement changes and 2 cases had 3 placement changes.

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

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 case(s) provider request
- 1 case(s) provider home closed
- 3 case(s) placement not due to provider issue
- 1 case(s) founded incident of provider abuse/neglect

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

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

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

- Yes, for 6 of the 6 cases

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

- Yes, for all 6 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 10 of the 20 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 15 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 16 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 16 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 18 children/youths requiring follow-ups.

- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 12 of the 20 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 7 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 7 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 5 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 5 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 3 of the children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 12 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 15 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 15 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 12 youth with mental health issues who were transitioning out of care had an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system and 1 youth did not have a plan.
- Substance Abuse: 2 children/youth have substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for both children/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 6 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 6 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local boards found that the health needs of 13 of the 20 children/youths had been met.

Education

18 of the 20 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 18 were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth refused to attend school and 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

6 of the 18 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 6 had a

copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 12 of the 18 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local boards agreed that 16 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 8 cases)

4 of the 5 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience and 3 youths were working in field relevant to career field of choice.

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

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

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

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

6 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare them for independent living when they exit home care.

4 youths had completed a life skills assessment.

4 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

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

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

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

Alternative housing options were provided for 1 youth.

The local board agreed with the transitional housing plan for 1 of 2 youths.

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. Consent was unknown for the child/youth with a plan of adoption.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (8 cases)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (8 cases)

8 children/youths with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple for 4 cases and a single female for the other 4 cases. The relationship to the pre-adoptive children/youths was a non-relative foster parent for the all 8 cases.

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

- 8 case(s) 21 months or more

A home study was completed and approved for 7 of the 8 cases.

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

The local boards agreed that the pre-adoptive placements were appropriate for all 8 cases.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local boards 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	11	6
No	9	14

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	6	2
Unsupervised	5	4

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	3	
No	17	20

Siblings/Visits

The local boards found that 11 of the 20 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 11 children/youths. 11 of the 11 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 13 children/youths had visits with their siblings who were not in care.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 19 of the 20 children/youths reviewed.



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

- Reunification: 9 cases
- Non-Relative Custody/Guardianship: 2 cases
- APPLA: 9 cases

Permanency

The local boards agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 20 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified concurrent permanency plans for 3 cases.

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

Category of APPLA plan (9 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (8)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 9 cases)

7 of the 9 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	1				1	1
7 to 11 months						2
1 to 2 years	5				1	2
2 to 3 years	1					2
3 years or more	2					2
Totals → 20	9				2	9

Case Planning

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

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

The local boards agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 6 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

In 14 of the 20 cases reviewed the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local boards agreed with the department's placement plan for all 20 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 2 of the 20 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the

review. 2 cases had 1 placement change.

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

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

- 2 case(s) other

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

- No, for 2 cases

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

- Yes, for 2 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 6 of the 20 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 13 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 7 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 11 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 18 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 5 of the 20

children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.

- Prescription Medication: 6 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 6 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 2 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 8 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 7 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 6 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: 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 3 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 20 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local boards found that the health needs of 4 of the 20 children/youths had been met.

Education

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

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

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

The local boards agreed that 15 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 15 cases)

3 of the 15 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 15 cases)

2 youth was unable to receive appropriate services due to being medically fragile.

6 youths had completed a life skills assessment.

11 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

The local boards agreed that 10 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

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

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

Alternative housing options were provided to all 4 youths.

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

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

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

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

- 1 case(s) 21 months or more

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

Post-adoptive services were needed for the case. The service that was needed was mental health.

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

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

11 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local boards 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	12	9
No	8	10

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	4	1
Unsupervised	8	8

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

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home	8	9
LDSS Visitation Center	1	
Public Area	1	
Child's/Youth's Placement	2	1
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	7	7
No	5	3

Siblings/Visits

The local boards found that 11 of the 20 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 10 children/youths. 11 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 8 children/youths had visits with their siblings who were not in care.



Summary

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

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St. Mary's County had a total of 5 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 2 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 5 cases reviewed.

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

The local department was not implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for both cases.

Category of APPLA plan (none)

Permanent Connections (none)

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department did not have signed service agreements for any of the 5 cases. No efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 5 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
3	Regular Foster Care
2	Therapeutic Group Home

In all 5 cases reviewed the child/youth was not placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their community which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department’s placement plan for all 5 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 1 of the 5 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 1 case had 1 placement change.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 1 case.

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

- 1 case(s) were same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included

- 1 case(s) provider home closed

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

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

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

- No, for 1 case

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

- Yes, for 1 case

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 children/youths reviewed had developmental or specials needs.
- Current Physical: 5 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: None of the children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 5 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: None.
- Completed Medical Records: It is unknown if any of the children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 5 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for 5 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 4 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for 4 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 4 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the 4 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: 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 4 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 5 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 5 children/youths had not been met.

Education

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

1 of the 4 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade did not have a 504 or IEP plan.

A current progress report/report card was not available for review for the 4 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

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

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 1 case)

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

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

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

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

The youth was not receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

The youth had not completed a life skills assessment.

The youth was not receiving required independent living skills.

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

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

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. 3 children/youths was under the age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (3 cases)

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

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

- 1 case(s) 12 to 15 months
- 2 case(s) 21 months or more

A home study was not completed and approved for the 3 cases.

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

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

Adoptive Recruitment (None)

Not applicable. Child/youth already place in pre-adoptive home.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (3 cases)

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

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

No case had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for the 5 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	
No	4	5

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	1	
Unsupervised		

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	1	

Siblings/Visits

The local boards found that all 5 children/youths had siblings in care.. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for all 5 children/youths. All 5 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 5 children/youths had visits with their siblings who were not in care.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 5 of the 5 children/youths reviewed.



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

- Reunification: 3 case
- APPLA: 1 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department’s permanency plan for 1 of 4 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified no concurrent permanency plan for any case.

The local department was not implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for any of the cases.

Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 1 of 4 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had no signed service agreement for any case. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 2 of 4 cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
1	Therapeutic Group Home
1	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Residential Treatment Center
1	None

The 4 children/youths reviewed were not placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

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

It is unknown if the local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for any case reviewed.

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

- 1 case(s) were less restrictive placements
- 3 case(s) were more restrictive placements

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

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

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

- Yes, for 4 cases

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

- Yes, for 4 cases

Health/Mental Health

- **Developmental/Special Needs:** The local department reported that 3 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- **Current Physical:** 2 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- **Current Vision:** 3 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- **Current Dental:** 2 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- **Follow-up Health Concerns:** It is unknown the local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by physician requiring follow-ups.
- **Completed Medical Records:** The local departments reported that none of the 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- **Prescription Medication:** 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- **Prescription Medication Monitored:** Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 3 children/youths.
- **Psychotropic Medication:** 4 children/youths was taking psychotropic medication.
- **Psychotropic Medication Monitored:** Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 4 children/youths.
- **Refused Prescribed Medication:** 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.

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

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

Education

3 of the 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 2 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. The 1 youth not enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program had already graduated high school.

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

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

The local board agreed that 1 of 3 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

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

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

opportunities.

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

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

All 3 youths had completed a life skills assessment.

None of the youths were receiving required independent living skills. 1 youth was in juvenile

The local board agreed that 1 of 3 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

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

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

Alternative housing options were provided to 1 youth.

The local boards did not agree with the transitional housing plan for 1 youth.

The local boards did not agree that the 1 youth were being appropriately prepared to transition out of care.

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (None)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (None)

Not applicable.

Adoptive Recruitment (None)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (None)

Not applicable.

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 4 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		1
No	4	3

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised		1

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No		1

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that none of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 2 of 4 children/youths reviewed.



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

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

Permanency

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

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

The local department was not implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the case.

Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (2)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 2 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

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

The Board agreed that the service agreement was appropriate for the 2 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
1	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Own Dwelling

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

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

Placement Stability

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

The local department hold a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for the 1 of 2 cases.

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

- 2 case(s) were less restrictive placements

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) was transitioning towards permanency goal

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

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

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

- Yes, for all 2 cases

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

- Yes, for all 2 cases

Health/Mental Health

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

- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was not being monitored at least quarterly for the 1 child/youth.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: Yes. 3 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 3 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 3 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 2 the 3 children/youths with mental health issues and were transitioning out of care had no identified plan.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 3 of 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

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

Education

1 child/youth reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. The 1 child/youth were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 2 youths graduated high school and 1 child/youth was under age of 5.

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

It is unknown if a current progress report/report card was available for review for 1 child/youth in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

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

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

1 of the 3 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 of the youth employed was participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice and was earning a living wage.

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

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

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

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

2 youths had completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood and were receiving required independent skills.

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

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

Housing has been specified for 2 youths transitioning out of care.

Information on alternative housing options was provided to 2 youths transitioning out of care.

The Board agreed with the transitioning housing plan for both youths.

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

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

Citizens Review Board for Children

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non-relative foster parent for the case.

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

- 1 case(s) 21 months or more

A home study was completed and approved for the 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 case.

Adoptive Recruitment (1 case)

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 1 child/youth not placed in a pre-adoptive home. The adoptive recruitment resource was Wednesday’s Wonderful Kids and the child/youth was listed on Adopt-Us-Kids.

The local board agreed that the adoptive recruitment efforts were appropriate for the 1 case.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

Post-adoptive services were not needed for the case.

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 4 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised	1	1

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	1	1
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement		
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	1	1

Siblings/Visits

None of the children/youths had siblings in care.



Barriers/Issues

The local board identified the following barriers to permanency or issues: 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 4 children/youths reviewed.



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

- Reunification: 2 cases
- Non Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- APPLA: 4 cases

Permanency

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

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (4 cases)

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

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 4 cases)

All 4 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 4 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

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

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 1 signed case.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
1	Formal Kinship Care
1	Regular Foster Care
1	Residential Group Home
3	Therapeutic Group Home
1	Other

None of the 4 of 7 children/youths reviewed were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

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

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement change for 1 case.

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

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

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

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

- Yes, for the 3 cases(s)

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

- Yes, for the 3 case(s)

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 5 of the 7 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 6 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 3 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 6 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: In 2 cases the local department did not ensure that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by physician.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 4 of the 7 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 5 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 5 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 4 children/youths was taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 4 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 7 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 7 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 6 of 7 children/youths.

- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 2 children/youths transitioning out of care did not have an identified plan.
- Substance Abuse: 2 children/youths had substance abuse problems.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for both children/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 4 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 1 of the 7 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 4 of the 7 children/youths had been met.

Education

4 of the 7 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 4 were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 1 child/youth refused to attend school and 2 youths graduated high school.

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

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 3 of the 4 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 5 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 6 cases)

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

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

2 of the 6 youths were referred to summer or year-round training and/or employment opportunities. 1 youth was not eligible to participate due to age.

2 youths 20 years and older were employed and earning a living wage.

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

➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 6 cases)

4 of the 6 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

5 of the 6 youths completed life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

4 of the 6 youth received required independent living skills.

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

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

Housing was specified for 2 youths transitioning out of care.

Information on alternative housing options were provided to both youths.

The Board agreed with the transitional housing plan for both youths.

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (None)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (None)

Not applicable.

Adoptive Recruitment (None)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (None)

Not applicable.

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 7 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	5	1
No	2	6

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

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

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

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

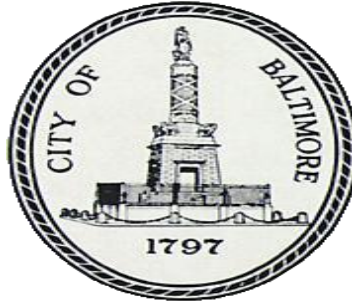
Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	3	1

Siblings/Visits

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

Summary

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



Baltimore City had a total of 41 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 8 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 3 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody/Guardianship: 5 cases
- Non-Relative Adoption: 8 cases
- Non-Relative Custody/Guardianship: 5 cases
- APPLA: 12 cases

Permanency

The local boards agreed with the department's permanency plan for 39 of the 41 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 9 cases.

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

Category of APPLA plan (15 cases)

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

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 15 cases)

8 of the 12 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local boards agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 8 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months		2	3		3	3
7 to 11 months	2			2	2	
1 to 2 years		1		4		2
2 to 3 years	4		2	1		1
3 years or more	2			1		6
Totals → 41	8	3	5	8	5	12

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 25 of the 41 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 8 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 16 cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
3	Formal Kinship Care
3	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
5	Regular Foster Care
6	Restrictive (Relative) Foster Care
9	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
2	Teen Mother Program
6	Independent Living Residential Program
2	Other
5	None

In 19 of the 41 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 boards agreed with the department's placement plan for 38 of the 41 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 14 of the 41 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the

review. 8 cases had 1 placement change, 3 cases had 2 changes, 2 cases had 3 changes and 1 case had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 9 of the 14 cases.

The following levels of care were found for the 14 most recent placement changes:

- 3 case(s) were less restrictive placements
- 1 case(s) were more restrictive placements
- 9 case(s) had the same level of care
- 1 cases(s) child on runaway

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 4 case(s) were transitioning towards permanency goal
- 2 case(s) placement with relatives
- 8 cases(s) move did not occur for positive reason

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

- 6 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 4 case(s) behavior issues
- 2 case(s) delinquent behavior
- 1 case(s) runaway
- 1 case(s) other

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

- Yes, for 9 of the 14 cases

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

- Yes, for 13 of the 14 cases

Health/Mental Health

- **Developmental/Special Needs:** The local department reported that 15 of the 41 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.

- Current Physical: 24 children/youths had a current physical exam.
 - Current Vision: 15 children/youths had a current vision exam.
 - Current Dental: 15 children/youths had a current dental exam.
 - Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 16 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
 - Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 11 of the 41 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
 - Prescription Medication: 12 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
 - Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 12 children/youths.
 - Psychotropic Medication: 9 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
 - Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 9 children/youths.
 - Refused Prescribed Medication: Yes. 8 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
 - Mental Health Issues: 26 children/youths had mental health issues.
 - Mental Health Diagnosis: 24 of the 26 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
 - Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 16 of the 26 children/youths.
 - Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 13 youths with mental health issues who were transitioning out of care had an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
 - Substance Abuse: 6 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
 - Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 4 of the 6 children/youths.
 - Behavioral Issues: 13 children/youths had behavioral issues.
 - Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 8 of the 13 children/youths.
 - Standard Health Exams: 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.
- The local boards found that the health needs of 12 of the 41 children/youths had been met.

Education

25 of the 41 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 24 of the 25 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade, 1 youth was enrolled in a GED program. 6 youths graduated high school and 4 children/youths refused to attend school. 5 children/youth were under the age of 5.

10 of the 25 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 9 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 14 of the 25 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local boards agreed that 24 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 22 cases)

11 of the 22 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth was unable to participate due to mental health reasons and 2 youths were in a juvenile justice facility.

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

The local boards agreed that 12 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 22 cases)

1 youth was not receiving appropriate services due to mental health reasons and 2 youths were in a juvenile justice facility.

10 youths had completed a life skills assessment.

10 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

The local boards agreed that 9 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 4 cases)

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

Housing had been specified for 3 of 4 youths transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options were provided for 3 youths.

The local boards agreed with the transitional housing plan for 3 youths.

The local boards agreed that 3 youths were being appropriately prepared to transition out of care.

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 1 child/youth with a plan of adoption, consented.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (1 case)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (9 cases)

9 children/youths with a plan of adoption was placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple for 2 cases, unmarried couple for 1 case, single female for 5 cases and single male for 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was foster parent relative for 3 cases, foster parent non-relative for 5 cases, and foster parent-fictive kin for 1 case.

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

- 1 case(s) 12 to 15 months
- 8 case(s) 21 months or more

A home study was completed for 8 of the 9 placements and approved for the case.

The local boards agreed that appropriate services and support were in place for all 9 placements for pre-adoptive family to meet the identified needs of the children/youths.

The local boards agreed that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for all 9 cases.

Adoptive Recruitment (None)

Not applicable. Child/youth already placed in pre-adoptive home.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (3 cases)

Post-adoptive services were needed for 1 of 3 children/youths. The services that were needed for the 1 child/youth was marked as other.

The local boards found that the post-adoptive services were appropriate for all 3 cases.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 41 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local boards agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 28 of the 41 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	15	6
No	25	33

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	6	1
Unsupervised	10	4

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	4	1
No	25	20

Siblings/Visits

The local boards found that 16 of the 41 children/youths had siblings in care. 11 children/youths had 1 sibling in care, 6 had 2 siblings and 4 had 4 siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 14 children/youths. 11 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 14 children/youths had visits with their siblings who were not in care.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 26 of the 41 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 have access at the time of the review to the child's complete case records and/or records containing requested supportive documentation to present at all CRBC case reviews.
- Each (LDSS) should continue supplying CRBC with the most recent and current contact information including emails for all interested parties, including professionals and family members.

Recommendations to All Local Departments of Social Services (LDSS)

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

Independent Living

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

Permanent Connections

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

Adoption

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

1st Quarter 2024 CRBC Metrics

Recommendation Reports to DSS - Number Sent:	160
Recommendation Reports to DSS - Number Sent on Time:	155
Recommendation Reports to DSS - Percentage Sent on Time:	97%
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Number of Responses Received: ¹	119
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Percentage of DSS Responses:	74%
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Number Received on Time:	67
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Percentage Received on Time	56%
Number of Boards Held	43
Recommendation Reports - Number of DSS Agreement:	115
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of DSS Agreement:	97%
Recommendation Reports - Number of DSS Disagreement:	3
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of DSS Disagreement:	3%
Recommendation Reports - Number of Blank/Unanswered: ²	1
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of Blank/Unanswered:	1%
Percentage of REUNIFICATION Children Reviewed for the Period:	26%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT - Adoption Children Reviewed:	2%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT - C & G Children Reviewed:	7%
Percentage of ADOPTION Children Reviewed for the Period:	23%
Percentage of CUSTODY/GUARDIANSHIP Children Reviewed for the Period:	9%
Percentage of APPLA Children Reviewed for the Period:	33%

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

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



CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children
The State Board

Nettie Anderson-Burrs (Chair)

Circuit 4: Representing Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties

Delores Alexander (Vice Chair)

Circuit 3: Representing Baltimore and Harford Counties

Dr. Theresa Stafford

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

Vacant

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

Vacant

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

Benia Richardson

Circuit 8: Representing Baltimore City



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References

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