CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Maryland.gov

SECOND QUARTER
FISCAL YEAR 2025
REPORT
(October 1st 2024 – December 31st 2024)

Citizens Review Board for Children
1100 Eastern Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21221 • Phone: (410) 238-1320 • Fax: (410) 238-1395
email: crbc.mail@maryland.gov website: http://dhr.maryland.gov/crbc

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Table of Contents

Our Mission Statement 3
Our Vision Statement 3
Discrimination Statement 3
Confidentiality 3
CRBC Acknowledgements 4
Introduction 5
Targeted Review Criterion 6
Permanency Plan Hierarchy 7
Family Centered Practice Model 7
2nd Quarter 2025 Case Review Statistics 8
Total Reviewed Statistics 10
Gender Totals 10
Gender By Plan 10
Ethnicity Overall 10
Age Range by Permanency Plan 11
Jurisdictional Case Reviews 12
Anne Arundel County 12
Baltimore County 20
Carroll County 28
Cecil County 35
Charles County 42
Frederick County 49
Harford County 55
Howard County 62
Montgomery County 69
Prince George's County 77
St. Mary County 86
Washington County 93
Wicomico County 100
Baltimore City 106
Recommendations to All LDSS 115
Independent Living 115
Permanent Connections 115
Adoption 115
CRBC Metrics 116
The State Board. 117
CRBC Staff 118
References 119

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

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
Citizens Review Board for Children

CRBC Acknowledgements

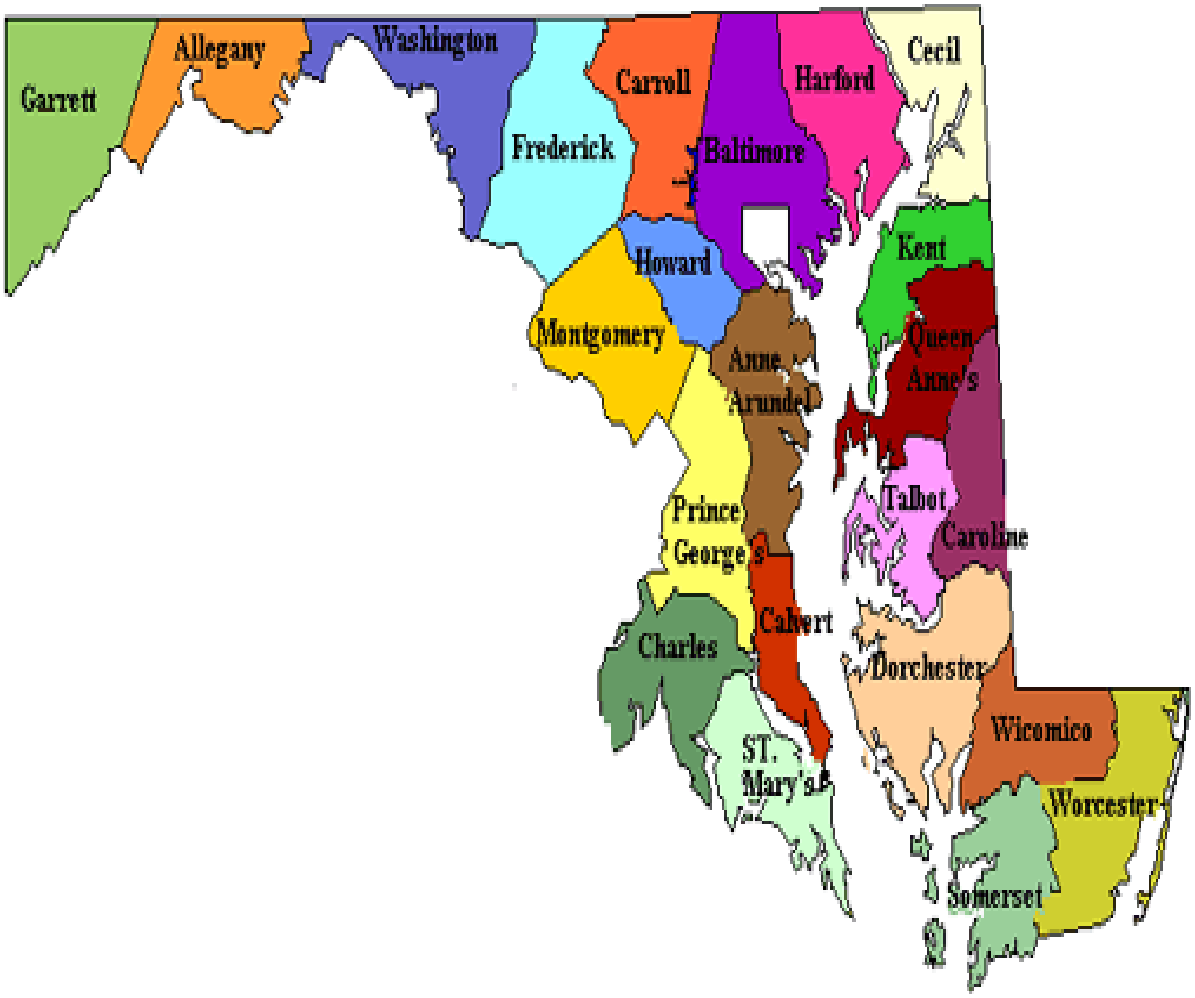
CRBC would like to acknowledge the commitment, dedication, passion and service of all stakeholders on behalf of Maryland's most vulnerable children including:

- ★ 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

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Introduction

The following pages contain data from CRBC's out-of-home-placement case review findings and recommendations for the 2nd Quarter of Fiscal Year 2025.



CRBC conducts regular out-of-home placement case reviews in all 24 Maryland jurisdictions, including Baltimore City throughout the year. For this quarterly report, the following counties did not have regularly scheduled case reviews during the quarter: Calvert, Caroline, Dorchester, Garrett, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot and Worcester counties. Therefore, this report only contains review findings and recommendations for 14 jurisdictions, including Baltimore City that had regularly scheduled reviews.

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Targeted Review Criterion

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

Reunification:

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

Adoption:

★ Existing plans of Adoption. CRBC will conduct a review of a child that has had a plan of Adoption for over 12 months. The purpose of the review is to assess the appropriateness of the plan and identify barriers to achieve the plan.

★ Newly changed plans of Adoption. CRBC will conduct a review of a child within 5 months after the establishment of Adoption as a primary permanency plan. The purpose is to ensure that there is adequate and appropriate movement by the local departments to promote and achieve the Adoption.

Another **P**lanned **P**ermanent **L**iving **A**rrangement (APPLA):

★ Already established plans of APPLA for youth 16 years of age and younger. CRBC will conduct a full review of a child 16 years of age and younger who has an established primary permanency plan of APPLA. The primary purpose of the review is to assess appropriateness of the plan and review documentation of the Federal APPLA requirements.

★ Newly established plans of APPLA. CRBC will conduct a review of a child within 5 months after the establishment of APPLA as the primary permanency plan. Local Boards will review cases to ensure that local departments have made adequate and appropriate efforts to assess if a plan of APPLA was the most appropriate recourse for the child.

Older Youth Aging Out

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

Re-Review Cases:

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

Permanency Plan Hierarchy

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

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

Family-Centered Practice Model

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

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

2nd Quarter 2025 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	Anne Arundel	1	1	1	1	0	7	11	3
02	Baltimore County	0	0	1	6	0	10	17	5
03	Carroll	1	0	0	2	0	1	4	1
04	Cecil	2	1	0	1	0	0	4	1
05	Charles	0	0	0	1	0	3	4	1
06	Frederick	2	1	0	0	0	1	4	1
07	Harford	0	1	0	1	0	2	4	1
08	Howard	0	0	0	1	0	3	4	1
09	Montgomery	5	0	2	6	0	11	24	6
10	Prince George's	4	0	1	2	0	8	15	4
11	St. Mary	1	0	1	3	0	0	5	1
12	Washington	0	0	0	2	0	1	3	1
13	Wicomico	0	1	0	0	0	2	3	1
14	Baltimore City	6	2	6	16	1	11	42	12
15	Statewide Totals	22	7	12	42	1	60	144	39
	Percentages	15%	5%	8%	29%	1%	42%	100%	

CRBC conducted a total of 144 individual out-of-home case reviews (each case reviewed represents 1 child/youth) in 14 Jurisdictions on 39 boards that held reviews during the 2nd quarter of fiscal year 2025.

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 (144)

Gender Totals

Male	Female
70 (49%)	74 (51%)

Gender by Plan

Male (70)

Non-Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non-Relative C & G	Reunification	APPLA	Relative Placement for Adoption
9 (13%)	4 (6%)	7 (10%)	21 (30%)	28 (40%)	1 (1%)

Female (74)

Non-Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non-Relative C & G	Reunification	APPLA	Relative Placement for Adoption
13 (18%)	3 (4%)	5 (7%)	21 (28%)	32 (43%)	0 (0%)

Ethnicity Overall

Asian	African American	Caucasian	Other
3 (2%)	90 (62%)	40 (28%)	11 (8%)

Age Range by Permanency Plan

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

AGE RANGE	RU	RA	RG	AD	CG	AP	Totals
1_age 0 thru 5	1	0	0	11	0	0	12
2_age 6 thru 10	15	0	2	5	3	0	25
3_age 11 thru 13	6	0	0	2	5	0	13
4_age 14 thru 16	13	1	4	2	4	1	25
5_age 17 thru 19	6	0	0	2	0	41	49
6_age 20	1	0	1	0	0	18	20
Totals	42	1	7	22	12	60	144

Jurisdictional Case Reviews

Anne Arundel County

Anne Arundel County had a total of 11 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 1 case
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Reunification: 1 case
- APPLA: 7 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 11 cases reviewed.

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (7 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence: 6 cases
- Transition to an adult: 1 case

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 7 cases)

All 7 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified, and the local board agreed that the connection was appropriate for 6 of 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	
7 to 11 months			1			1
1 to 2 years						3
2 to 3 years						3
3 years or more	1					
Totals →11	1		1	1	1	7

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 11 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 6 cases. 1 child/youth was a post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was made for 9 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements was appropriate for 5 of the 6 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
3	None
1	Formal Kinship Care
1	Regular Foster Care
2	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Therapeutic Group Home
2	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Residential Treatment Center

In 4 of 11 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 9 of 11 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

3 of the 11 cases reviewed had 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 the 3 cases.

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

- 1 case(s) was less restrictive placement
- 1 case(s) was more restrictive placement
- 1 case(s) info unknown

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

- 3 case(s) behavioral

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

- Yes, for 3 cases

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

- Yes, for 3 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 5 of the 11 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 10 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 5 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 10 eligible children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 4 children/youths had

completed medical records in their case files.

- Prescription Medication: 6 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 5 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 6 children/youths was taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 4 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 6 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 9 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 9 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 8 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 youth with mental health issues 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: 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes for 4 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 2 of the 11 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 4 of 11 children/youths had been met.

Education

7 of the 11 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 6 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade, and 1 child/youth was enrolled in college. 1 child/youth refused to attend school. 3 children/youths not enrolled in school graduated high school.

4 of the 6 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's/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available to review for 6 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 10 of the 11 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 8 cases)

  6 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience. 2 youths did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience.

  6 youth were participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

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

  1 youth was 20 years old and employed and earning a living wage.

  The local board agreed that 5 of 8 youths were appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

  8 youth were receiving required independent living skills.

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

  7 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

  The local board agreed that 7 of the 8 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 was specified for 1 youth transitioning out of care.

  Alternative housing option was provided to the 1 youth transitioning out of care.

  The local board agreed with transitional housing plan for the 1 youth.

  The local board agreed that 1 youth was being appropriately prepared for transitioning out of care.

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

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

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

- 1 case(s) 21 months or more

A home study was completed for the 1 case.

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

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

9 of the 11 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 11 cases reviewed.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

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

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	1
No	10	10

Siblings/Visits

2 children/youths had siblings in care. Both children/youths had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together for 2 children/youths that did not reside with each other. 2 children/youths have visits with siblings who do not reside with each other. 6 children/youths have visits with siblings who

are not in care.

Summary

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

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Second Quarter Anne Arundel County Barriers
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource/service
AS	Lack of follow-up (General)
EZ	Other education barrier
MZ	Other mental health barrier
HA	Annual physicals not current
HB	Dentals not current
HC	Vision not current
HD	No follow-up or medical service
IZ	Other independence barrier
HD	No follow-up or medical record
LA	Youth needs more restrictive placement

Baltimore County

Baltimore County had a total of 17 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case(s)
- Reunification: 6 case(s)
- APPLA: 10 case(s)

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 17 cases reviewed.

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

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 1 case.

Category of APPLA plan (10 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (9)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 10 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months					1	1
7 to 11 months						1
1 to 2 years	4					2
2 to 3 years	1					4
3 years or more	1					2
Totals ➔17	6				1	10

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 17 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 the 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 (LA)
5	None
4	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
2	Residential Group Home
2	Therapeutic Group Home
1	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Residential Treatment Center
1	Own Dwelling

In 6 of 17 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 11 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

10 of the 17 cases reviewed had a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 4 cases had 1 placement change, 2 cases had 2 placement changes, 1 case had 3 placement changes and 3 cases had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 8 of 10 cases.

The following levels of care were found in 10 most recent placement changes:

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

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

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

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

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

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

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

- No, for 10 cases

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

- Yes, for 9 cases

<u>Health/Mental Health</u>

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 11 of the 17 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.

- Current Physical: 9 children/youths had a current physical exam.

- Current Vision: 9 children/youths had a current vision exam.

- Current Dental: 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 eligible children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 5 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 7 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 7 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 6 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 6 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 2 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 15 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for 13 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 8 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the children/youths reviewed with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: 6 children/youths have substance abuse problems.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: Yes, for 11 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 7 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 17 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 5 of the 17 children/youths had been met.

Education

11 of 17 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational Program. All 11 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 youth graduated high school,

and 4 children/youths refused to attend school. 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

11 children/youths in Pre-K through 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 3 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that all 11 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 – 15 cases)

  7 of 15 children/youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

  2 youths were over 20 years old and earning a living wage.

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

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

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

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

  5 youths completed a Life Skill Assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

  11 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

  The local board agreed that 11 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 the 2 youths transitioning out of care.

  Alternative housing options were provided to the 2 youths transitioning out of care.

  The local board agreed with transitional housing plans for both youths.

  The local board agreed that 2 youths were being appropriately prepared for transitioning out of care.

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

5 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 11 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	12	10
No	5	7

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily	1	
Once a week	2	
More than once a week		
Once a month	1	
More than once a month		
Quarterly		1
Yes, but undocumented	8	9

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	2	
Unsupervised	10	10

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	5	9
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area	3	
Child's/Youth's Placement	3	1
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	5	9
No	6	1

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 2 of the 17 children/youths had siblings in care. Both children/youths had 2 siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 2 children/youths. 11 children/youths have visits with siblings who are not in care.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 12 of the 17 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Second Quarter Anne Arundel County Barriers
AG	Lack of concurrent planning
AL	No service agreement with youth
AK	No service agreement with parents
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction
BD	Child has behavioral problems at home
BG	Refusal to locate or maintain employment
BH	Issues related to substance abuse
BU	Undocumented child/youth
BY	Child/youth has runaway history
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier
CY	No concurrent plan by court
DJ	Not attending scheduled health visits
DK	Not maintaining contact with the department
3F	Lack of documentation
MZ	Other mental health barrier
FE	TPR not filed timely
HA	Annual physicals not current
HB	Dentals not current
HC	Vision not current
HD	No follow-up or medical records
HZ	Other physical health barrier
1G	No service agreement with parents
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior
SZ	Other safety barrier
SD	Family (including foster) not following safety protocols
FG	No concurrent permanency plan in place
EB	Youth not attending school or in GED program
EZ	Other education barrier
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy
MD	Youth non-complaint with medication
1K	No service agreement with child

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Carroll County

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

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

Permanency

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

The local juvenile court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 1 case.

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

Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case)

The 1 APPLA case did not had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connection was not appropriate for the one 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	2					
1 to 2 years						1
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more				1		
Totals ➔4	2			1		1

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 3 cases. Efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process were made for the 3 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreement was appropriate for the 3 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	None
2	Regular Foster Care
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)

2 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 3 of 4 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

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

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

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

- 1 case(s) was a more restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement change was:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

Child specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 case(s) behavioral

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

- Yes, for the 1 case

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

- Yes, for the 1 case

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 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 reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 3 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 2 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 2 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 2 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues: 2 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for all 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 youth with mental health issues who was transitioning out of care had an identified plan to obtain mental health services in the adult health care system.

- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse issue.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for both children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 1 child/youth 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

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. The 1 youth not enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program already graduated high school.

2 of 3 children/youths enrolled in school, or another educational/vocational program 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 the 3 children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program.

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 1 case)

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

  1 youth did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience due to being in a correctional facility.

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

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

  1 youth was not receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.
  1 youth did not complete a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood due to

being in a correctional facility.

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

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (1 case)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

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

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

- 1 case(s) 21 months or more

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

A home study was completed for the 1 case.

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)
Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)
Not applicable.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

All 4 cases had a CASA.
Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	2	
No	2	4

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week	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	2	
Unsupervised		

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives

Yes		
No	4	4

Siblings/Visits

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

Summary

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

Code	**Second Quarter Carroll County Barriers**
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource/service
AS	Lack of follow-up (General)
HD	No follow-up or medical referrals
MZ	Other mental health barrier
HB	Dentals not current
LA	Youth needs more restrictive placement

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Cecil County

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

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

Permanency

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

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

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 2 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (none)

Permanent Connections APPLA (none)

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months			1	2		
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years						
2 to 3 years						
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 was made for the 1 case.

The local board agreed that the service agreement was not appropriate for the 1 signed case.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

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

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

Placement Stability

In none of the 4 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 2 of the 4 children/youths 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: 2 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department did not ensure that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 2 children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported 1 child/youth 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/youth.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for 1 of the 2 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 1 child/youth had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 1 child/youth had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 4 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 4 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 1 child/youth had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

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

Education

2 of the 4 children/youths were enrolled in school. Both children/youths were enrolled in Pre-K through 12th grade. 2 children/youths were under the age of 5.

1 child/youth enrolled in school, or another educational/vocational program 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 card was available for review for the 2 children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program.

The local board agreed that none of the 2 children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

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

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

  It is unknown if the local board agreed that the 2 youths were appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

  None of the youths were receiving required independent living skills.

  1 youth did not complete a life skills assessment due to being medically fragile.

  The local board agreed that none of the youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (2 cases)

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

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

- 2 case(s) 21 months or more

An adoptive home study was completed and approved for the 2 cases.

Adoptive family was given a social summary for both cases.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for the 2 children/youths.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

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	2	
No	2	4

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	2	
Unsupervised		

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	2	

Siblings/Visits

2 children/youths had siblings in care. Both children/youths had 2 siblings in care.

Summary

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

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Second Quarter Cecil County Barriers
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AK	No service agreement with parents
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
CF	Appeal by birth parents
MC	Youth refused mental health treatment including therapy.

MD	Youth non-compliant with medication.
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
HD	No follow-up or medical referrals.
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home.
BE	Non-compliant with service agreement.
BH	Issues related to substance abuse.
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier.
BF	Not following up on referrals.
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services
EF	School not meeting youths behavioral needs
EE	School not implementing IEP
ED	No current IEP.
EZ	Other education barrier.
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
IZ	Other independence barrier.
EA	Youth not enrolled in school.
LZ	Other placement barrier.

Charles County

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

- Reunification: 1 case
- AAPLA: 3 cases

Permanency

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

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

The local department was implementing a concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 1 case.

Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence: (2) cases
- Transition to an adult: (1) cases

Permanent Connections (3 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department did not have a signed service agreement for 3 of 4 cases. Efforts were made to involve the family in the service agreement process were made for 3 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate to meet the needs of children/youths for 3 of 4 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

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

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

The following level of care was found for the 3 most recent placement changes:

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- 3 case(s) was transitioning towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

Child 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:

- No, for 3 cases

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

- Yes, for 3 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 3 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 4 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 1 child/youth requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: 3 children/youths had completed medical records.
- Prescription Medication: 4 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 4 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 4 children/youths were 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 4 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 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 4 children/youths had substance abuse issues.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 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 3 of 4 children/youths had been met.

Education

2 of the 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 2 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 2 youths not enrolled in school graduated high school.

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

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

The local board agreed that the 2 children/youth's educational goals are being met.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

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

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

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

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

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

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

  The local board agreed that all 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 was specified for the 1 youth transitioning out of care.

  Alternative housing options were provided to the 1 youth.

  The local board agreed with the transitional housing plan for the 1 youth.

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)
Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

1 of the 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised	3	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	3	2
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement		
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	2	1
No	2	

Siblings/Visits

2 of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care. Both children/youths had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together for the 2 children/youths. 2 children/youths have visits with siblings who did not reside with them.

Summary

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

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Second Quarter Charles County Barriers
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction
HD	No follow-ups or medical referrals
SD	Family (Including Foster Family) not following safety
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier
BY	Child/youth has runaway history
CN	Disagreement with permanency plan
EZ	Other education barrier
HC	Vision not current
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Frederick County

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

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

Permanency

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

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent plan for none of the 4 cases reviewed.

Category of APPLA plan (1 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case1)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

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

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 2 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

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

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

Placement Stability

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

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 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: 4 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for all 4 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that all 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.

- Prescription Medication: 2 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medicine.
- Mental Health Issues: 2 of the 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 2 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 2 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 4 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: 2 of the 4 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 2 cases.
- Behavioral Issues: 1 child/youth had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

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

Education

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

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/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 2 children/youths

in Pre-K through 12th grade.

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

  1 youth was participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

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

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

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

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

  1 of the 2 youths was receiving required independent living skills.

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

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (2 cases)

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

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

- 1 case(s) 10 to 12 months
- 1 case(s) 12 to 15 months

Adoptive home study was completed and approved for the 2 cases.

A family social summary was given for the 2 cases.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for the 2 children/youths.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

2 of 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	2	
No	2	4

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	1	
Unsupervised	1	

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	4	4

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 all 4 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

Code	Second Quarter Frederick County Barriers
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resources/services
AS	Lack of follow up (General)
MZ	Other mental health barrier
LB	Youth needs less restrictive placement

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Harford County

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

- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Reunification: 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 plan for 1 case.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 1 case.

Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (2)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 2 cases)

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						
2 to 3 years	1					2
3 years or more						
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 3 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for the 3 cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

In 3 of the 4 cases reviewed, the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities, which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

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

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

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) was transitioning towards permanency goal
- 1 case(s) 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:

- 1 case(s) behavioral
- 1 case(s) other

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

- Yes, for 1 case

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

- Yes, for 2 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 3 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 4 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: Appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 2 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 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: 1 child/youth 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 2 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 4 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 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 3 of the 4 children/youths had been met.

Education

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

2 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan, and both children/youths had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in their records.

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

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

  1 youth was participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

The local board agreed that 3 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 adequately prepare for independent living when they leave home care.

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

  2 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

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

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

3 of 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	2	1

Siblings/Visits

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

Summary

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

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Second Quarter Harford County Barriers
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
IZ	Other independence barrier.
AK	No service agreement with parents.
HC	Vision not current.
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy.
MD	Youth non-compliant with medication.
AG	Lack of concurrent planning
BY	Child/youth has runaway history
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Howard County

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

- Reunification: 1 case
- APPLA: 3 cases

Permanency

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

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

The local department was not implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local juvenile court for the 4 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (3)

Permanent Connections (3 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for all 4 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements was appropriate for 2 of 4 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	None
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Residential Treatment Center
1	Non-Relative

In 1 of 4 cases reviewed the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities, which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

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

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

The following level of care was found for the 1 most recent placement change:

- 1 case(s) was a less restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

- 1 case(s) behavioral concerns

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

- Yes, for 1 case

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

- Yes, for 1 case

Health/Mental Health

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

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

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

Education

3 of 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 2 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth was enrolled in college. 1 child/youth not enrolled in school graduated high school.

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

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

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 4 cases)

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

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

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

  1 youth was 20 years old and earning a livable wage.

The local board agreed that 2 of 4 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

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

  1 youth was not receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living due to mental health reasons.

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

  The local board agreed that 2 of 4 youths were receiving appropriate independent living skills.

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

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

  Alternative housing options were provided to the 1 youth.

  The local board agreed with the transitional housing plan for the 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)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Not applicable.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

All 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		2
No	4	2

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised		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		
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement		
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	4	4

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 all 4 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	**Second Quarter Howard County Barriers**
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource/service
AS	Lack of follow-up (General)
IZ	Other independence barrier
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan
LA	Youth needs more restrictive placement
MZ	Other mental health barrier
HB	Dentals not current

Montgomery County

Montgomery County had a total of 24 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 5 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 2 cases
- Reunification: 6 cases
- APPLA: 11 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 18 of 24 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 2 of 3 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (11 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (9)
- Transition to an adult : (2)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 11 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	3			1		5
7 to 11 months					1	1
1 to 2 years	2			1	1	2
2 to 3 years				2		3
3 years or more	1			1		
Totals →24	6			5	2	11

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 20 of 24 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 14 cases. 5 children/youths were a post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 19 cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	None
1	Formal Kinship Care
9	Regular Foster Care
1	Restricted (Relative) Foster Care
4	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
6	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Residential Treatment Center

In 12 of the 24 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 24 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 9 of the 24 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 7 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 9 cases.

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

- 3 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason
- 2 case(s) placement with siblings
- 4 case(s) transition towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 7 case(s) placement not due to provider issue
- 2 case(s) unknown-info not available

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

- 4 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 3 case(s) behavioral
- 2 case(s) unknown-info not available

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

- Yes, for 9 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 16 of the 24 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.

- Current Physical: 24 children/youths had a current physical exam.

- Current Vision: 14 children/youths had a current vision exam.

- Current Dental: 20 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 23 children/youths requiring follow-ups.

- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 12 of the 24 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: 7 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 7 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 3 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 16 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 16 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 14 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 16 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: 4 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 4 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 8 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 7 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 24 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 14 of the 24 children/youths had been met.

Education

20 of 24 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 17 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 2 children/youths were enrolled in GED programs and 1 youth was enrolled in college. 3 youths not enrolled in school graduated high school. 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

7 of the 17 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 4 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 16 children/youths.

The local board agreed that all 22 of 24 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 17 cases)

  13 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

  All 13 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

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

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

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 17 cases)

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

  2 youths were unable to receive appropriate services due to mental health reasons.

  3 youths had completed a life skills assessment.

  14 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

  The local board agreed that 14 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 youths transitioning out of care.

  Alternative housing options were provided to both youths.

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

  The local board agreed that the 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. 3 children/youths were under the age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (4 cases)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (4 cases)

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

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

- 4 case(s) 21 months or more

Adoptive home study was completed and approved for all 4 cases.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for the 4 children/youths.

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 pre-adoptive home. The 1 child/youth was listed with Heart Gallery and Adopt Us Kids.

The local board found the adoptive recruitment efforts appropriate for the 1 child/youth.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

11 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 23 of 24 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	10	5
No	14	19

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

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

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	4	
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Others/not specified		

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home		
LDSS Visitation Center	4	
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement		
Others/not specified		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	3	5
No	21	16

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 12 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 11 children/youths. 12 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 3 children/youths had visits with their siblings who were not in care.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review, the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 24 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Second Quarter Montgomery County Barriers
AG	Lack of concurrent planning
BU	Undocumented child/youth
6Z	Other legal barrier
HC	Vision not current
7Z	Other service resource barrier
CN	Disagreement with permanency plan
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource/service
AS	Lack of follow-up (General)
8B	Lack of employment
AL	No service agreement with youth
IZ	Other planning barrier
MZ	Other mental health barrier
LA	Youth needs more restrictive placement
EZ	Other education barrier
HA	Annual physicals not current
HD	No follow-up or medical records
HB	Dentals not current
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan

Prince George's County

Prince George's County had a total of 15 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 4 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Reunification: 2 cases
- APPLA: 8 cases

Permanency

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

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

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for 4 of 5 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (8 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (6)
- Transition to an adult (2)

Permanent Connections (8 cases)

All 8 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified, and the local board 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						3
7 to 11 months					1	1
1 to 2 years	2			3		
2 to 3 years						1
3 years or more				1		3
Totals ➔15	2			4	1	8

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 14 of 15 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department have signed service agreements for 8 cases. 2 children/youths were a post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for the 8 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 8 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
1	None
2	Formal Kinship Care
8	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
3	Therapeutic Group Home
1	Independent Living Residential Program

In 8 of the 15 cases reviewed, the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities, which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

In 6 of the 15 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 5 cases had 1 placement change and 1 case had 2 placement changes.

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

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

- 2 case(s) were less restrictive placement
- 4 case(s) were the same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included

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

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

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

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

- No, for 6 cases

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

- Yes, for 6 cases

<u>Health/Mental Health</u>

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 7 of 15 children/youths reviewed had developmental or specials needs.
- Current Physical: 11 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 13 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: 8 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 7 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 6 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for 5 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 8 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 8 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 6 of 8 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the 8 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: 2 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for 2 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 3 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 15 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board agreed that health needs of 8 of 15 children/youths were met.

Education

11 of the 15 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 10 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade, and 1 youth was enrolled in college.

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

6 of the 10 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 card was available to review for the 4 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 11 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 11 cases)

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

  All 4 youths participated in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

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

  3 youths over 20 years of age 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 – 11 cases)

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

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

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

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

  Alternative housing options were provided to the 5 youths.

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

  The local board agreed that the 5 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 consented to adoption. 1 child/youth was unable to consent due to mental health reasons and 2 children/youths were under the age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

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

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

- 1 case(s) 21 months or more

A home study was not completed and approved for the 1 case.

The local board found that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for the 1 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 pre-adoptive home. The 1 child/youth was not listed with Adopt Us Kids.

The local board found the adoptive recruitment efforts appropriate for the 1 child/youth.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (4 cases)

Post-adoptive services were needed for 4 children/youths. The service needed was medical for 4 cases, mental health for 1 case, educational for 1 case, respite services for 1 case and DDA support services for 1 case.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for all 4 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were not approved for any cases.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for the 4 cases.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

5 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 14 of 15 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	1	2
Unsupervised	5	7

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

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home	2	7
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area	3	
Child's/Youth's Placement	1	2
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	4	4
No	2	5

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 4 children/youths had siblings in care. 4 children/youths had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 2 children/youths. 3 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 11 children/youths have visits with siblings who are not in care.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 15 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	**Second Quarter Prince George's County Barriers**
AB	Pre-Adoptive resource not identified
AC	Inadequate pool of prospective adoptive families (In General)
AF	Permanency goal was not established in a timely manner
CY	No concurrent plan by court
CL	TPR not heard within 10 days of filing
DH	Pre-Adoptive family cannot decide to adopt
7Z	Other service resource barrier
BY	Child/youth have runaway history
HD	No follow-up or medical referrals
5D	Over age 18 and still in care
HA	Annual physicals not current
HB	Dentals not current
HC	Vision not current

AL	No service agreement with youth
AR	Missing or lack of documentation
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence (General)
IZ	Other independence barrier
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction
BD	Child has behavior problems in the home
BG	Refusal to locate or maintain employment
BH	Issue related to substance abuse
EA	Youth not enrolled in school
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services
ED	No current IEP
EE	School not implementing IEP
EB	Youth not attending school or GED program
EZ	Other education barrier
MA	Youth has not been assessed for mental health concerns
SB	Youth engage in risky behavior
SA	No current safe custody & guardianship

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

St. Mary's County

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

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

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 of the cases.

Category of APPLA plan (none)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – none)

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

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 the 5 cases reviewed.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
2	None
1	Regular Foster Care
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Residential Treatment Center

1 of the 5 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 3 of 5 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 3 of the 5 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. All 3 cases had 1 placement change.

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

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included

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

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?

- No, for 3 cases

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

- Yes, for 3 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 3 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: 2 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: It was reported that the local department did not ensure appropriate follow-up occurred on all health-related concerns for 2 children/youths.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 2 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 5 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 5 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 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 3 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: None of the 5 children/youths had substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 2 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 2 of 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 thru 12th grade.

3 of the 5 children/youths in Pre-K thru 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 card was available for 1 child/youth in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 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)

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

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

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

- 1 case(s) 21 months or more

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

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 5 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 3 of 5 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	5	
No		5

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	1	
Unsupervised	4	

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	3	
LDSS Visitation Center	2	
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement		
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	3	
No	2	

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that all 5 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 3 children/youths. 5 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. All 5 children/youths have visits with siblings who are not in care.

Summary

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

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Second Quarter St. Mary County Barriers
AK	No service agreement with parents
CY	No concurrent plan by court
FG	No concurrent permanency plan in place
HB	Dentals not current
1G	No service agreement with parents
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home
HF	Issues related to insurance company

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Washington County

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

- Reunification: 2 cases
- APPLA: 1 case

Permanency

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

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

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 1 case.

Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months						
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years						
2 to 3 years	2					
3 years or more						1
Totals =>3	2					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 have a signed service agreement for 2 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was made for both cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
1	Residential Group Home
1	Residential Treatment Center
1	Own Dwelling

1 of the 3 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 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 2 placement changes, and 1 case had 3 placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for none of the 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) were transitioning towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

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

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

- Yes, for 2 cases

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

- Yes, for 2 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 1 of the 3 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 2 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 1 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 2 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 1 child/youth requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 1 of the 3 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 1 child/youth was taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Psychotropic Medication: 1 child/youth was taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused prescription medicine.
- 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 2 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 youth with mental health issues was transitioning out of care, had an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- 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 1 of 3 children/youths had been met.

Education

2 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. Both children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 1 youth not enrolled in school already graduated high school.

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

Current progress report card was available for review for 1 of 2 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

  1 youth was participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

  1 youth was 20 years old and earning a living wage.

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

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

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

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

  1 youth was receiving required independent living skills.

  The local board agreed the 1 youth was being appropriately prepared for independent living.

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

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

  Alternative housing options were provided to the 1 youth transitioning out of care.

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 3 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	2	1
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		1
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised	2	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	2	1
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement		
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	
No	1	1

Siblings/Visits

None of the 3 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 3 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	**Second Quarter Washington County Barriers**
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AG	Lack of concurrent planning
EZ	Other education barrier
CY	No concurrent plan by court
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
IZ	Other independence barrier.
HA	Annual physicals not current
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.

Wicomico County

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

- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- AAPLA: 2 cases

Permanency

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

Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (2)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 2 cases)

Both APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the board found the identified Permanent connection 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 to 3 years						
3 years or more					1	1
Totals =>3					1	2

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 1 of the 3 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for the 1 case.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

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

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for all 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. 2 cases had four or more placement changes.

It is unknown if a family involvement meeting was held for the placement changes for the 2 cases.

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

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

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included

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

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

- Yes, for 2 cases.

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

- Yes, for 2 cases.

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 1 of 3 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 2 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 1 child/youth had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 2 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 2 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 1 child/youth had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 1 child/youth was taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Psychotropic Medication: None of the 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Not applicable.
- Mental Health Issues: 3 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for 2 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: No, for the 3 children/youths.

- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the children/youth 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: 2 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.

- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 2 children/youths.

- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths had behavioral issues.

- Behavioral Issues Addressed: No, for 2 children/youths.

- Standard Health Exam: None of the 3 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 1 of 3 children/youths had been met.

Education

2 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. The 2 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 1 child/youth was not enrolled in school due to other reasons.

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

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

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

  1 youth was in a correctional facility and 1 youth did not participate due to being medically fragile.

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

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

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

  None of the 3 youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

  1 youth was in a correctional facility, and 1 youth did not participate due to being medically fragile.

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

  The local board agreed that none of the 3 youths were receiving appropriate living skills.

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

All 3 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	3	3

Siblings/Visits

None of the 3 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 3 children/youths reviewed.

Code	**Second Quarter Wicomico County Barriers**
AL	No service agreement with youth
AR	Missing or lack of documentation
BD	Child has behavior problems in the home
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier
BY	Child/youth have runaway history
BH	Issues related to substance abuse
EB	Youth not attending school or in GED program
MD	Youth non-compliant with medication
MA	Youth has not been assessed for mental health concerns
HA	Annual physicals not current
HB	Dentals not current
HC	Vision not current
HZ	Other physical health barrier
HD	No follow-up or medical referrals
MC	Youth refuse mental health treatment including therapy

Baltimore City

Baltimore City had a total of 42 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 6 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 2 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 6 cases
- Reunification: 16 cases
- APPLA: 11 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 1 case

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 30 of the 42 cases reviewed.

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (11 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (11)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 11 cases)

10 of 11 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for 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	1	1		2	1	3
7 to 11 months				2	2	2
1 to 2 years	3			2	2	1
2 to 3 years	6		1			3
3 years or more	6		1		1	2
Totals ➔42	16	1	2	6	6	11

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 25 of the 42 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 8 cases. 5 children/youths were a Post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 22 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for 7 of the 8 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
4	None
3	Formal Kinship Care
2	Regular Foster Care
8	Restrictive Foster Care (Relative)
17	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Residential Group Home
1	Teen Mother Home
1	Therapeutic Group Home
3	Independent Living Residential Program
2	Other

In 22 of the 42 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 37 of the 42 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 14 of the 42 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 4 cases had 1 placement change, 9 cases had 2 changes, and 1 case had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 8 of 14 cases.

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

- 5 case(s) were less restrictive placements
- 2 case(s) were more restrictive placements
- 5 case(s) had the same level of care
- 2 case(s) child on runaway

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 3 case(s) provider request
- 10 case(s) placement not due to provider issue
- 1 case(s) unknown, info not available

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

- 9 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 3 case(s) behavioral
- 2 case(s) runaway

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

- Yes, for 11 cases

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

- Yes, for 13 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 11 of the 42 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 21 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 13 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 17 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 13 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 9 of the 42 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. 3 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 28 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 28 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 14 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 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: 5 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 2 children/youths.

- Behavioral Issues: 17 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 7 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 2 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 12 of the 42 children/youths had been met.

Education

29 of the 42 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 28 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 1 youth was enrolled in college. 3 youths graduated high school. 8 children/youths refused to attend school. 2 children/youths were under the age of 5.

6 of the 28 children/youths in Pre-K thru 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 8 of the 28 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 19 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 22 cases)

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

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

  1 youth was unable to participate due to mental health reasons and 1 youth was in a juvenile justice facility. 1 youth did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience due to other reasons.

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

  2 youths were over 20 years of age and were earning a livable wage.

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

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

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

  1 youth did not receive appropriate services due to mental health reasons, and 1 youth was in a juvenile justice facility. 1 youth did not receive services due to other reasons.

  7 youths had completed a life skills assessment.

  5 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

  The local board agreed that 6 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 2 of 4 youths transitioning out of care.

  Alternative housing options were provided to 2 youths transitioning out of care.

  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. 3 children/youths were under the age of consent. 2 children/youths did not consent to be adopted. 1 child/youth was unable to consent due to being medically fragile.

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 pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple for 1 case and a single female for 2 cases. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was foster parent non-relative for all 3 cases.

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

- 3 case(s) 21 months or more

A home study was completed for the 3 placements and approved. A family social summary was given for all 3 cases.

The local board agreed that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for the 3 cases.

Adoptive Recruitment (3 cases)

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 3 children/youths not placed in pre-adoptive home. 1 child/youth was listed with Adopt Us Kids.

The local board found the adoptive recruitment efforts appropriate for the 3 cases.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

1 of 42 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 34 of the 42 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	18	6
No	24	36

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	9	1
Unsupervised	9	5

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	6	1
Other Agency Representative	1	
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other/not indicated	1	

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	4	3
No	22	19

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 17 of 42 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 16 children/youths. 15 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 18 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 24 of the 42 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Second Quarter Baltimore City Barriers
AG	Lack of concurrent planning
AK	No service agreement with parents
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction
AR	Missing or lack of documentation
AB	Pre adoptive resources not identified
AS	Lack of follow-up (General)
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource/service
AL	No service agreement with youth
CI	Child in pre adoptive home, but adoption not finalized
CY	No concurrent plan by court
EA	Youth not enrolled in school
EB	Youth not attending school or in GED program
ED	No current IEP
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services
EE	School not implementing IEP
EZ	Other education barrier
2A	Inadequate casework services
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence (General)
IA	Transitional housing has not been identified
IB	Youth not employed and transitioning out of care
IZ	Other independence barrier
MA	Youth has not been assessed fort mental health concerns
MB	Youth's psychotropic medications should be adjusted
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy
MD	Youth non-compliant with medication
MZ	Other mental health barrier
HA	Annual physicals not current
HB	Dentals not current
HC	Vision not current
HD	No follow up or medical referrals
HZ	Other physical health barrier
SA	No current safe custody & guardianship
LA	Youth needs restrictive placement
LB	Youth needs less restrictive placement
LZ	Other placement barrier
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan
FG	No concurrent permanency plan in place
BE	Non-compliant with service agreement
BF	No following up on referrals
BY	Child/youth has runaway history
BH	Issues related to substance abuse
1G	No service agreement with parents
9A	Inadequate information on case plan

Required Supporting Documentation for CRBC Reviews

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

- Each (LDSS) is required to have access at the time of the review to the child's complete case records and/or records containing requested supportive documentation to present at all CRBC case reviews.

- Each (LDSS) should continue supplying CRBC with the most recent and current contact information including emails for all interested parties, including professionals and family members.

Recommendations to All Local Departments of Social Services (LDSS)

- Each (LDSS) should encourage the attendance of children and youth who are 10 years of age and older to attend his/her scheduled CRBC case review.

- Each (LDSS) should encourage foster parent attendance at scheduled CRBC case reviews.

- Each (LDSS) should improve their efforts with documenting concurrent permanency plans.

- Each (LDSS) should improve their efforts with getting parents to sign service agreements for those children/youths with a permanency plan of reunification.

- Each (LDSS) is required to include the paternal family members as possible resources for all children/youths who are in out-of-home-placement care.

Independent Living

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

Permanent Connections

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

Adoption

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

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

2nd Quarter 2025 CRBC Metrics

Recommendation Reports to DSS - Number Sent:	144
Recommendation Reports to DSS - Number Sent on Time:	141
Recommendation Reports to DSS - Percentage Sent on Time:	98%
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Number of Responses Received:[1]	73
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Percentage of DSS Responses:	51%
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Number Received on Time:	52
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Percentage Received on Time	71%
Number of Boards Held	39
Recommendation Reports - Number of DSS Agreement:	73
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of DSS Agreement:	100%
Recommendation Reports - Number of DSS Disagreement:	0
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of DSS Disagreement:	0%
Recommendation Reports - Number of Blank/Unanswered:[2]	0
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of Blank/Unanswered:	0%
Percentage of REUNIFICATION Children Reviewed for the Period:	29%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT - Adoption Children Reviewed:	1%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT - C & G Children Reviewed:	5%
Percentage of ADOPTION Children Reviewed for the Period:	15%
Percentage of CUSTODY/GUARDIANSHIP Children Reviewed for the Period:	8%
Percentage of APPLA Children Reviewed for the Period:	42%

[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

Amy Potler
Circuit 1: Representing Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worchester Counties

Dr. Corinne Vinopol
Circuit 2: Representing Caroline, Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot Counties

Dr. Elaine Reed
Circuit 5: Representing Anne Arundel, Carroll, and Howard Counties

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

Dr. Edwin Green
Circuit 8: Representing Baltimore City

Benia Richardson
Circuit 8: Representing Baltimore City

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

CRBC Staff

Crystal Young, MSW
Administrator

Hassan Aslam
Information Technology Officer

Hope Smith
IT Functional Analyst

Michele Foster, MSW
Child Welfare Specialist

Marlo Palmer-Dixon, M.P.A
Child Welfare Specialist

Nikia Greene
Child Welfare Specialist

Lakira Whitaker
Volunteer Activities Coordinator II

Cindy Hunter-Gray
Lead Secretary

Agnes Marie Smith
Executive Assistant

LeShae Harris
Office Clerk II

References

Citizens Review Board for Children (2013). Policy and Procedures Manual. Baltimore, MD: Department of Human Services (formerly Dept. of Human Resources).

COMAR 07.01.06.05. Procedures for Conducting the Citizen Review of Out-of-Home Placement. Title 07 Department of Human Services (formerly Dept. of Human Resources).

COMAR 07.02.11.01. Purpose of Out-of-Home Placement Program. Title 07 Department of Human Services (formerly Dept. of Human Resources).

COMAR 07.02.11.03. Out of Home Placement: Definitions. Title 07 Department of Human Services (formerly Dept. of Human Resources).

COMAR 07.02.11.08. Out of Home Placement: Medical Care. Title 07 Department of Human Services (formerly Dept. of Human Resources).

COMAR 07.02.12.04. Post Adoption Services. Title 07 Department of Human Services (formerly Dept. of Human Resources),

Maryland Code, Family Law § 5-539

Maryland Code, Family Law § 5-545

Maryland Department of Human Resources (FY2015). State Stats. Place Matters Statewide Summary Department of Human Services (formerly Dept. of Human Resources).

Social Services Administration (2016). Out of Home Placement Services – Ready By 21 Manual (FY2017 Edition). Baltimore, MD: Department of Human Services (formerly Dept. of Human Resources).

Social Services Administration cw#16-10 (September 15th 2015). Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA). Baltimore, MD: Department of Human Services (formerly Dept. of Human Resources).

Social Services Administration cw#14-17 (April 15, 2014). Oversight and Monitoring of Health Care Services. Baltimore, MD: Department of Human Services (formerly Dept. of Human Resources).

Social Services Administration (2010). Out of Home Placement Program Manual. Baltimore, MD: Department of Human Services (formerly Dept. of Human Resources).

Social Services Administration cw#10-08 (August 14, 2009). Family Involvement Meetings (FIM). Baltimore, MD: Department of Human Services (formerly Dept. of Human Resources).