CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

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FOURTH QUARTER
FISCAL YEAR 2024
REPORT
(April 1st 2024 – June 30th 2024)

Citizens Review Board for Children
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Our Mission Statement

To conduct case reviews of children in out-of-home care, make timely individual case and systemic child welfare recommendations; and advocate for legislative and systematic child welfare improvements to promote safety and permanency.

Our Vision Statement

We envision the protection of all children from abuse and neglect, only placing children in out-of-home care when necessary; and providing families with the help they need to stay intact; children will be safe in a permanent living arrangement.

Discrimination Statement

The Citizens Review Board for Children (CRBC) renounces any policy or practice of discrimination on the basis of race, gender, national origin, ethnicity, religion, disability, or sexual orientation that is or would be applicable to its citizen reviewers or staff or to the children, families, and employees involved in the child welfare system (CRBC, 2013).

Confidentiality

CRBC local board members are bound by strict confidentiality requirements. Under Article 88A, § 6, all records concerning out-of-home care are confidential and unauthorized disclosure is a criminal offense subject to a fine not exceeding $500 or imprisonment not exceeding 90 days, or both. Each local board member shall be presented with the statutory language on confidentiality, including the penalty for breach thereof, and sign a confidentiality statement prior to having access to any confidential information.

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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

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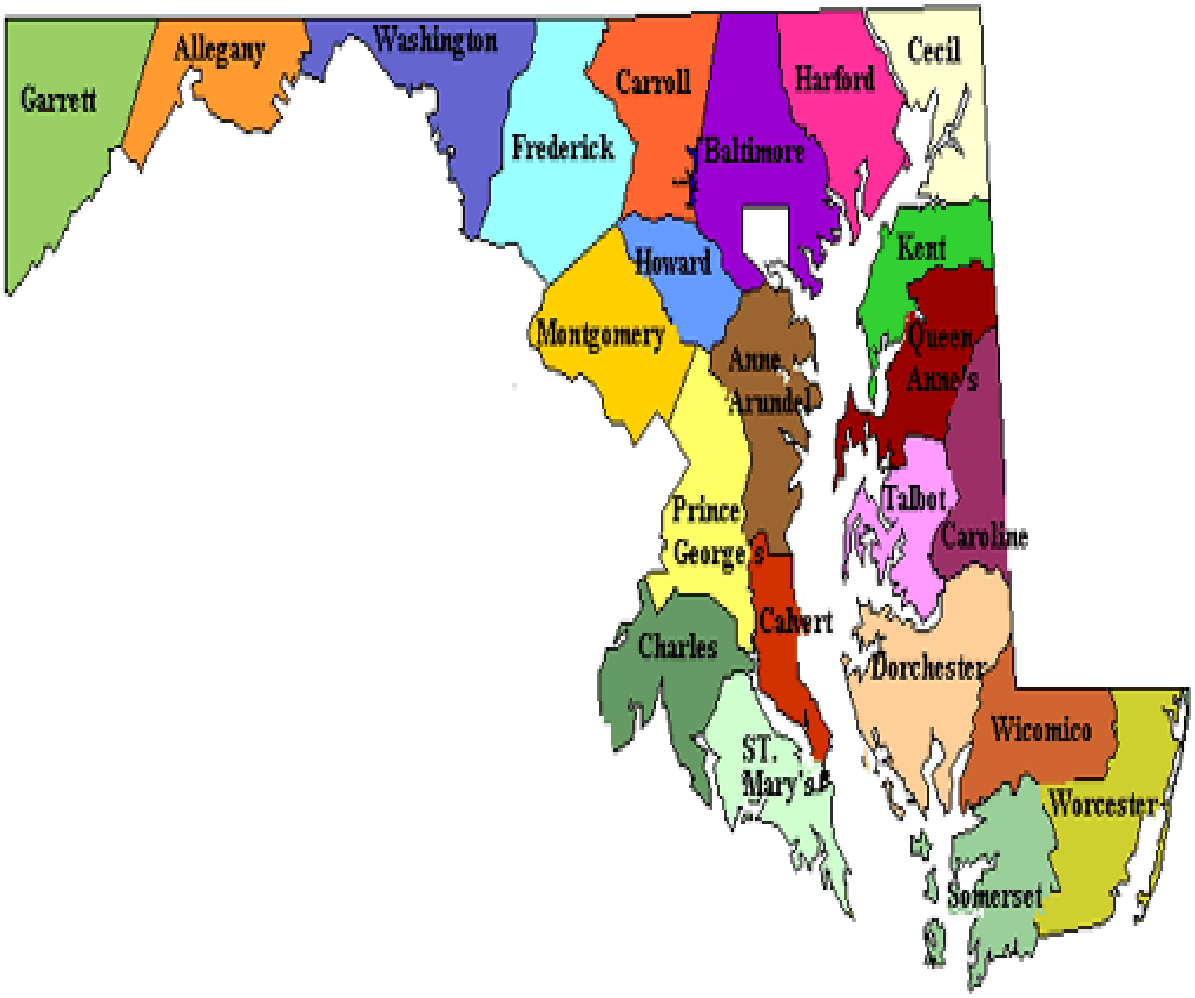
Introduction

The following pages contain data from CRBC's out-of-home-placement case review findings and recommendations for the 4th Quarter of Fiscal Year 2024.



CRBC conducts regular out-of-home placement case reviews in all 24 Maryland jurisdictions including Baltimore City throughout the year. For this quarterly report, the following counties did not have regularly scheduled case reviews during the quarter: Dorchester, Kent, Queen Ann's, Somerset, Talbot and Worcester counties. Therefore, this report only contains review findings and recommendations for the 18 jurisdictions including Baltimore City that had regularly scheduled reviews.

Targeted Review Criterion

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

Reunification:

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

Adoption:

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

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

Another **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 at age 17 and 20 years old. CRBC will conduct reviews of youth that are 17 and 20 years of age. The primary purpose of the review is to assess if services were provided to prepare the youth to transition to adulthood.

Re-Review Cases:

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

Permanency Plan Hierarchy

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

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

Family Centered Practice Model

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

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4th Quarter 2024 Case Review Statistics

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

Jurn #	County	Non Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non Relative C & G	Reunification	Relative Placement for Adoption	APPLA	TOTAL	# Boards Held
01	Allegany	1	0	0	1	2	0	4	1
02	Anne Arundel	3	1	0	2	0	6	12	3
03	Baltimore County	3	1	1	5	0	8	18	5
04	Calvert	0	0	0	6	0	1	7	1
05	Caroline	2	0	0	2	0	0	4	1
06	Carroll	0	0	0	3	0	1	4	1
07	Cecil	1	0	0	2	0	1	4	1
08	Charles	0	0	1	1	0	2	4	1
10	Frederick	3	0	0	0	0	1	4	1
11	Garrett	0	0	0	2	0	2	4	1
12	Harford	3	1	0	3	0	1	8	2
13	Howard	0	0	0	3	1	0	4	1
15	Montgomery	3	0	2	6	1	10	22	6
16	Prince George's	4	1	0	4	1	13	23	6
18	St. Mary	1	0	0	0	0	3	4	1
21	Washington	0	0	0	1	1	2	4	1
22	Wicomico	0	1	1	1	0	1	4	1
49	Baltimore City	5	4	8	22	2	26	67	18
18	Statewide Totals	29	9	13	64	8	78	201	52
	Percentages	14%	5%	6%	32%	4%	39%	100%	

CRBC conducted a total of 201 individual out-of-home case reviews (each case reviewed represents 1 child/youth) in 18 Jurisdictions on 52 boards that held reviews during the 4th quarter of fiscal year 2024.

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

- Permanency Plan - (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (E))
- Placement Plan - (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (I))
- Progress towards Permanent Placement - (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F))
- Case Planning
- Health/Mental Health (family article 5-545)
- Education (family article 5-545)
- Ready by 21

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

Total Reviewed (201)

Gender Totals

Male	Female
92 (46%)	109 (54%)

Gender by Plan

Male (92)

Non Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non Relative C & G	Reunification	APPLA	Relative Placement for Adoption
15 (16%)	4 (4%)	6 (7%)	36 (39%)	29 (32%)	2 (2%)

Female (109)

Non Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non Relative C & G	Reunification	APPLA	Relative Placement for Adoption
14 (13%)	5 (4%)	7 (6%)	28 (26%)	49 (45%)	6 (6%)

Ethnicity Overall

African American	Caucasian	Asian	Other
136 (68%)	55 (27%)	2 (1%)	8 (4%)

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	9	6	1	13	1	1	31
2_age 6 thru 10	14	2	0	7	1	0	24
3_age 11 thru 13	13	0	3	5	4	0	25
4_age 14 thru 16	18	0	2	3	5	2	30
5_age 17 thru 19	9	0	2	1	2	41	55
6_age 20	1	0	1	0	0	34	36
Totals	55	8	9	29	13	78	201

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Jurisdictional Case Reviews

Allegany County

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

- Non Relative Adoption: 1 case
- Relative Placement for 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 1 concurrent permanency plan.

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

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		2				
7 to 11 months				1		
1 to 2 years	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 1 case. 3 cases were Post TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was made for 1 case.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangment (LA)
1	None
2	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
1	Regular Foster Care

In 3 of the 4 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 3 of 4 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

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

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

- 3 case(s) were same level of care
- 1 case(s) was less restrictive

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- 4 case(s) were transitioning towards permanency goal

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

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

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

- No, for 4 cases

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

- Yes, for 4 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 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 ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 3 of the 4 eligible children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 2 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 2 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 3 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 2 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 2 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 2 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the 2 children/youths with

mental health issues were transitioning out of care.

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

The local board found that the health needs of 2 of 4 children/youths were not met.

Education

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

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

A current progress report/report card was not available for review for the 1 child/youth in Pre-K through 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 – 1 case)

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

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

  1 youth was receiving required Independent Living skills.

  1 youth completed a Life Skills Assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

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

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

  Not applicable.

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 3 youths were under age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (3 cases)

3 children/youths with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple for all 3 cases. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child was a relative foster parent(s) for 2 cases and foster parent non-relative for 1 case.

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

- 1 case(s) from 1 to 3 months
- 1 case(s) from 4 to 6 months
- 1 case(s) from 16 to 20 months

A home study was not completed for none of the 3 cases.

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

The local board agreed that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for the 3 children/youths.

Adoptive Recruitment (None)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (3 cases)

Post adoptive services were needed for the 3 children/youths. The service that was needed was medical.

The Board found the post-adoptive services appropriate for the 3 cases.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised	1	3

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	3
No		

Siblings/Visits

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

Summary

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

Anne Arundel County

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

- Reunification: 2 cases
- Non Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- APPLA: 6 cases

Permanency

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

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (6 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence: 6 cases

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 6 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 4 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was made for 9 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were not appropriate for the 4 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

In 6 of 12 cases reviewed the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in a setting that was in close proximity to their community which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

7 of the 12 cases reviewed had a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review.
1 case had 1 placement change and 6 cases had 2 placement changes.

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

The following levels of care were found in 7 most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) were in a less restrictive placement
- 2 case(s) were more restrictive
- 3 case(s) were same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

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

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

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

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

- Yes, for 7 cases

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

Yes, for 7 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 6 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.

- Current Physical: 10 children/youths had a current physical exam.

- Current Vision: 8 children/youths had a current vision exam.

- Current Dental: 7 children/youths had a current dental exam.

- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 11 eligible children/youths reviewed.

- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 6 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.

- 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: 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 9 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 10 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 6 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 9 children/youths with mental health issues that had mental health issues were transitioning out of care had an identified plan.
- 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 the 4 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 2 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 7 of 12 children/youths had been met.

Education

5 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 5 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 3 children/youths graduated high school and 1 child/youth refused to attend school. 3 children/youths were underage of 5.

5 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's/youth's record.

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

The local board agreed that 7 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 6 cases)

  5 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience. 1 youth did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

  5 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 youths are appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

  6 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

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

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

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

  Housing was specified for 2 youths transitioning out of care.

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

  The Board agreed with transitional housing plan for both youths.

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (1 case)

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 single female and the relationship to the pre-adoptive child was a non-relative foster parent(s) for the 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 all 3 cases and social summary was given for 2 cases.

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

The local board agreed that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for all 3 children/youths.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

Post adoptive services were needed for 1 child/youth. The service that was needed was other for 1 case. Post adoptive subsidies was needed for 1 child/youth.

The local board found that the post adoptive service was appropriate for the 1 child/youth.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

10 of 12 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	4	3
No	8	9

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

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

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	1
No	11	11

Siblings/Visits

5 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together for 5 children/youths that did not reside with each other. 5 children/youths have visits with siblings who do not reside with each other.

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 12 children/youths reviewed.

Baltimore County

Baltimore County had a total of 18 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non Relative Adoption: 3 case(s)
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 1 case(s)
- Non Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case(s)
- Reunification: 5 case(s)
- APPLA: 8 case(s)

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 17 of 18 cases reviewed.

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (8 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (8)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 8 cases)

7 of the 8 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 7 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	2			1		1
7 to 11 months	2				1	1
1 to 2 years			1			3
2 to 3 years				1		
3 years or more	1			1		3
Totals ➔18	5		1	3	1	8

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 18 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 1 case. 4 children/youths were Post TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 1 case.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

In 7 of 18 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 15 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

12 of the 18 cases reviewed had a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 3 cases had 1 placement change, 4 cases had 2 placement changes, 2 cases 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 11 of 12 cases.

The following levels of care were found in 8 most recent placement changes:

- 5 case(s) were in a less restrictive placement
- 2 case(s) child on runaway
- 5 case(s) were same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

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

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

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

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

- No, not for 11 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 4 of the 18 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 9 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 9 children/youths had a current vision exam.

- Current Dental: 9 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 4 eligible children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 8 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 8 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 5 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for 5 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 3 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 14 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for 14 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 7 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the children/youths reviewed with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: Yes, for 4 children/youths.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 4 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: Yes, for 9 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 4 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 18 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 4 of the 18 children/youths had been met.

Education

8 of 18 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 8 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 3 youths graduated high school and 5 youths refused to attend school. 2 children/youths were under the age of 5.

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

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

The local board agreed that all 8 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 – 11 cases)

  2 of 11 children/youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

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

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

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

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

  9 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

  The local board agreed that 9 of 11 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 was specified for 4 of 5 youths transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options were provided to 4 of 5 youths transitioning out of care.

The Board agreed with transitional housing plan for the 4 of 5 youths.

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 2 children/youths were under the age of consent. 1 child/youth did not consent due to mental health reasons.

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

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

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

A home study was completed for 1 of 2 cases.

The local board agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive family to meet the identified needs of the child for the 2 cases.

The local board agreed that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for all 2 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 adoptive resource effort for 1 child/youth was Wednesday child.

The local board found the adoptive recruitment efforts appropriate for the 1 case.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (3 cases)

Post adoptive services were needed for 3 children/youths. The service that was needed was medical for all 3 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for 2 children/youths. Post adoptive subsidy was approved for 1 of 2 children/youths.

It is unknown if post adoptive subsidies were needed for 1 case.

The local board found that the post adoptive service was appropriate for all 3 children/youths.

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 15 of 18 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

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

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

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home	6	6
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area	1	1
Child's/Youth's Placement	2	1
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	5	5
No	4	3

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 9 of the 18 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 9 children/youths. 1 child/youth had 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 15 of the 18 children/youths reviewed.

Calvert County

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

- Reunification: 6 cases
- AAPLA: 1 case

Permanency

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

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 6 of 7 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for 6 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

Emancipation/Independence: 1 case

Permanent Connections (1 case)

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						1
2 to 3 years	6					
3 years or more						
Totals ➔7	6					1

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for all 7 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for all 7 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreement was appropriate for the 7 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangment (LA)
4	Regular Foster Care
2	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Residential Treatment

5 of the 7 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 7 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

None of the 7 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 1 of the 7 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 6 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 5 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 5 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 2 children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 4 of 7 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.

- 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: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 2 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 4 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 4 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 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 5 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 5 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 7 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

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

Education

5 of the 7 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 5 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 2 children/youths were under the age of 5.

2 of the 5 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 2 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 all 5 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

  1 youth were employed or 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/or employment opportunities.

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

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

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

  Both youths were receiving required independent living skills.

  The local board agreed that both youths 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.

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)

2 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 7 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	7	6
No		1

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

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

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

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home	6	6
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement	1	
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	6	6
No	1	

Siblings/Visits

All 7 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place both siblings together for all 7 cases. 7 children/youths have visits with siblings who do not reside with them.

Summary

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

Caroline County

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

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

Permanency

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

The local juvenile court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any 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					
7 to 11 months				1		
1 to 2 years	1					
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more				1		
Totals ➔4	2			2		

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 2 of 4 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for the 4 cases. Efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process was made for all 4 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreement was appropriate for the 4 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
1	Regular Foster Care
2	Residential Group Home

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

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

Placement Stability

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

The local department did not hold a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for any of the cases.

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

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

The primary positive reason for the most recent placement changes were:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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 both 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: 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 1 child/youth reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that all 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 1 child/youth was taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 1 child/youth.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for both children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for 3 of 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 3 of the 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the 4 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children/youths had a substance abuse issue.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.

- Behavioral Issues: 1 child/youth had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Standard Health Exam: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exam.

The local board found that the health needs of all 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 had already graduated high school.

1 child/youth in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan. A current progress report card was available for review for all 3 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that all 3 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 – 4 cases)

  None of the 4 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

  It is unknown if the local board agreed that 4 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

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

  1 youth did not receive independent living services due to mental health issues.

  3 of the 4 youths completed a life skill assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

  3 youths received required independent living skills.

The local board agreed that 3 of 4 youths were 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.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (1 case)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)
Not applicable.

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 on Adopt Us Kids.

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

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

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

2 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

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		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other		

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		1
No	2	

Siblings/Visits

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

Summary

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

Carroll County

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

- Reunification: 3 cases
- APPLA: 1 case

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 3 of 4 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 (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 connections were appropriate for the case.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 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 all 4 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)
3	Therapeutic Group Home
1	Other

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

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for all 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 changes for the 1 case.

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

- 1 case(s) was a child on runaway

The primary positive reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- 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) change unrelated to behavior of child

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

- Unknown, for 1 case

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

- Unknown, for 1 case

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 3 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 3 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 3 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 3 children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 3 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 3 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for all 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: All 4 youths 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: None of the children/youths had a substance abuse issue.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for both children/youths.

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 had already graduated high school.

All 3 children/youths 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/report card was available for review for the 3 children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program.

The local board agreed that 3 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 – 3 cases)

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

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

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

  1 youth did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience due to other reasons.

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

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

  2 of the 3 youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

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

Both youths received required independent living skills.

1 youth did not complete independent living skills due to other reasons.

The local board agreed that 2 youths were 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.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)
Not applicable.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)
Not applicable.

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

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

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	1	1
No	3	3

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

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

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

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

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that none of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care. 2 children/youths had visits with their siblings who were not in care.

Summary

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

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Cecil County

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

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

Permanency

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

The local juvenile court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 3 of the 4 cases.

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

Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence: 1 case

Permanent Connections APPLA (1 case)

1 APPLA case did not had a permanent connection identified. The local board agreed the permanent connection was not appropriate for the 1 case.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

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 3 of 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 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 for the 3 most recent placement changes:

- 3 case(s) was less restrictive

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 3 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 specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

- Yes, for the 3 cases

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

- Yes, for the 3 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 3 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 1 child/youth had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 1 child/youth had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department did not ensure that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 1 child/youth reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported 1 child/youth had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 1 child/youth was taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 1 child/youth.
- Psychotropic Medication: 1 child/youth was taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 1 child/youth.
- 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 the 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 3 children/youths with mental health issues

were transitioning out of care.

- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 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

3 of the 4 children/youths were enrolled in school. All 3 children/youths were enrolled in Pre-K through 12 grade. 1 child/youth not enrolled in school was under the age of 5.

All 3 children/youths enrolled in school, or another educational/vocational program had a 504 or IEP plan and 1 child/youth had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report card was available for review for 2 of the 3 children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program.

The local board agreed that 2 of 3 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 participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

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

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

1 youth did not receive required independent living skills.

The local board agreed that 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 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 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.

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)
Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

Post-adoptive services were needed for the 1 child/youth. The services needed for the 1 child/youth was mental health, respite and DDA support services.

It is unknown if post-adoptive subsidies were needed for the 1 child/youth. It is unknown if the subsidies were approved for the 1 child/youth.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources was appropriate for the 1 child/youth.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	4	4

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised		

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No		

Siblings/Visits

2 children/youths had siblings in care. Both children/youths had 1 sibling in care. It is unknown if efforts were made to place the siblings together if they do not reside with each other in both cases. 2 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 3 of the 4 children/youths reviewed.

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Charles County

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

- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Reunification: 1 case
- AAPLA: 2 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 2 cases.

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

Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence: (2) cases

Permanent Connections (2 cases)

All 2 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for 1 of 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				1	
7 to 11 months						1
1 to 2 years						1
2 to 3 years						
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 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)
2	None
2	Regular Foster Care

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 2 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 3 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 two cases had 4 or more placement changes.

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

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

- 1 case(s) was a less restrictive placement
- 2 case(s) was child on runaway

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

Child specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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 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: 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 2 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: 3 children/youths had completed medical records.
- Prescription Medication: 1 child/youth was taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 1 child/youth.
- Psychotropic Medication: 1 child/youth was taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 1 child/youth.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth 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 the 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: 2 children/youths had substance abuse issues.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 2 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths 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

3 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 was enrolled in college. 1 child/youth refused to attend school.

2 children/youths enrolled in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan. Both children/youths 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 and for 1 youth enrolled in college.

The local board agreed that all 3 children/youths' educational goals are being met.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

  All 3 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

  All 3 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

  The local board agreed that all 3 youths were 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 – 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)
Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 2 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised	2	2

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	2	2
No		

Siblings/Visits

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

Summary

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

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: 3 cases
- 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 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)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 1 case. 3 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 1 case.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
3	Regular Foster Care
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)

3 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 none 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: None of the children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Not applicable.
- Psychotropic Medication: None of the children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Not applicable.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: Not applicable.
- 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: 2 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: None of the children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: None of the children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Not applicable.
- 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

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

None of the 3 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan or a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

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

The local board agreed that all 3 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 employed or 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 the 1 youth was being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

  1 youth received appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

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

  1 youth received 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. 3 children/youths were under the age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (3 cases)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (3 cases)

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

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

- 3 case(s) 21 months or more

Adoptive home study was completed and approved for the 3 cases.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for the 3 children/youths.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

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	4	1
No		3

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

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

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		1
No	4	3

Siblings/Visits

3 of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place both siblings together in the 3 cases. 3 children/youths have visits with siblings who do 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.

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Garrett County

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

- Reunification: 2 cases
- APPLA: 2 cases

Permanency

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (2)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 2 cases)

The 2 APPLA case 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	2					
1 to 2 years						
2 to 3 years						1
3 years or more						
Totals ➔4	2					2

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 2 cases. 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)
3	Regular Foster Care
1	Therapeutic Group Home

3 of the 4 children/youths reviewed were placed in their home jurisdiction in a setting that was 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

None of the 4 cases reviewed had any placement changes within the 12 months prior to the review.

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 1 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 4 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 4 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: All 4 children/youths had follow-up health concerns noted by a physician.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that all 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 1 child/youth was taking prescription medication.

- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the child/youth.
- Psychotropic Medication: 1 child/youth was taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the child/youth.
- Mental Health Issues: 2 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the 2 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: 2 children/youths had substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for both children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 1 child/youth had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.

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

Education

All 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 4 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade.

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

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

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 4 cases)

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

  Both youths were participating 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.

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

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

  All 4 youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

  All 4 youths completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

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

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

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

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Not applicable.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Not applicable.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None 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	4	2
No		2

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

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

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	1	1
LDSS Visitation Center	2	
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement	1	1
Other		

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

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that all 4 children/youths had siblings in care. Both children/youths had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for all 4 children/youths. All 4 children/youths have visits with siblings who did not reside with them. 1 child/youth have visits with 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.

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Harford County

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

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

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 7 of 8 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court did not identify any concurrent plan.

Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case)

1 APPLA case had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the 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			
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	2					
2 to 3 years	1					
3 years or more				3		1
Totals ➔8	3		1	3		1

Case Planning

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

meetings prior to entry for 1 of the 8 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 3 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 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	None
1	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Residential Treatment Center
1	Diagnostic Center
1	Other

In 2 of the 8 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 7 of 8 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 5 of the 8 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 1 case had 1 placement change, 1 case had 2 placement changes, 2 cases had 3 placement changes and 1 case had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department did not hold a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for any of the 5 cases.

The following levels of care were found for the 5 most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) were less restrictive
- 3 case(s) was more restrictive

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

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

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 all 5 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 7 of the 8 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: 6 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: Appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 3 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 3 of the 8 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 5 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 5 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 4 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 4 children/youths.

- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 8 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 8 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 7 of the 8 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 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: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 6 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 5 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 8 children/youths had been met.

Education

5 of the 8 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 5 of the children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth not enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program had already graduated high school. 2 children/youths did not attend school due to other reasons.

All 5 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 3 children/youths had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in their record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 2 of 5 children/youths in Pre-K through 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 – 6 cases)

  1 youth was participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

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

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

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

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

2 youths were not able to complete life skill assessment due to mental health reasons.

None of the youths were receiving required independent living skills.

The local board agreed that none of the 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 not specified for the 1 youth transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options were provided to the 1 youth.

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

The local board did not agree 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. 1 child/youth consented to adoption. 1 child/youth was under the age of consent. 1 child/youth was unable to consent due to being medically fragile.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

1 child/youth with a plan of adoption was placed in a pre-adoptive home. The family structure was

comprised of a married couple for the 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

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

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

Adoptive Recruitment (2 cases)

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 2 children/youths not placed in pre-adoptive home. The 2 children/youths were listed with Adopt Us Kids.

The local board found the adoptive recruitment efforts appropriate for the 2 children/youths.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (3 cases)

Post-adoptive services were needed for the 2 of 3 children/youths. The service needed was medical, mental health, educational, respite and DDA support services.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for 1 case and was approved.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for the 3 cases.

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 6 of 8 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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		3
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		2
Unsupervised		2

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		1
No	2	1

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 1 child/youth had sibling in care. 1 child/youth had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were not made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 1 child/youth. 1 child/youth with sibling in care had visits with their sibling 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 4 of 8 children/youths reviewed.

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: 3 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 1 case

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 4 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (none)

Permanent Connections (none)

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G		Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	1	1					
7 to 11 months	1						
1 to 2 years							
2 to 3 years							
3 years or more	1						
Totals ➔4	3	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 signed service agreement for 1 case. 1 child/youth was a post-TPR child under the age of 14.

Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 3 of 4 cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

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

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 changes:

- 1 case(s) was more restrictive

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

Child/youth 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 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 3 of 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 the 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: None of the 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: 3 children/youths with mental health issues who were transitioning out of care had an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.

- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 1 child/youth had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 1 child/youth.
- 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. All 3 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

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

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

The local board agreed that 2 of 3 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. The 1 youth was participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

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

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

  1 youth who did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience was in juvenile justice facility.
  The local board agreed that 1 of 2 youths were 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.

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

1 youth who did not participate was in juvenile justice facility.

The local board agreed that 1 of 2 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. 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 was 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 relative foster parent for 1 case.

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

- 1 case(s) 21 months or more

Adoptive home study was completed and approved 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.

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	3	1
No	1	3

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

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

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		1
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	2	1
No	2	3

Siblings/Visits

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

Summary

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

Montgomery County

Montgomery County had a total of 22 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- Non-Relative Custody/Guardianship: 2 cases
- Reunification: 6 cases
- APPLA: 10 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 1 case

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 19 of 22 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified concurrent permanency plans for 4 cases.

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

Category of APPLA plan (10 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (10)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 10 cases)

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	4			3	1	2
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years						3
2 to 3 years		1				1
3 years or more	2				1	4
Totals ➔22	6	1		3	2	10

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 21 of 22 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 7 cases. 4 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 18 cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

In 12 of the 22 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 22 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 10 of the 22 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 1 case had 1 placement change, 7 cases had 2 changes and 2 cases had 3 placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 9 of 10 cases.

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

- 3 case(s) were less restrictive placements
- 1 case(s) was more restrictive placement
- 6 case(s) had the same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 8 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:

- 6 case(s) placement not due to provider issue
- 1 case(s) provider request
- 3 case(s) unknown

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

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

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

- Yes, for 10 cases

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

- Yes, for 10 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 5 of the 22 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.

- Current Physical: 14 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 11 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 13 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 16 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 8 of the 22 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 4 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 3 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 3 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 13 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 13 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 11 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 10 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 3 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 5 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 2 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 22 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 7 of the 22 children/youths had been met.

Education

14 of the 22 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 13 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 youth was enrolled in college. 5 children/youths graduated high school and 2 children/youths refused to attend school. 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

7 of the 13 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 8 children/youths.

The local board agreed that 18 of 22 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 15 cases)

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

  10 youths employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

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

  4 youths were 20 years old employed and were earning a livable wage.

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

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

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

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

  11 youths had completed a life skills assessment.

  10 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

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

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

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

  Alternative housing options were provided to the 4 youths.

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

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

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 2 cases, a single female for 1 case and a single male for 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was a relative foster parent for 1 case and non-relative foster parent for 3 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 (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (2 cases)

Post-adoptive services were needed for 2 children/youths. The service needed was mental health and education for the 2 children/youths.

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

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

9 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 20 of 22 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	10	11
No	12	11

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	7	5
Unsupervised	3	6

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	4	
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member	2	
Foster Parent		1
Others/not specified		

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home	2	5
LDSS Visitation Center	2	2
Public Area		1
Child's/Youth's Placement	1	
Others/not specified	2	1

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	2
No	16	17

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 9 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 6 children/youths. 8 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 10 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 22 children/youths reviewed.

Prince George's County

Prince George's County had a total of 23 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non Relative Adoption: 4 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Reunification: 4 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 1 case
- APPLA: 13 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 22 of 23 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 6 cases.

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

Category of APPLA plan (13 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (13)

Permanent Connections (13 cases)

13 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for 12 of 13 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months						2
7 to 11 months		1	1			2
1 to 2 years				2		
2 to 3 years	3			2		3
3 years or more	1					6
Totals ➔23	4	1	1	4		13

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 22 of 23 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department have signed service agreements for 10 cases. 4 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 all 10 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 10 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

In 11 cases reviewed the child/youth was placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their community which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

In 8 of the 23 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 2 cases had 1 placement change, 4 cases had 2 changes and 2 cases had 4 for more

placement changes.

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

The following levels of care were found for the 8 most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) was more restrictive placement
- 3 case(s) was less restrictive placement
- 1 case(s) were the same level of care
- 2 case(s) were child on runaway

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

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

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

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 6 cases

<u>Health/Mental Health</u>

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 4 of 23 children/youths reviewed had developmental or specials needs.

- Current Physical: 19 children/youths had a current physical exam.

- Current Vision: 14 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 2 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: 12 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 5 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for 5 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 5 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for 5 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 3 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 14 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 14 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 8 of 14 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the 14 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: 9 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 3 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 9 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 6 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 23 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board agreed that health needs of 13 of 23 children/youths were met.

Education

10 of the 23 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational

program. 7 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade and 2 children/youths were enrolled in college. 1 child/youth was enrolled in GED program.

2 children/youths not enrolled in school graduated high school. 5 children/youths refused to attend school and 5 children/youths were under the age of 5. 1 child/youth did not attend school for other reasons.

3 of the 7 children/youths 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 card was available to review for the 6 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 16 cases)

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

  All 5 youths participated in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

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

  4 youths over 20 years of age were employed and earning a living wage.

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

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 16 cases)

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

  9 youths completed a life skills 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 – 7 cases)
  (Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

  Housing had been specified for 7 youths transitioning out of care.

  Alternative housing options were provided to the 7 youths.

  The local board agreed with the transitional housing plan for all 7 youths.

  The local board agreed that the 7 youth were being appropriately prepared to transition out of care.

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 5 children/youths were under the age of consent.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (5 cases)

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

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

- 5 case(s) 21 months or more

A home study was completed and approved for 3 of 5 cases.

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

The local board found that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for the 5 cases.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

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

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (5 cases)

Post-adoptive services were needed for 5 children/youths. The service needed was medical for the 5 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for all 5 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were not approved for 2 cases.

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

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

8 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 20 of 23 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	13	13
No	10	10

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week		
More than once a week	2	
Once a month		
More than once a month	1	2
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented	10	11

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	2	
Unsupervised	11	13

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	12	11
No		1

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 7 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 6 children/youths. 4 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 23 children/youths reviewed.

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

St. Mary's County

St. Mary's County had a total of 4 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

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

Permanency

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (3)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 3 cases)

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

Case Planning

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

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

The local board agreed that the service agreement is appropriate to meet the needs of child for 1 case.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
1	None
1	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Independent Living Residential Program

None of the 4 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 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

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

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

The following level of care was found for the 3 placement change:

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

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

- No, for 2 cases

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

- Yes, for 2 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that none of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 2 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 3 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: It is unknown if the local department ensured appropriate follow up occurred on all health related concerns.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 1 child/youth 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: 1 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- 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 all 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 4 children/youths had substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: None of the 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Not applicable.

- Standard Health Exams: 1 child/youth refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 1 of 4 children/youths had been met.

Education

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

2 of the 3 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 card was available for none of the 3 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

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

  Both youths were participating 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 employed and was earning a living wage.

  The local board agreed that 2 of 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.

  None of the youths completed a life skill assessment.

  2 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

The local board agreed that 2 of 3 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 was 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 case.

  The local board agreed that 1 youth was being appropriately prepared for transitioning our 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.

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 pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a single female for the 1 child/youth. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth 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 and approved with a social summary.

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

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

Post-adoptive services were needed for 1 child/youth. The service needed was medical for the 1 case.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for the 1 case.

It is unknown if the post adoptive subsidies were approved for the 1 case.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for the 1 case.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 3 of 4 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised	1	1

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	1
No		

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that none of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care. 3 of the 4 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.

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

Washington County

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

- Relative Placement for Adoption: 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 concurrent permanency plan for 2 cases.

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

Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (2)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 2 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

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

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
1	Relative Foster Care (Restrictive)
2	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Other

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

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

Placement Stability

None of the 4 cases reviewed had any placement changes 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: 3 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 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 2 of the 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.

- Prescription Medication: 4 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for 4 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for both children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the children/youths refused prescription medicine.
- 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 the 1 child/youth.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children/youths had substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 1 child/youth had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: No, for the 1 child/youth.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 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

4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 4 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

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

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

The local board agreed that 3 of 4 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

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

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

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

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

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

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

  Both youths complete a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood and were receiving required independent skills.

  The local board agreed the 2 youths were 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 was specified for 1 youth transitioning out of care.

  Information on 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 case.

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 (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 child/youth. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was a fictive foster parent for the 1 case.

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

- 1 case(s) 21 months or more

Adoptive home study was completed for the 1 case and approved with a social summary.

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

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None 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	1	1
No	3	3

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

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised	1	1

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

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

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		1
No		

Siblings/Visits

1 child/youth had siblings in care. 2 children/youths have visits with 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.

Wicomico County

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

- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Reunification: 1 case
- AAPLA: 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 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 (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 cases)

1 APPLA case had a permanent connection identified and the board found the identified Permanent connection 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		1	
1 to 2 years	1					1
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						
Totals =>4	1		1		1	1

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 had a signed service agreement none of the 4 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 2 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

1 of the 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 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 three placement changes.

The local department did not hold a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for the 1 case.

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

- 1 case(s) was more restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

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

- 1 case(s) delinquent behavior

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included

- 1 placement not due to provider issue

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: 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 2 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- 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: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.

- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for 2 of 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 2 of 4 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: None of the children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: Yes, for 3 of 4 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 1 child/youth.
- Standard Health Exam: 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

All 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. The 3 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 1 child/youth was enrolled in college.

1 of the 3 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan. None of the 3 children/youths 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 all 3 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 4 cases)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

  All 4 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

  The local board agreed that 2 of 4 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)

Not applicable.

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	2	4

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week		
More than once a week	1	
Once a month		
More than once a month	1	
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	1	
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement		
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	
No	1	

Siblings/Visits

1 child/youth had siblings in care. 1 child/youth had 1 sibling in care. It is unknown if efforts have been made to place the siblings together. 2 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 1 of 4 children/youths reviewed.

Baltimore City

Baltimore City had a total of 67 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non Relative Adoption: 5 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 4 cases
- Non Relative Custody & Guardianship: 8 cases
- Reunification: 22 cases
- APPLA: 26 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 2 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 52 of the 67 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 4 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plans set by the local Juvenile Court for all 4 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (26 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (23)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (2)
- Other (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 26 cases)

23 of the 26 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for 22 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	2	1	1	2	4	3
7 to 11 months	7			2		6
1 to 2 years	2		2	1		3
2 to 3 years	8	1	1		2	12
3 years or more	3				2	2
Totals ➔67	22	2	4	5	8	26

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 42 of the 67 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 12 cases. 9 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 36 cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
6	None
12	Formal Kinship Care
1	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
6	Regular Foster Care
7	Restrictive Foster Care (Relative)
17	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
4	Residential Group Home
2	Therapeutic Group Home
4	Independent Living Residential Program
2	Relative
1	Non-Relative
1	Own Dwelling
1	Diagnostic Center
3	Other

In 38 of the 67 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 59 of the 67 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 24 of the 67 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 8 cases had 1 placement change and 16 cases had 2 placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 15 of the 24 cases.

The following levels of care were found for the 24 most recent placement changes:

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 2 case(s) allegation of provider abuse/neglect
- 1 case(s) incompatible match
- 16 case(s) placement not due to provider issue
- 5 case(s) unknown, info not available

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

- 14 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 1 case(s) unknown, info not available
- 5 case(s) behavioral
- 1 case(s) delinquent behavior
- 2 case(s) runaway
- 1 case(s) other

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

- Yes, for 19 of the 24 cases

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

- Yes, for 20 of the 24 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 32 of the 67 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 43 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 28 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 27 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 32 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 19 of the 67 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 21 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 20 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 19 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 19 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: Yes. 17 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 51 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 51 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 31 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 34 youths with mental health issues who were transitioning out of care had an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system. 8 youths had no identified plan.

- Substance Abuse: 7 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 3 of the 7 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 14 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 4 of the 14 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 9 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 24 of the 67 children/youths had been met.

Education

36 of the 67 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 35 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 1 youth was enrolled in college. 7 youths graduated high school and 14 children/youths refused to attend school. 10 children/youths were under the age of 5.

17 of the 35 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 9 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 15 of the 35 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 26 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 36 cases)

  14 of the 36 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

  13 of 14 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

  1 youth was unable to participate due to being medically fragile and 1 did not participate due to mental health reasons. 2 youths did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience due to other reasons.

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

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

The local board agreed that 20 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 36 cases)

16 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 for being medically fragile. 1 youth did not receive services due to other reasons.

17 youths had completed a life skills assessment.

14 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

The local board agreed that 13 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

- Housing (Transitioning Youth – 13 cases)
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Housing had been specified for 11 of 13 youths transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options were provided for 11 youths.

The local board agreed with the transitional housing plan for 11 youths.

The local board agreed that 10 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. 8 children/youths were under the age of consent. 1 child/youth did not consent due to mental health reasons.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (7 cases)

7 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 3 cases, unmarried couple for 2 cases, a

single female for 1 case and 1 single male for 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was foster parent relative for 1 case, foster parent non-relative for 5 cases and foster parent – fictive kin for 1 case.

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

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

A home study was completed for 6 of 7 placements and approved. A family social summary was given in 4 of 7 cases.

The local board agreed that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for 6 of 7 cases.

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 any adoptive resource.

The local board found the adoptive recruitment efforts not appropriate for the 1 child/youth.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (6 cases)

Post-adoptive subsidies were needed for 1 of 6 cases. The post adoptive service needed was education for the 1 case.

It is unknown if post adoptive subsidies were needed for 6 cases.

The local board found post-adoptive services appropriate for all 6 cases.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

4 of 67 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 64 of the 67 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	28	21
No	39	46

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily	1	
Once a week	16	7
More than once a week	1	1
Once a month	7	7
More than once a month	4	4
Quarterly		1
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	19	12
Unsupervised	9	8

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	14	8
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member	2	
Foster Parent	2	
Other/not indicated		

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home		2
LDSS Visitation Center	16	6
Public Area	3	4
Child's/Youth's Placement	3	2
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	4	5
No	38	36

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 28 of the 67 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 23 children/youths. 22 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 22 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 51 of the 67 children/youths reviewed.

Required Supporting Documentation for CRBC Reviews

The following are reminders of the materials required in accordance with the work plan agreement created between the Department of Human 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

4th Quarter 2024 CRBC Metrics

Recommendation Reports to DSS - Number Sent:	201
Recommendation Reports to DSS - Number Sent on Time:	197
Recommendation Reports to DSS - Percentage Sent on Time:	98%
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Number of Responses Received:[1]	157
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Percentage of DSS Responses:	78%
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Number Received on Time:	140
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Percentage Received on Time	89%
Number of Boards Held	52
Recommendation Reports - Number of DSS Agreement:	155
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of DSS Agreement:	99%
Recommendation Reports - Number of DSS Disagreement:	2
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of DSS Disagreement:	1%
Recommendation Reports - Number of Blank/Unanswered:[2]	0
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of Blank/Unanswered:	0%
Percentage of REUNIFICATION Children Reviewed for the Period:	32%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT - Adoption Children Reviewed:	4%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT - C & G Children Reviewed:	5%
Percentage of ADOPTION Children Reviewed for the Period:	14%
Percentage of CUSTODY/GUARDIANSHIP Children Reviewed for the Period:	6%
Percentage of APPLA Children Reviewed for the Period:	39%

[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

Vacant
Circuit 1: Representing Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worchester Counties

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

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

Sandra "Kay" Farley
Circuit 6: Representing Frederick and Montgomery Counties

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

Beatrice Lee
Circuit 8: Representing Baltimore City

Rita Jones
Circuit 8: Representing Baltimore City

Benia Richardson
Circuit 8: Representing Baltimore City

CRBC
Citizens Review Board for Children

CRBC Staff

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Acting Administrator

Hassan Aslam
Information Technology Officer

Hope Smith
IT Functional Analyst

Michele Foster, MSW
Child Welfare Specialist

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

Sandy Colea, CVA
Volunteer Activities Coordinator Supervisor

Lakira Whitaker
Volunteer Activities Coordinator II

Cindy Hunter-Gray
Lead Secretary

Agnes Marie Smith
Executive Assistant

LeShae Harris
Office Clerk II

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