



FOURTH QUARTER FISCAL YEAR 2026 REPORT

(April 1st 2026 – June 30th 2026)

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Our Mission Statement

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

Our Vision Statement

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

Discrimination Statement

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

Confidentiality

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



CRBC Acknowledgements

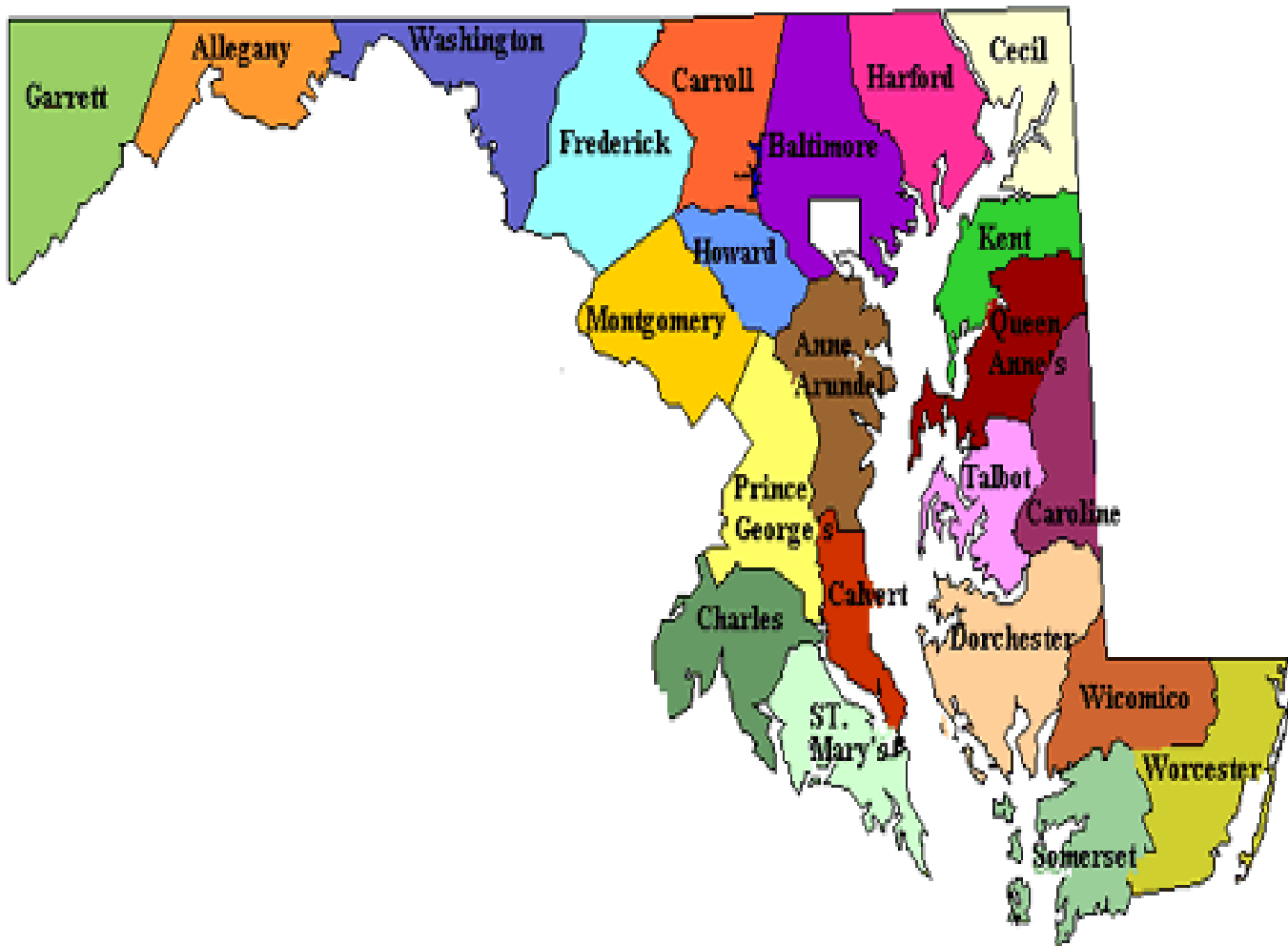
CRBC would like to acknowledge the commitment, dedication, passion and service of all stakeholders on behalf of Maryland's most vulnerable children including:

- ★ CRBC Governor-Appointed Volunteers
- ★ The Department of Human Services (DHS)
- ★ The Social Services Administration (SSA)
- ★ The Local Departments of Social Services (LDSS) and (DHHS) Montgomery County
- ★ The Coalition to Protect Maryland's Children (CPMC)
- ★ The State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (SCCAN)
- ★ The State Child Fatality Review Team (SCFRT)
- ★ The Local Juvenile Courts of Maryland
- ★ All community partners

*Thank
You*

Introduction

The following pages contain data from CRBC's out-of-home-placement case review findings and recommendations for the 4th Quarter of Fiscal Year 2026.



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, Queen Anne's, Kent, Somerset, Talbot, and Worcester counties. Therefore, this report only contains review findings and recommendations for 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 work plan for targeted reviews of children in out-of-home-placement. This work plan contains targeted review criteria based on out- of-home-placement permanency plans.

Reunification:

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

Adoption:

- ★ Existing plans of Adoption. CRBC will conduct a review of a child that has had a plan of Adoption for over 12 months. The purpose of the review is to assess the appropriateness of the plan and identify barriers to achieve the plan.
- ★ Newly changed plans of Adoption. CRBC will conduct a review of a child within 5 months after the establishment of Adoption as a primary permanency plan. The purpose is to ensure that there is adequate and appropriate movement by the local departments to promote and achieve the Adoption.

Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA):

- ★ Already established plans of APPLA for youth 16 years of age and younger. CRBC will conduct a full review of a child 16 years of age and younger who has an established primary permanency plan of APPLA. The primary purpose of the review is to assess appropriateness of the plan and review documentation of the Federal APPLA requirements.
- ★ Newly established plans of APPLA. CRBC will conduct a review of a child within 5 months after the establishment of APPLA as the primary permanency plan. Local Boards will review cases to ensure that local departments have made adequate and appropriate efforts to assess if a plan of APPLA was the most appropriate recourse for the child.

Older Youth Aging Out

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

Re-Review Cases:

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

Permanency Plan Hierarchy

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

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

Family-Centered Practice Model

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



CRBC

Citizens Review Board for Children

4th Quarter 2026 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	3	1	0	0	0	0	4	1
02	Anne Arundel	2	0	0	7	0	3	12	3
03	Baltimore County	4	0	1	7	0	7	19	5
04	Calvert	1	1	1	0	0	0	3	1
05	Caroline	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	1
06	Carroll	1	0	0	2	0	1	4	1
07	Cecil	1	0	1	0	0	2	4	1
08	Charles	1	0	0	2	0	1	4	1
09	Frederick	0	0	1	3	0	0	4	1
10	Garrett	0	0	0	2	1	1	4	1
11	Harford	2	0	0	2	0	4	8	2
12	Howard	1	1	0	0	0	2	4	1
13	Montgomery	3	3	0	16	0	6	28	7
14	Prince George	4	0	1	7	3	9	24	6
15	St. Mary	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	1
16	Washington	0	1	0	2	0	5	8	2
17	Wicomico	1	0	0	0	0	3	4	1
18	Baltimore City	8	12	7	28	4	7	66	18
15	Statewide Totals	36	19	12	81	8	51	207	54
	Percentages	17%	9%	6%	39%	4%	25%	100%	

CRBC conducted a total of 207 individual out-of-home case reviews (each case reviewed represents 1 child/youth) in 18 Jurisdictions on 54 boards that held reviews during the 4th quarter of fiscal year 2026.

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 (207)

Gender Totals

Male	Female
91 (44%)	116 (56%)

Gender by Plan

Male (91)

Non-Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non-Relative C & G	Reunification	APPLA	Relative Placement for Adoption
16 (18%)	8 (9%)	6 (6%)	39 (43%)	19 (21%)	3 (3%)

Female (116)

Non-Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non-Relative C & G	Reunification	APPLA	Relative Placement for Adoption
20 (17%)	11 (10%)	6 (5%)	42 (36%)	32 (28%)	5 (4%)

Ethnicity Overall

African American	Caucasian	Other
131 (63%)	65 (32%)	11 (5%)



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	15	3	7	21	1	0	47
2_age 6 thru 10	22	1	3	7	4	0	37
3_age 11 thru 13	16	2	6	4	2	0	30
4_age 14 thru 16	18	2	2	2	2	3	29
5_age 17 thru 19	10	0	1	2	3	41	57
6_age 20	0	0	0	0	0	7	7
Totals	81	8	19	36	12	51	207

Citizens Review Board for Children

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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: 3 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 1 case

Permanency

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

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department has signed service agreements for none of the 4 cases. 3 children/youths were a post-TPR child under the age of 14.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	None
1	Formal Kinship Care
1	Therapeutic Group Homes
1	Residential Treatment Centers

1 of the 4 cases reviewed had children/youths 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. 1 case had 2 placement changes and 2 cases had 4 or more placement changes.

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

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 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 were not due to a provider issue

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

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



- 1 case(s) behavioral
- 1 case(s) mental health

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

➤ No, for 3 cases

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

➤ Yes, for 3 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of 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 did not ensure that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for the 1 child/youth requiring follow-up.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 4 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 2 of 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 3 children/youth with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youth 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 all 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 enrolled in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

All 3 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's/youth's record.

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

The local board agreed that 2 of the 3 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

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

1 youths participated in paid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

1 youth was unable to participate in paid or unpaid work experience due to mental health reasons.

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

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

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

None of the youths were receiving required independent living skills.

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

1 youth did not complete a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood due to mental health reasons.

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

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – none)

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (1 case)

One child received adoptive counseling in the last 6 months with conditions.

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (3 cases)

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

The local board found the adoptive recruitment efforts appropriate for the 2 of 3 children/youths



Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (3 cases)

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

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for all 3 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were approved for none of the 3 cases.

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

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 Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	1	1	
No	3	3	4

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

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	1	1	
Unsupervised			

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Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	1	1	
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other			
Therapist			

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes			
No	1	1	

Siblings/Visits

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

Summary

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

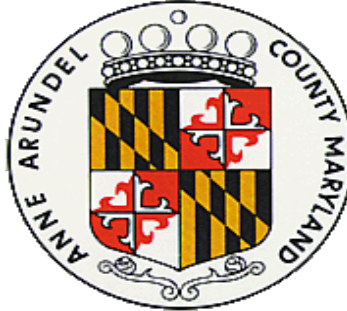


Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Fourth Quarter Allegany County Barriers
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AO	No sibling or family visits.
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home.
BH	Issues related to substance abuse.
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier.
DA	Disrupted Pre-Adoptive placement.
DF	Disrupted finalized adoption.
DG	Home study not approved.
EB	Youth not attending school or GED program.
EZ	Other education barrier.
HD	No follow-up or medical referrals.
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior.
LZ	Other placement barrier.

Anne Arundel County



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

- Non Relative Adoption: 2 cases
- Reunification: 7 cases
- APPLA: 3 cases

Permanency

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

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence: 3 cases

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 3 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 11 of the 12 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 1 case. 2 children/youths were a post-TPR child under the age of 14. 5 children/youths did not have any transitional plan.

Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 6 of the 12 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreement was appropriate for 1 of the 6 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	None
4	Formal Kinship Care
2	Regular Foster Care
1	Treatment Foster Care
4	Therapeutic Group Homes

6 of the 12 children/youth 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

In 4 of the 12 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 3 cases 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 11 most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) were less restrictive placements
- 2 case(s) were more restrictive placements
- 1 case(s) was the same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) placements were with relatives
- 2 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason

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

- 4 case(s) behavioral

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

- Yes, for the 4 cases

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

- Yes, for the 4 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 6 of the 12 children/youth reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 7 of the 12 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 7 of the 12 children/youths had a current vision exam.



- Current Dental: 9 of the 12 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 9 eligible child/youth reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 9 of the 12 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 9 of the 12 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 9 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 9 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 9 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 10 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 10 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 10 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 10 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: 3 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 3 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 7 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 7 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 2 children/youth refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 3 of 12 children/youths had been met.

Education

8 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 8 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 2 children/youth refused to



attend school. 2 children/youths were under the age of 5.

7 of the 8 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan, and all 7 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in their child/youth record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 7 of the 8 children/youths in pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 9 of 10 children/youth were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 7 cases)

3 youth participated in paid or unpaid work experience.

3 youth participated in paid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

1 youth was unable to participate due to being medically fragile

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

The local board agreed that 4 if the 7 youth were appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

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

3 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

1 youth was unable to participate due to being medically fragile

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

The local board agreed that 5 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 (None)

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



consent to be adopted. No child/youth consented to adoption.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (1 case)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (None)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

3 of 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	3	2	2
No	1	2	2

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

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	1		
Unsupervised	2	2	2

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	1		2
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other			
Therapist			

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	1	2	1
No	3	2	3

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 3 of 12 children/youth had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 1 child/youth. 3 children/youths with a sibling in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 3 children/youths had visits with their siblings who were not in care.

Summary

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



Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Fourth Quarter Anne Arundel County Barriers
AG	Lack of concurrent planning.
AS	Lack of follow up.
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource or service.
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AK	No service agreement with parents.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HB	Dentals not current.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.
HC	Vision not current.
LA	Youth needs more restrictive placement.
SA	No current safe custody & guardianship.
IZ	Other independence barrier.
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan.

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Baltimore County



Baltimore County had a total of 19 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 4 case(s)
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case(s)
- Reunification: 7 case(s)
- APPLA: 7 case(s)

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 17 of 19 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 the 7 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (7 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (6)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 7 cases)

All 7 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	1			2	1	3
7 to 11 months	3			1		3
1 to 2 years	2					1
2 to 3 years	1					
3 years or more					1	
Totals → 19	7			3	2	7

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all of the 19 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 3 cases. 3 children/youths were a post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was made for 3 of the 19 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for 3 of the 190 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	None
3	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
1	Regular Foster Care
5	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Alternative Living
1	Teen Mother Programs
2	Therapeutic Group Homes
2	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Residential Treatment Centers
1	Own Dwelling



In 6 of 19 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 17 cases reviewed, 2 of the children were not in a placement.

Placement Stability

10 of the 19 cases reviewed had a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 4 cases had 1 placement change, 2 cases had 2 changes, 2 cases had 3 changes, and 2 cases had 4 or more changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 5 of 10 cases.

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

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

The primary reasons for the most recent placement changes were:

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

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

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

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

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

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

- No, for 10 cases.



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

- Yes, for 10 cases.

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 6 of the 19 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: 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 out of 6 children/youth reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 6 children/youth had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 6 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 6 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 5 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 5 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues: 12 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for 12 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 9 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 12 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, with no 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 1 child/youth.

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- Behavioral Issues: 9 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 8 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 19 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 6 of the 19 children/youths had been met.

Education

15 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 12 children/youth were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 3 youths were enrolled in college. 1 youth refused to attend school and 3 children/youths were under the age of 5.

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

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 7 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 13 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 – 10 cases)

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

5 youth were not participating in paid or unpaid work experience. 1 youth did not participate due to being medically fragile. 1 youth did not participate due to mental health reasons.

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



No youth were referred to summer or year-round training and employment opportunities.

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

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

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

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

3 youths did not receive appropriate services due to mental health reasons.

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

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

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 2 cases)

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

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

Alternative housing options were provided to the 2 youths.

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

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (4 cases)

4 children/youth with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home.



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

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

- 1 case of 4 to 6 months
- 1 case of 7 to 9 months
- 2 case(s) 21 months or more

An adoptive home study was completed for 2 of the 4 cases.

A family social summary was given for 1 of the 4 cases.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for all 4 cases.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (4 cases)

Post adoptive services were needed for all 4 children/youths. Services that were needed were 3 medical and 1 mental health support for the 4 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for all 4 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were not approved for any of the 4 cases.

The Board found the post-adoptive services were appropriate for all 4 cases.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

3 of 19 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	5	3	10
No	14	16	9

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

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised		1	1
Unsupervised	5	2	9

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative			1
Other Agency Representative		1	
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other			
Therapist			

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home	5	2	9
Visitation Center/LDSS			
Public Area		1	1
Child's/Youth's Placement			
Other			

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Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	4	2	7
No	1	1	4

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 6 of 19 children/youth had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 2 children/youths. 5 children/youths with a sibling in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 5 children/youths had visits with their siblings who were not in care.

Summary

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

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Fourth Quarter Baltimore County Barriers
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AO	No sibling or family visits.
DI	Not following through on service agreement objectives.
DY	No family related barriers.
DZ	Other family related barrier.
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home.
BF	Not following up on referral.
BG	Refusal to locate or maintain employment.
BH	Issues related to substance abuse.
BY	Child/youth has runaway history.
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier.
CN	Disagreement with permanency plan.
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services.
ED	No current IEP.

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EB	Youth not attending school or in GED program.
EZ	Other education barrier.
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HB	Dentals not current.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.
HC	Vision not current.
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior.
MC	Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
LA	Youth needs more restrictive placement.
LZ	Other placement barrier.
3F	Lack of documentation.
5D	Over age 18 and still in care.
MD	Youth non-compliant with medication.
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence (General).

Calvert County



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

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

Permanency

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (none)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – none)

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	Formal Kinship Care
1	Pre-finalized Adoption

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

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

Placement Stability

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

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

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

- The 1 case(s) was same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement change was:

- 1 case(s) transition towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement change included:

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

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

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

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

- No, for 1 case(s)

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

- Yes, for 1 case(s)

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 1 of the 3 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 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 all 3 child(ren)/youth reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that all 3 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 1 of 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was monitored regularly for the 1 child.
- 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: The 1 child did not refuse to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 1 child/youth had mental health issues.



- Mental Health Diagnosis: 1 child/youth had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: : No child/youth with mental health issues was transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 3 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: One of the 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the one child/youth.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 3 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

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

Education

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

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

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

The local board agreed that both school-aged children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 1 case)

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

1 youth did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience due to a reason identified as: other.

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

The local board agreed that preparing to meet employment goals is not applicable (N/A) for the 1 case.

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

1 youth was receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

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

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

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 0 cases)
(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 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 pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple for the 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive for the 1 case is foster parent non-relative.

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.

Family social summary was given for the 1 case.

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

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

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for the 1 case.

Post adoptive subsidies was not approved for the 1 case.

There is a plan for post adoption agreement with siblings to include visits, telephone calls, letters, etc.

The Board found the post-adoptive services was appropriate for the 1 case.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

2 of 3 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	1	0	2
No	2	3	1

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

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Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	1		
Unsupervised			2

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	1		
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other			
Therapist			

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes			2
No	1		

Siblings/Visits

1 of the 3 children/youths had siblings in care. 1 child/youth had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were not made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 1 child/youth. 1 child/youth with sibling in care had visits with their sibling who did not reside with them. 1 child/youth have visits with sibling who is 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 3 children/youths reviewed.



Barriers/Issues

The local board did not identify any barriers to permanency or issues for Calvert County for the fourth quarter.



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

- Reunification: 3 cases

Permanency

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

The local Juvenile Court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for any of the 3 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 to 2 years	1					
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more	1					
Totals → 3	3					

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 2 of 3 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 2 cases. 1 child/youth has a youth transitional plan. Efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process was made for the 2 cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Therapeutic Group Homes
2	Residential Group Homes

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

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

Placement Stability

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

It is unknown if the local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for the 1 case.

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

- 1 case(s) was a more restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement change was:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement change included:

- 1 case(s) provider home closed

Child specific issues for the most recent placement change included:

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

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 2 of the 3 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 2 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 1 child/youth had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 2 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department did not ensure that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for the 3 children/youths requiring follow-up.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 2 of 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: 3 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- 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, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 3 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 the 2 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exam: None of the 3 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exam.

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

Education

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

2 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan. 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 were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

1 youth was participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth was unable to participate in paid or unpaid work experience due to mental health reasons.

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



None of the youths were referred to summer or vocational training.

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

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

1 youth was receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

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

The local board agreed that none of the 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)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 3 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

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Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	1		1
No	2	3	2

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	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 Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised			
Unsupervised	1		1

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes			
No	1		1

Siblings/Visits

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

Summary

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

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Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Fourth Quarter Caroline County Barriers
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
CY	No concurrent plan by the court.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.
IZ	Other independence barrier.

Carroll County



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

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

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 2 of 4 cases reviewed.

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

Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/independence (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case)

1 APPLA case had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the 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				1		

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2 to 3 years	1					
3 years or more	1					
Totals → 4	2			1		1

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 3 cases. 1 child/youth was a post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the family in the service agreement process were made for none of the cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	Regular Foster Care
1	Non-Relative
1	Residential Treatment Centers

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

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

Placement Stability

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

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

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

- 1 case(s) was same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement change was:

- 1 case(s) transition towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement change included:

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

Child specific issues for the most recent placement change included:

- 1 case(s) runaway

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 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: 2 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 2 of 4 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 2 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 2 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.



- Mental Health Issues: 3 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for all 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 3 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 4 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 Exams: 1 of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

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

Education

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

3 of 4 children/youths enrolled in school, or another educational/vocational program had a 504 or IEP plan or 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 4 children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program.

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

2 youth were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The local board agreed that the 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. 1 child/youth did not want to be adopted.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

1 child/youth with a plan of adoption was placed in a pre-adoptive home. The 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 for the 1 case.



A family social summary was given 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)

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

3 of 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	1		
No	3	4	4

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

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised			
Unsupervised	1		

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	1		
No	3	4	4

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.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Fourth Quarter Carroll County Barriers
AS	Lack of follow up (General).
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
HB	Dentals not current.
HD	No follow-up or medical referrals.
LZ	Other placement barrier.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.

Cecil County



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

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

Permanency

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

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

The local department was not implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 1 case.

Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence: 1 case
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement: 1 case

Permanent Connections (APPLA - 2 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held a family involvement meetings prior to entry for 1 case.

Service Agreements: The local department did not have a signed service agreement for any of the cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was not made for any of the cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	None
1	Regular Foster Care
1	Residential Group Homes
1	Residential Treatment Centers

1 child/youth was placed in their home jurisdiction in a setting that was in close proximity to their community, which allowed for the continuity of services.

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

Placement Stability

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 did not hold a family involvement meeting for the placement change for the 1 case.



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

- 1 case(s) was same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement change was:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement change included:

- 1 case(s) incompatible match

Child specific issues for the most recent placement change included:

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

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 all 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: 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 of 4 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported 2 of 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.



- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youth were taking psychotropic medication
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the children/youths refused to take prescription medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 4 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 2 of 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 4 children/youth with mental health issues were transitioning out of care and did not have 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: 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 3 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youth refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs 2 of 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 12th grade. 1 child/youth refused to attend school.

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



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

The local board agreed that 2 of 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 – 2 cases)

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 youth did not receive appropriate independent living skills due to mental health reasons.

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

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – none)

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

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 (1 case)

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 1 child/youth not placed in pre-adoptive home. The 1 child/youth was listed with family visits, Adopt Us Kids and other foster family.

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

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

Post-adoptive services were not needed for the 1 child/youth.

Post adoptive subsidies were not needed for the 1 case.

The local board found the post adoptive services appropriate for the 1 case.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

3 of 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes			
No	4	4	4

Siblings/Visits

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



Summary

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

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Fourth Quarter Cecil County Barriers
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AB	Pre adoptive resources not identified.
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
AK	No service agreement with parents.
CZ	Other court related barrier.
EB	Youth not attending school or GED program.
ED	No current IEP.
EZ	Other education barrier.
DA	Disputed pre-adoptive placement.
HC	Vision not current.
HE	Issues with medical assistance card.
HF	Issues related to insurance company.
HD	No follow-up or medical referrals.
IZ	Other independence barrier.
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence (General)
MZ	Other mental health barrier.

Charles County



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

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

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 3 cases.

The local department was implementing 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 (1 case)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	1					
7 to 11 months						1
1 to 2 years	1			1		
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 all 4 cases. Efforts were made to involve the family in the service agreement process were made for the 4 cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Residential Treatment Centers
1	Psychiatric Respite

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

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

Placement Stability

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

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

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

- 2 case(s) were a more restrictive placement

The primary 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:

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

Child specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 2 case(s) behavioral

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

- Yes, for 1 of 2 cases

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

- Yes, for 2 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 1 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 2 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 2 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 3 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 2 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: 2 children/youths had completed medical records.

- Prescription Medication: 2 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed 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: None of the 2 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- 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 2 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

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

Education

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

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



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

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

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 4 cases)

2 youth were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

2 youth were participating in work experience relevant to career field of choice.

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

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

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

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

All 4 youths completed a life skill 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 – 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 indicated they do not want to be adopted.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (1 case)

1 child/youth received adoptive counseling with conditions.

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (1 case)

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

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

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

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

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for the 1 case.

Post adoptive subsidies was not approved for the 1 case.

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

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 Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	2	1	
No	2	3	4

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			
Once a week			

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More than once a week			
Once a month	2	1	
More than once a month			
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised		1	
Unsupervised	2		

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative			
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other			
Therapist		1	

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes			
No	2	1	

Siblings/Visits

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



Summary

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

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Fourth Quarter Charles County Barriers
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AO	No sibling or family visits.
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home.
BH	Issues related to substance abuse.
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier.
DG	Home study not approved.
DF	Disrupted finalized adoption.
DZ	Other family related barrier.
ED	No current IEP.
EZ	Other education barrier.
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior.
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
5D	Over age 18 and still in care.

Frederick County



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

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

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 2 of 4 cases reviewed.

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (none)

Permanent Connections (none)

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 2 cases. 2 children/youths had a youth transitional plan.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

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

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

Placement Stability

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

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 3 of 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: 3 children/youths had a current dental exam.



- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for all 4 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 2 of the 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medicine.
- Mental Health Issues: 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 4 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- 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 the 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 enrolled in Pre-K through 12th grade.

3 of 4 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/report card was available for review for all 4 children/youths in pre-K through 12th grade.

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

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

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

1 youth could not participate in paid work experience due to mental health reasons.

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

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

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

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

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

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)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

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 Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	1	3	2
No	3	1	2

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

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	1	3	2
Unsupervised			

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Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		1	
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other			
Therapist	1	2	2

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes			
No	4	4	4

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 2 of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care. Both children/youths had 2 siblings in care. Efforts were not made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 2 children/youths. None of the 2 children/youths with a sibling in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 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.



Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Fourth Quarter Frederick County Barriers
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource or service.
AS	Lack of follow up
EZ	Other education barrier.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
HC	Vision not current.

Garrett County



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

- Reunification: 2 cases
- APPLA: 1 case
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 1 case

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

Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case)

1 APPLA case had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the 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	2					
1 to 2 years						

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

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Own Dwelling
3	Formal Kinship Care

All 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

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

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

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) transition towards permanency goal



Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

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

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: 3 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 3 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: Appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 1 child/youth requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 3 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: 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 Medicine: None of the 4 children/youths refused prescribed medicine.
- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for the 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for all 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 4 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 4 children/youths had substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

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

Education

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

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

The local board agreed that the 3 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 – 1 case)

1 youth was participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

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)

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

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

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

- 1 case(s) 12 to 15 months

Adoptive home study was not completed for the 1 case.

A family social summary was not given for the 1 case.

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

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

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for the 1 case.

Post adoptive subsidies were not approved for the 1 case.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources was 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 all 4 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	3	4	4
No	1		

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

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

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised		1	
Unsupervised	3	3	4

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		1	
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other			
Therapist			

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	1	1	4
No	2	3	

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 2 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 the 2 children/youths. Both children/youths with a sibling in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. None of the 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.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Fourth Quarter Garrett County Barriers
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home.
BF	Not following up on referrals.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
5D	Over age 18 and still in care.

Harford County



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

- Non-Relative Adoption: 2 cases
- Reunification: 2 cases
- APPLA: 4 cases

Permanency

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (4 cases)

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

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 4 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

3 years or more	1					
Totals → 8	2			2		4

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 4 of the 8 cases.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 3 cases. 5 children/youths had a youth transitional plan. 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	Formal Kinship Care
1	Regular Foster Care
3	Residential Group Homes
1	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Diagnostic Center

In 3 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 all 8 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 3 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 and 1 case had 3 placement changes.

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

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

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



- 1 case(s) was more restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

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

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

- Yes, for 3 cases

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

- Yes, for 3 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 3 of 8 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 8 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 7 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 5 of the 8 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.

- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 3 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 2 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 2 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 6 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 6 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 5 of 6 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 1 of the 6 children/youths with mental health issues was transitioning out of care, had no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 8 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 1 child/youth had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 8 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 5 of the 8 children/youths had been met.

Education

6 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational Program. All 6 children/youths were enrolled in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth not attending school graduated high school. 1 child/youth refused to attend school.

2 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan, and 1 child/youth had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in their records.



A current progress report/report card was available for review for 3 of 6 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 4 of 6 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 6 cases)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth –1 case)

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

Housing had not been specified for the 1 youth transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options were not provided to the 1 youth.

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



The local board agreed that 1 youth was not 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.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (1 case)

1 child/youth received adoptive counseling the last 6 months.

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 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.

A family social summary was not given for the 1 case.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for the 1 case.

Adoptive Recruitment (1 case)

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

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

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (2 cases)

Post-adoptive services were not needed for 2 children/youths.

It is unknown if Post adoptive subsidies were needed for the 2 cases.



The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for the 2 cases.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

3 of 8 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	3	2	
No	5	6	8

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

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised			
Unsupervised	3	2	

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home			
Visitation Center/LDSS			
Public Area	2	1	



Child's/Youth's Placement	1	1	
Other			

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes			
No	3	2	

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 3 children/youths had siblings in care. All 3 children/youths had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were not made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 3 children/youths. 3 children/youths with a sibling in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 3 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 3 of 8 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Fourth Quarter Harford County Barriers
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
AB	Pre adoptive resources not identified.
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AL	No service agreement with youth.
BG	Refusal to locate or maintain employment.
CI	Child in pre adoptive home, but adoption not finalized.
CY	No concurrent plan by the court.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.
EA	Youth not enrolled in school.
ED	No current IEP.
EE	School not implementing IEP.
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services.
EZ	Other education barrier.

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IA	Transitional housing has not been identified.
IB	Youth not employed and transitioning out of care.
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
IZ	Other independence barrier.
LD	Housing has not been identified for youth aging out of care.
MC	Youth refuses mental health therapy.
MD	Youth non complaint with medicine.
2H	Failure to initiate show cause committee.
SA	No current safe custody & guardianship.



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Howard County



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

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

Permanency

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (2)

Permanent Connections (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			1
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years				1		
2 to 3 years						1
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 signed service agreements for any of the 4 cases. 1 child/youth was a post-TPR child under the age of 14. 2 children/youths did not have any transitional plan. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 1 case.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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

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

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

Placement Stability

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

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

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

- 1 case(s) was less restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) transition towards permanency goal



Provider specific issues for the most recent placement change included:

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

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

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

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 none 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: 2 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 2 eligible children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 2 of the 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: None of the 4 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Not applicable.
- Psychotropic Medication: None of the 4 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.



- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Not applicable.
- Refused Prescribed Medicine: None of the 4 children/youths refused prescription medicine.
- Mental Health Issues: 3 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for all 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 3 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 4 children/youths had a 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: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exam.

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

Education

2 of 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. The 2 children/youths were enrolled in Pre-K through 12 grade. 1 child/youth not attending school graduated high school. 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

None of the 2 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan or had a copy in child/youth record.

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



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

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

2 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The local board agreed that 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 1 youth transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options was provided to the 1 youth.

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

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



Child's Consent to Adoption (none)

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 married couple for the 1 case. 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

Adoptive home study was completed for the 1 case.

A family social summary was given for the 1 case.

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

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 Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	1		
No	3	4	4

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

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	1		
Unsupervised			

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative			
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent	1		
Other			
Therapist			

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes			
No	4	4	4



Siblings/Visits

3 of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care. 3 children/youths had 1 sibling in care. Efforts were not made to place siblings in care together for the 2 children/youth. 1 child/youth had visits with sibling who was not in care.

Summary

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

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Fourth Quarter Howard County Barriers
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource or service.
AS	Lack of follow up (General).
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.
HC	Vision not current.
HB	Dentals not current.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.

Montgomery County



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

- Non-Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 3 cases
- Reunification: 16 cases
- APPLA: 6 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 24 of 28 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified concurrent permanency plans for 10 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 10 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (6 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (5)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 6 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	4		3			3
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	3			1		
2 to 3 years	9					1
3 years or more				2		2
Totals →28	16		3	3		6

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 4 cases. 3 children/youths were a post-TPR child under the age of 14. 6 children/youths did not have a youth transitional plan. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 19 cases.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	None
14	Formal Kinship Care
6	Regular Foster Care
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Independent Living Residential Program
2	Own Dwelling
2	Other

In 13 of 28 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 23 of 28 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 9 of the 28 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. All 9 cases had 2 placement changes.

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

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

- 6 case(s) were less restrictive placement
- 3 case(s) were same level of care

Primary reason for the most recent placement changes included:

- 7 case(s) placement with relatives
- 2 case(s) transition towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

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

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

- Yes, for 9 cases

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

- Yes, for 9 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 6 of the 28 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.

- Current Physical: 16 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 16 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 20 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 22 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 8 of the 28 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 7 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 7 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 5 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 5 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 15 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 15 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 11 of 15 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 15 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- 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: 1 child/youth refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 9 of the 28 children/youths had been met.

Education

20 of 28 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 18 children/youths were enrolled in Pre-K through 12th grade. 2 youths were enrolled in college. 2 children/youths refused to attend school. 6 children/youths were under the age of 5.

8 of the 18 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 7 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

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

The local board agreed that 21 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 6 cases)

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

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

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

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

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

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

5 youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living when they leave home care. 1 youth did not participate in independent living

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services due to mental health reasons.

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

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

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

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

Alternative housing options was provided to the 1 youth.

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

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (3 cases)

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

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

- 3 case(s) 21 months or more

Adoptive home study was not completed for the 3 cases.

A family social summary was given 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)

5 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 28 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	16	11	7
No	12	17	21

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily	4	4	
Once a week	8	7	5
More than once a week			
Once a month	3		1
More than once a month	1		1
Quarterly			
Yes, but undocumented			

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	11	7	3
Unsupervised	5	4	4

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Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	6	4	1
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member	4	3	2
CASA			
Foster Parent	1		

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home	5	4	4
Visitation Center/LDSS	6	4	
Public Area	1	3	3
Child's/Youth's Placement	4		
Other			

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	4	4	2
No	24	24	26

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 22 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 19 children/youths. 21 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 28 children/youths reviewed.



Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Fourth Quarter Montgomery County Barriers
AG	Lack of concurrent planning.
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource/service.
AS	Lack of follow up (General).
AK	No service agreement with parents.
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.
EZ	Other education barrier.
IZ	Other independence barrier.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
LA	Youth needs more restrictive placement.
LB	Youth needs less restrictive placement.
IB	Youth not employed and transitioning out of care.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.

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**Prince George's
County**



Prince George's County had a total of 24 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 4 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Reunification: 7 cases
- APPLA: 9 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 3 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 24 cases reviewed.

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

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

Category of APPLA plan (9 cases)

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

Permanent Connections (9 cases)

8 of 9 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified, and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 8 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	4	1			1	3
7 to 11 months				2		4
1 to 2 years	2			1		1
2 to 3 years	1			1		1
3 years or more		2				
Totals → 24	7	3		4	1	9

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 3 cases. 5 children/youths were a Post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 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
6	None
2	Formal Kinship Care
3	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
3	Regular Foster Care
5	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
3	Therapeutic Group Homes
1	Residential Treatment Centers
1	Other

In 11 of the 24 cases reviewed, the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities, which allowed for the continuity of services.



The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for 18 of 24 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 10 of the 24 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 3 cases had 1 placement change, 3 cases had 2 placement changes, and 2 cases had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 4 of 10 cases.

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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

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

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

- No, for 10 cases

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

- Yes, for 8 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 8 of 24 children/youths reviewed had developmental or specials needs.
- Current Physical: 22 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 19 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 23 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: It was reported that the local department ensured appropriate follow-up occurred on all health-related concerns for 10 children/youths.
- Completed Medical Records: 16 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 9 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 9 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 6 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 6 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 17 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 17 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 11 of 17 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 17 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: 3 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.

- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 3 children/youths.
 - Behavioral Issues: 10 children/youths had behavioral issues.
 - Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 7 children/youths.
 - Standard Health Exams: None of the 24 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.
- The local board agreed that health needs of 17 of 24 children/youths were met.

Education

19 of the 24 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 17 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth was enrolled in a GED program and 1 youth was enrolled in college.

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

11 of the 19 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 10 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report card was available to review for 11 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

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

Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 16 cases)

2 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (2 cases)

2 children/youths received adoptive counseling in last 6 months with conditions.

Pre-Adoptive Placement (5 cases)

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

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

- 5 case(s) 21 months or more

Adoptive home study was completed and approved for 2 of 5 cases.

A family social summary was completed for 2 of 5 cases.

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

Adoptive Recruitment (none)



Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (6 cases)

Post-adoptive services were needed for 6 children/youths. The service needed was medical for all 6 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for 6 cases

Post adoptive subsidies were not approved for the 6 cases.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for the 6 cases.

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 18 of 24 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	8	6	17
No	16	18	7

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

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	2		2
Unsupervised	6	6	15

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Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	2		1
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other			1
Therapist			

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	6	5	14
No	2	1	3

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 none of the 4 children/youths. 3 children/youths did not have 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 24 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Fourth Quarter Prince George's County Barriers
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AO	No sibling or family visits.
AZ	Other agency related barrier.
BB	Child's age.
BD	Child has behavior problems in the home.
BH	Issues related to substance abuse.
BG	Refusal to locate or maintain employment.
BY	Child/youth has runaway history.
BU	Un document child/youth.
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier.
DI	Not following through on service agreement objectives.
DF	Disrupted finalized adoption.
DY	No family related barriers.
DZ	Other family related barrier.
EA	Youth not enrolled in school.
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services.
EB	Youth not attending school or in GED program.
EZ	Other education barrier.
CD	Full dockets.
CN	Disagreement with permanency plan.
CY	No concurrent plan by court.
FG	No concurrent permanency plan in place.
FZ	Other permanency barrier.
MC	Youth refused mental health treatment including therapy.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
HC	Vision not current.
HZ	Other physical health barrier.
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence.
1Z	Other independence barrier
5D	Over age 18 and still in care.
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior.

St. Mary's County



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

- Reunification: 3 cases
- Non-Relative Adoption: 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 plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 3 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	3			1		
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years						
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 2 of the 4 cases. 2 children/youth were post-TPR children under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were not made for either of the 2 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
3	Formal Kinship Care
1	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home

All 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 the 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 1 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 3 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 4 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured appropriate follow-up occurred on all health-related concerns for none of the 3 children/youths.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 3 children/youths



had completed medical records in their case files.

- Prescription Medication: None of the 4 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Not applicable.
- Psychotropic Medication: None of the 4 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Not applicable.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: Not applicable.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Not applicable.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Not applicable.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 4 children/youths had substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 1 child/youth had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

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

Education

3 of 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 3 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

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

A current progress report card was available for all 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 – none)
- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – none)
- Housing (Transitioning Youth – none)

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 to 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 pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple for the 1 case. 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

Adoptive home study was not completed and approved for 1 case.

A family social summary was not completed for the 1 case.

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

Adoptive Recruitment none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

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

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for the 1 case.

Post adoptive subsidies were not approved for the 1 case.

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

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 Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	3		4
No	1	4	

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

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	3		
Unsupervised			4

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative			

Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent	3		
Other			
Therapist			

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes			
No	3		4

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 3 of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care. 3 children/youths had 2 siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 3 children/youths.

Summary

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

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Third Quarter St. Mary County Barriers
AI	Efforts were not made to move towards finalization.
CI	Child in pre-adoptive home, but adoption not finalized.

Washington
County



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

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

Permanency

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

The local juvenile court did not identify a concurrent permanency plan for 3 of the 8 cases.

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

Category of APPLA plan (5 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (4)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (1)

Permanent Connections (5 cases)

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

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 2 of the 8 cases.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 2 of the 8 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 2 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
1	None
2	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Regular Foster Care
1	Own Dwelling
3	Residential Group Homes

4 of 8 children/youth 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 8 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

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

It is unknown if the local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement change for 2 cases.



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

- 1 case was the same level of care
- 1 case was more restrictive
- 1 case is unknown
- 1 case is N/A due to runaway status

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

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

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

- 2 case(s) are behavioral
- 1 case is a runaway
- 1 case is identified as other

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

- Yes, for all 4 cases

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

- Yes, for 2 cases
- NA- runaway for 1 case
- Unknown for 1 case

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 3 of 8 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 5 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 1 child/youth had a current vision exam.

- Current Dental: 6 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 2 of 7 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 1 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: Yes, for the 5 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 4 children/youth were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 4 children/youth.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 of the 5 children/youths refused to take prescription medicine.
- Mental Health Issues: 5 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 5 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 5 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 5 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: One of the 4 children/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: In 2 of the 4 cases, substance abuse is being addressed.
- Behavioral Issues: 6 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 4 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 1 of the 6 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 4 of 8 children/youths had been met.

Education

6 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 6 children/youths were enrolled in pre-K through 12th grade. 1 youth is in a program categorized as other, and one youth's status is unknown.

2 of 6 children/youths in pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 1 had a copy of The 504/IEP plan was in the child/youth's record.

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

The local board agreed that 4 of 6 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 5 cases)

1 youth was participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

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

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

It is unknown if the 1 youth was earning a living wage.

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

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

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

4 youths completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood, one did not due to mental health reasons.

The local board agreed that the 1 youth was receiving appropriate independent living skills.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 1 case)

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

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

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The local board agrees with the transitional housing plan.

Child's Consent to Adoption

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

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 8 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	3	2	1
No	5	6	7

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



Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	1		1
Unsupervised	2	2	

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	1		
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other			1

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

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes			
No	3	2	1

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 4 children/youths had siblings in care. 3 children/youths had 1 sibling, and 1 child had two siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 3 of the 4 children/youths. 2 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 7 of the 8 children/youths reviewed.

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Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Third Quarter Washington County Barriers
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AN	Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
BY	Child/youth has runaway history.
BD	Child has behavioral problems in the home.
IA	Transitional housing not identified.
CY	No concurrent plan by the court.
EA	Youth not enrolled in school.
ED	No current IEP.
EE	School not implementing IEP.
EZ	Other education barrier.
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HB	Dentals not current.
HD	No follow-up or medical referrals
IC	Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
IZ	Other independence barrier.
EB	Youth not attending school or in GED program.
2H	Failure to initiate show cause committee.
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services.
BH	Issues related to substance abuse.
HC	Vision not current.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.

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

- Reunification: 1 case
- AAPLA: 3 cases

Permanency

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

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

The local department was not implementing the concurrent permanency plans set by the local juvenile court for the 1 case.

Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (3)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 3 cases)

2 of 3 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the board found the identified Permanent connection appropriate for the 2 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

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

Case Planning

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

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement 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 not made for the 1 case.

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

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Restricted Foster Care (Private)
1	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Residential Treatment Center
1	Other

None 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 all 4 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

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

It is unknown if a family involvement meeting was held for the placement changes for the 3 cases.



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

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

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

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

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

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

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included

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

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 3 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: 3 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 2 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 1 child/youth had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 1 child/youth requiring follow-ups.

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- Completed Medical Records: The local department 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: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 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 1 of 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 4 children/youth with mental health issues who were transitioning out of care had an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: 2 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 2 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 1 of 4 children/youths.
- 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 1 of 3 children/youths had been met.

Education

1 of 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. The 1 child/youth was enrolled in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 2 children/youths refused to attend school and 1 child/youth did not attend school due to other reasons.

1 child/youth in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan. The 1 child/youth did not have a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the record.



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

The local board agreed that 1 child/youth was not 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.

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

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

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

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

1 youth was receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

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

1 youth was receiving required independent living skills.

The local board agreed that 1 youth was 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)

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Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

3 of 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

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

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes			
No	4	4	4

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	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 Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised			
Unsupervised			

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative			
Other Agency Representative			
Court Appointed Representative			

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Biological Family Member			
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other			
Therapist			

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes			
No	4	4	4

Siblings/Visits

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

Summary

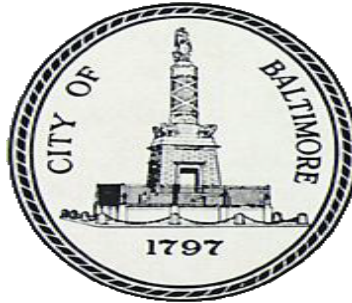
Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 4 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

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

Code	Fourth Quarter Wicomico County Barriers
AN	Youth placed outside oh home jurisdiction.
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
AB	Pre-adoptive resources not identified.
BH	Issues related to substance abuse.
BE	Non-compliant with service agreement.
BZ	Other child/youth related barrier.
BD	Child has behavior problems in the home.
HA	Annual physicals not current.
HD	No follow up on medical referrals.
HC	Vision not current.
IZ	Other independence barrier.

Baltimore City



Baltimore City had a total of 66 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 8 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 12 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 7 cases
- Reunification: 28 cases
- APPLA: 7 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 4 Cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 56 of the 66 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 12 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plans set by the local Juvenile Court for 11 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (7 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence: 7 youth

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 7 cases)

6 of 7 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	7	3	6	1	4	2
7 to 11 months	2		2	2	1	4
1 to 2 years	11		4	3	2	1
2 to 3 years	6			2		
3 years or more	2	1				
Totals →66	28	4	12	8	7	7

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 46 of the 66 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 6 cases. 11 children/youths were a Post-TPR child under the age of 14.

6 children/youths did not have a youth transitional plan.

Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 30 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreement was appropriate for 6 of the 66 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

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



In 25 of the 66 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 63 of the 66 cases.

Placement Stability

In 15 of the 66 cases reviewed, there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 10 cases had one placement change, 3 cases had two placement changes, 1 case had three placement changes, and 1 case had four or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 9 of 15 cases.

The following levels of care were found for the 15 most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) were less restrictive placements
- 4 case(s) were more restrictive placements
- 9 case(s) were the same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 3 case(s) placements transitioned towards permanency goals
- 4 case(s) placements were with relatives
- 8 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 10 case(s) placement not due to provider issue
- 3 case(s) provider request
- 1 case(s) allegation of provider abuse or neglect
- 1 case(s) was an incompatible match

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

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

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 all 15 cases

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 28 of the 66 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 51 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 42 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 31 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on 37 health concerns noted by a physician for 59 child/youth requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 23 of the 66 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 27 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for 26 of 27 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 21 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 21 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 8 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 36 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 35 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 27 children/youths.

- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 66 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care, therefore no identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system was established.
- Substance Abuse: 2 children/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: yes, for the 2 children/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 18 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 17 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 3 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 23 of the 66 children/youths had been met.

Education

43 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 43 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 2 youth graduated high school. 3 children/youth refused to attend school. 17 children/youths were under the age of 5. 1 child was noted as: other.

21 of the 43 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan, and 15 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 26 of the 43 children/youth in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 35 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

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

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

8 youths had completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood. 1 youth did not due to being medically fragile, and 2 youth did not due to mental health reasons.

The local board agreed that all 8 youth were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 19 cases)

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

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

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

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

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

The local board agreed that 11 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 2 cases)

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

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

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

Child's Consent to Adoption (12 cases)

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 2 children/youth consented to adoption, 1 did not consent due to mental health reasons, 9 children/youths were under the age of consent. 1 child/youth is unknown.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (12 cases)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (11 cases)

1 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 for 10 cases. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was foster parent relative for 4 cases, foster parent non-relative



for 6 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) 7 to 9 months
- 9 case(s) 21 months or more

A home study was completed for 8 placements and approved.

A family social summary was given for 9 cases.

The local board agreed that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for all 11 cases.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (2 cases)

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for 2 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were approved for the 2 cases.

The Board found the post-adoptive services were appropriate for 2 cases.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

3 of 66 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 64 of the 66 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Yes	29	14	9
No	37	52	57

Frequency of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Daily			

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Once a week	14	6	4
More than once a week	3	1	
Once a month	4	2	1
More than once a month	4	3	3
Quarterly	2	1	
Yes, but undocumented	2	1	1

Supervision of Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
Supervised	14	8	3
Unsupervised	15	6	6

Who Supervises Visits	With Mother	With Father	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	10	6	2
Other Agency Representative	1	1	1
Court Appointed Representative			
Biological Family Member	3	1	
CASA			
Foster Parent			
Other			
Therapist			

Where do Visits Occur?	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Parent/Relative Home	10	3	5
Visitation Center/LDSS	7	2	
Public Area	6	4	1
Child's/Youth's Placement	4	3	3
Other	2	2	

Overnight Stays	With Mother	With Father	With Relative
Yes	8	2	4
No	43	42	38



Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 32 of 66 children/youths had siblings in care. 22 children had one sibling, 4 children had two siblings, 4 children had four siblings, 12 had six siblings in care, 28 had seven siblings, and 8 had eight or more siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 15 children/youths. 25 children/youths with a sibling 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)) 55 of 66 children/youths reviewed.

Code	Third Quarter Baltimore City Barriers
AA	ICPC issues.
IA	Transitional Housing Has Not Been Identified.
AN	Youth placed outside oh home jurisdiction.
AR	Missing or lack of documentation.
CI	Child in pre-adoptive home, but adoption not finalized.
AS	Lack of follow-up (General).
AK	No service agreement with parents.
AL	No service agreement with youth.
AQ	Worker did not submit referral for needed resource or service.
BD	Child has behavior problems in the home
BF	Not following up on referrals.
AG	Lack of concurrent planning.
3E	Inadequate Information on CJAMS Case Plans.
DI	Bio family not following through on service agreement objectives.
CY	No concurrent plan by court.
DA	Disrupted pre-adoption placement.
ED	No current IEP.
DZ	Other family related barrier.
2A	Inadequate casework services.
2B	Lack of progress in implementation.
DL	Bio family not maintaining contact with department.
2Z	Other implementation barrier.
3F	Lack of documentation.
3H	Lack of awareness of policy.

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HA	Annual physicals not current.
HB	Dentals not current.
HC	Vision not current.
HD	No follow up or medical referrals.
DY	Bio family noncompliant.
IZ	Other independence barrier.
FA	Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
AE	Worker failed to submit proper paperwork for timely TPR filing.
EC	Youth not receiving adequate services.
ED	No current IEP.
EE	School not implementing IEP.
EF	School not meeting youth behavioral needs.
EZ	Other education barrier.
SB	Youth engages in risky behavior.
LB	Youth needs less restrictive placement.
3G	Poor supervision.
2Z	Other implementation barrier.
EE	School not implementing IEP/IEP not individualized.
6Z	Other legal barrier.
MZ	Other mental health barrier.
SA	No current safe custody & guardianship
2H	Failure to implement accepted CRBC recommendations.
3D	No updated CJAMS case plans.
FZ	Other permanency barrier.



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.

4th Quarter 2026 CRBC Metrics

Recommendation Reports to DSS - Number Sent:	207
Recommendation Reports to DSS - Number Sent on Time:	202
Recommendation Reports to DSS - Percentage Sent on Time:	98%
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Number of Responses Received: ¹	140
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Percentage of DSS Responses:	69%
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Number Received on Time:	104
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Percentage Received on Time	74%
Number of Boards Held	54
Recommendation Reports - Number of DSS Agreement:	138
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of DSS Agreement:	99%
Recommendation Reports - Number of DSS Disagreement:	2
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of DSS Disagreement:	0%
Recommendation Reports - Number of Blank/Unanswered: ²	0
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of Blank/Unanswered:	0%
Percentage of REUNIFICATION Children Reviewed for the Period:	39%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT - Adoption Children Reviewed:	4%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT - C & G Children Reviewed:	9%
Percentage of ADOPTION Children Reviewed for the Period:	17%
Percentage of CUSTODY/GUARDIANSHIP Children Reviewed for the Period:	6%
Percentage of APPLA Children Reviewed for the Period:	25%

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.

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Delores Alexander (Vice Chair)

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Benia Richardson

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