



State of Maryland Executive Department

Larry Hogan
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford
Lieutenant Governor

Arlene F. Lee
Executive Director

January 6, 2017

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
State House, H-107
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Michael E. Busch
State House, H-101
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: Human Services Article § 8-1004

Dear Senator Miller and Delegate Busch:

Pursuant to Human Services Article § 8-1004, the Governor's Office for Children is providing the required report to the General Assembly on programs for children in out-of-home placement and standards for staff and system for outcomes evaluation.

If you have questions about the report, please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Arlene F. Lee
Executive Director

Enclosure

c: Carolyn Ellison, Budget Analyst, Department of Budget and Management
Sarah Albert, Library Associate, Department of Legislative Services

**Report to the Legislature on
Programs for Children in Out-of-Home Placement - Standards for Staff and System for
Outcomes Evaluation
FY 2016**

Introduction

In 2007, SB177/HB53 was passed by the Maryland General Assembly requiring the Department of Juvenile Services, the Department of Human Resources, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and the Governor's Office for Children to adopt regulations to require staff members of residential child care programs to meet specified qualifications; requiring the Department of Juvenile Services, the Department of Human Resources, and the Governor's Office for Children to develop, coordinate, and implement a system of outcomes evaluation; and requiring the Governor's Office for Children to coordinate a yearly report on these activities.

On October 1, 2015, the regulations under Human Services Article § 8-1003 requiring the aforementioned activities were repealed. Human Services Article § 8-1004 remains in effect, requiring a yearly report.

Implementation of the Program

On July 31, 2015, the State Children, Youth, and Family Information System and its module for tracking specific data about a child's placements (Children's Services Outcomes Measurement System) and outcomes (Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths) was permanently shut down. The Children's Cabinet is working towards the development of a modern technology solution. Licensing, contracting, and reporting requirements remain in effect with individual Agencies, which will continue to serve as the basis for a system to monitor outcomes. The State Agencies remain committed to outcomes evaluation and the ability to monitor the care, supervision, education, and treatment of children and youth in placement.