



THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401-1991

JOINT COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

December 16, 2022

The Honorable Bill Ferguson, Co-Chair
The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones, Co-Chair
Members of the Legislative Policy Committee

Dear President Ferguson, Speaker Jones, and Members:

The Joint Committee on Children, Youth, and Families respectfully submits the following summary of its 2022 interim activities. The joint committee met once during the interim to learn about programs that serve children, youth, and families and may be relevant throughout an individual's lifespan.

On December 6, 2022, the joint committee heard presentations related to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on children, families, and women. Members of the Children's Behavioral Health Coalition briefed the joint committee on worsening youth behavioral health outcomes that were exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency. A panel from the Maryland Commission for Women discussed findings from the commission's report, *At the Heart of the Pandemic: Maryland Women and the COVID-19 Crisis*. Finally, joint committee staff from the Department of Legislative Services presented a summary of legislation enacted during the 2019 through 2022 legislative term related to programs and policy areas monitored by the joint committee.

The Joint Committee on Children, Youth, and Families wishes to thank those individuals who contributed their time and expertise to inform and advise the committee's work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mary L. Washington".

Mary L. Washington
Senate Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ariana B. Kelly".

Ariana B. Kelly
House Chair

MLW:ABK/APW:JE/bao

cc: Members, Joint Committee on Children, Youth, and Families
Ms. Victoria L. Gruber
Mr. Ryan Bishop

Ms. Sally Robb
Mr. Jeremy Baker