

Michigan Foster Care Review Board 2020 Annual Report



Michigan
State Court Administrative Office



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Foster Care Review Board is to engage citizen volunteers to review and evaluate permanency planning processes and outcomes for children and families in the Michigan foster care system. Based on the data collected through case review, the Foster Care Review Board advocates for systemic improvements in areas of child safety, timely permanency, and family and child well being.

VISION STATEMENT

The Foster Care Review Board will be viewed and valued by the courts, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, private child-placing agencies, the legislature, tribes, and the citizens of Michigan as a credible source of information and data on the performance of the child welfare system. In addition, citizens of the state will use the data to shape public policy and promote awareness regarding Michigan's foster care system.

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Background and Purpose

The Michigan Legislature created the Foster Care Review Boards Act in 1984 (MCL 722.131-140) as a means to ensure additional oversight of child protective proceedings, with the goal of promoting safety and well-being in the foster care system, and to help cases progress towards timely permanency.

The Act requires the Foster Care Review Board (FCRB) to provide independent third-party review of foster care cases. The FCRB also hears appeals by foster parents who believe that children are being unnecessarily moved from their care. The FCRB program includes 12 regional boards and is housed within the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) in an effort to support juvenile courts in fulfilling their responsibility of monitoring the care and supervision of children placed into foster care, as well as the agency's efforts to ensure safe, permanent homes for children as quickly as possible.

SCAO establishes the program's framework, including uniform policies and procedures, criteria for the selection of cases to be reviewed, and local citizen review board membership recruitment and training. In addition, SCAO maintains a statewide advisory committee to assess needs within the foster care system and make recommendations to address those needs. Recommendations are published in this annual report to the public, the legislature, and the governor.

Annual Report Requirements

MCL 722.139 requires the State Court Administrative Office to publish an annual report of the FCRB program that includes all of the following information:

- A summary, with applicable quantitative data, of the activities and functioning of each local review board.
- A summary, with applicable quantitative data, of the activities and functioning of the aggregate of all local review boards.
- An identification of problems that impede the timely placement of children in permanent placements, and recommendations for improving the timely placement of children in permanent placements.
- The statistics and findings regarding its reviews of permanent wards, and identification of any barriers to permanency.

NOTE FROM THE SCAO CHILD WELFARE SERVICES DIRECTOR

Child Welfare Services Director, Kelly Wagner



The COVID-19 pandemic posed new challenges and opportunities for the Foster Care Review Board program in 2020. FCRB staff and board members around the state very quickly shifted program operations to adapt to virtual meeting technology to ensure that foster care cases continued to be timely reviewed amidst the national public health emergency. The FCRB's commitment to providing citizen oversight and accountability to promote children's timely permanency remained steadfast.

The necessary response to the pandemic provided FCRB program staff with opportunities to realize operational efficiencies and increase party participation with easier access to meetings. Since March 2020, the FCRB program has been hosting all 12 monthly regional board meetings, and time-sensitive foster parent appeal meetings, through remote technology. The meetings were at first hosted through conference call, then shifted to the Adobe Connect web-based platform, before finally landing on the Zoom platform. The program also began collecting interested party questionnaires through online surveys in lieu of paper forms, increasing response rates and requiring less staff time for processing. The patience and adaptability of the board members and staff during the shift to remote technology and related operational changes made the transitions as smooth as possible.

I extend a heartfelt thank you to every FCRB Board member, Advisory Committee member, and program staff. Although 2020 was unprecedented, the Michigan Foster Care Review Board Program rose to the challenge and our mission remained clear. This would not have been possible without the unfettered commitment of our board members to ensuring this important work continue despite the global pandemic, which is reflective of their sincere and collective desire to help children and families in Michigan.

2020 FCRB Program Snapshot

Total Number of Foster Care Cases Reviewed:	238 cases involving 439 children
Total Number of FCRB Case Reviews:	391
Total Number of Foster Parent Appeals:	74

Michigan's 12 Foster Care Review Boards reviewed 238 foster care cases, which included 439 children. Once identified for review, the boards are required to review the foster care case every six months until permanency is achieved.

Requested Case Reviews

- 64 cases reviewed in 2020 were cases in which an interested party requested an FCRB review.
- The top reason for requesting FCRB review was based upon the child not achieving timely permanency.

Case Reviews for Children Awaiting Adoption ("MARE" cases)

- 110 cases were selected for review involving 179 children.

Random Selection Cases

- 64 randomly selected cases of children who have been placed in foster care for less than 90 days
- Focused on review of the initial case service plan to ensure it is tailored to meet the unique needs of the family.

Top Systemic Issues

- Children's services interrupted or delayed to COVID-19 (141 children)
- Lawyer-Guardian Ad Litem (LGAL) not actively involved in representation of children (136 children)
- Frequent changes in child placement (104 children)

Recommendations

- 1,684 recommendations were made related to **child well-being** issues
- 314 recommendations were made related to **permanency** issues
- 58 recommendations were made related to **child safety** issues

Foster Parent Appeals

- 74 foster parent appeals conducted

Program Structure

- 6 statewide regions
- 27 Advisory Committee members
- 12 regional boards (2 per SCAO region)
- 61 volunteer board members

Foster Parent Appeals: The FCRB's Role in Reducing Unnecessary Placement Moves

To reduce the number of placement moves children experience while in foster care, with certain exceptions¹, [MCL 712A.13b](#) allows foster parents to appeal the agency's decision to move a child or children from their home to the Foster Care Review Board (FCRB). The FCRB is responsible for determining if the placement move is in the child's best interest so that children in foster care do not experience multiple placement moves, which has been shown to have negative, long-term consequences.

The law requires the FCRB to investigate eligible foster parent appeals within seven days of receiving an eligible appeal request. A report must be provided to the court, or to the Michigan Children's Institute (MCI) Superintendent when parental rights have been terminated, within three days after the investigation stating whether or not the FCRB determined the move was in the child's best interests. If the FCRB agrees with the agency that the placement change is in the child's best interests, the appeal is concluded. If, however, the FCRB agrees with the foster parent and determines that the move is **not** in the child's best interests, the court or the MCI have up to 14 days to make the final decision about the proposed move. This quick turn-around time ensures that the proposed placement move is investigated and decided quickly.

In 2020, the FCRB held 74 foster parent appeals. A review of previous year's data shows the average number of foster parent appeals from 2017-20219 was 126. The reduction in appeals may be attributable to an MDHHS COVID-19 policy that temporarily restricted foster care placement moves unless the child was at a substantial risk of harm.

Year	Foster Parent Appeals
2020	74
2019	127
2018	125
2017	126
Average Number of Appeals per year	126

In 2019, the FCRB began noticing an increase in children being moved from their foster home placements prior to the conclusion of the foster parent appeal process. MCL 712A.13b prohibits the agency from moving a child prior to a foster parent appeal unless certain exceptions are met. MCL 712A.13b allows the agency to move a child from the foster home prior to the appeal process only if the agency has reasonable cause to believe that the child has suffered sexual

¹ A foster parent may not appeal a placement move if: (1) the foster parent requests or agrees to the move, (2) the court orders the move, (3) the change in placement is less than 30 days after the child's removal from home, or (4) the change in placement is less than 90 days after the child's removal from home and the new placement is with a relative.

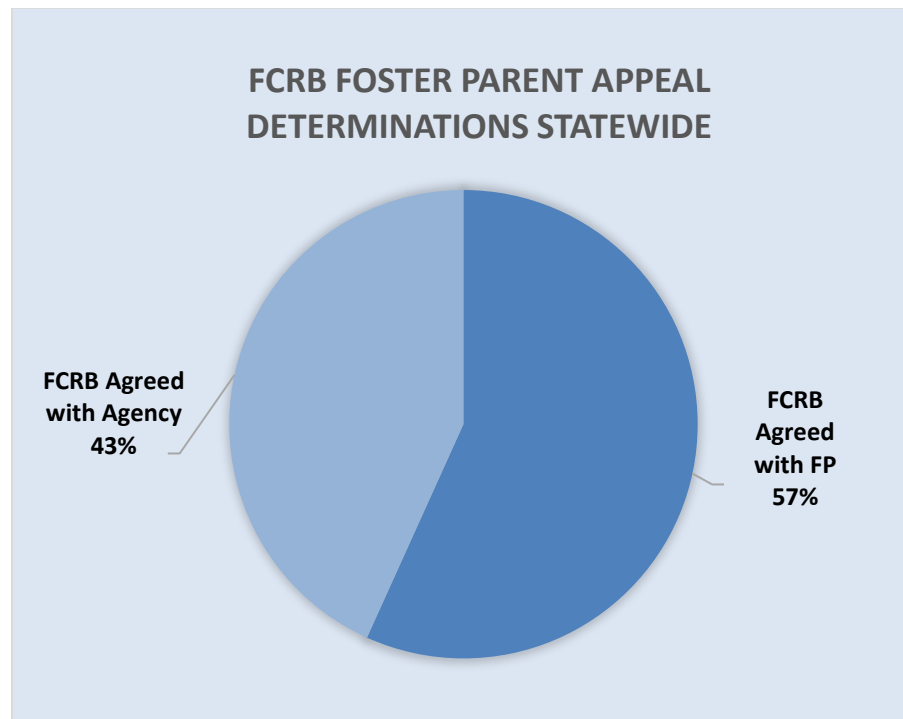
abuse or non-accidental physical injury, or that there is substantial risk of harm to the child's emotional well-being.

In 2020, the FCRB began tracking the occurrences of children being moved prior to the foster parent appeal process, and of the 74 foster parent appeals held, 18 (24%) included children who were moved prior to the appeal without evidence of a statutory exception.

The FCRB recommends agency staff receive further training regarding placement moves pursuant to MCL 712A.13b, which governs the foster parent appeal process. Placement moves are traumatic, and unnecessary placement changes may be avoided by increased education regarding the purpose of the foster parent appeal process. FCRB program staff are available to provide training to local county offices and private partners, upon request.

FCRB Foster Parent Appeal Determinations

In 2020, the FCRB investigated 74 foster parent appeals. In the 74 appeal determinations, the FCRB supported the agency's decision to move the child to another foster home in 32 cases (43 percent of the time). The FCRB determined the move was not in the child's best interests in 42 cases (57 percent of the time), requiring the court or MCI Superintendent to make the final decision on the placement move.



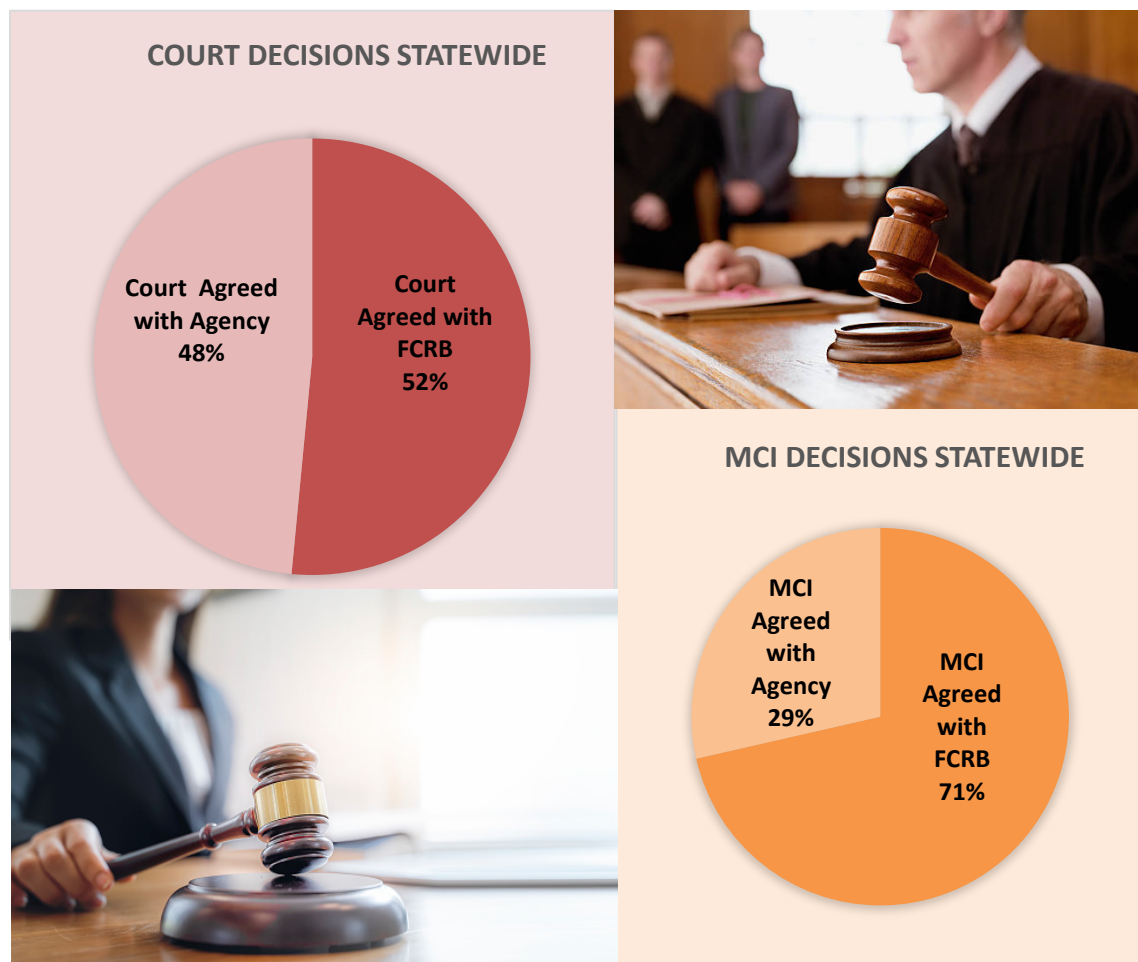
Final Decisions by Court or MCI Superintendent

Of the 42 appeals requiring either a court hearing or MCI decision, the courts held 33 appeal hearings, and the MCI decided 7 appeals. For the remaining two cases, no final disposition was needed as the child was returned home in one case and the agency changed their mind and maintained the child in the foster home in the other case, prior to the court hearing.

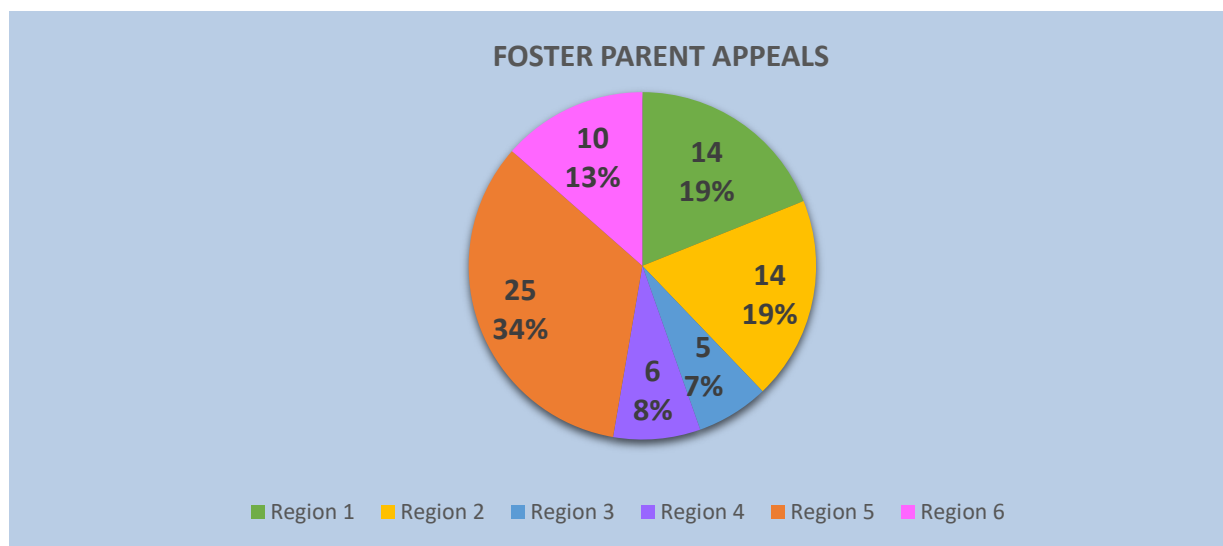
In the 33 foster parent appeals decided by the court, the courts agreed with the FCRB that the proposed move was **not** in the child's best interests in 17 cases (52 percent), thereby ensuring those children were appropriately maintained in their foster homes.

In 5 out of the 7 appeals that the MCI Superintendent decided (71 percent), the MCI Superintendent agreed with the FCRB determination that the move was not in the child's best interests.

These charts reflect the final disposition of the 40 foster parent appeals considered by the court or MCI.



2020 Foster Parent Appeals by Region



Region	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
No. of Appeals	14	14	5	6	25	10	74
FCRB Agreed with the Foster Parent - move not in child's best interests	9	7	2	3	16	5	42
FCRB Agreed with the Agency – move was in child's best interests	5	7	3	3	9	5	32
Court Agreed with the Foster Parent / FCRB decision	2	3	1	1	9	1	17
Court Agreed with the Agency	2	4	1	0	5	4	16
Court Was Not Held	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Court Returned Youth Home	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
MCI Agreed with the Foster Parent/ FCRB decision	3	0	0	0	2	0	5
MCI Agreed with the Agency	1	0	0	1	0	0	2

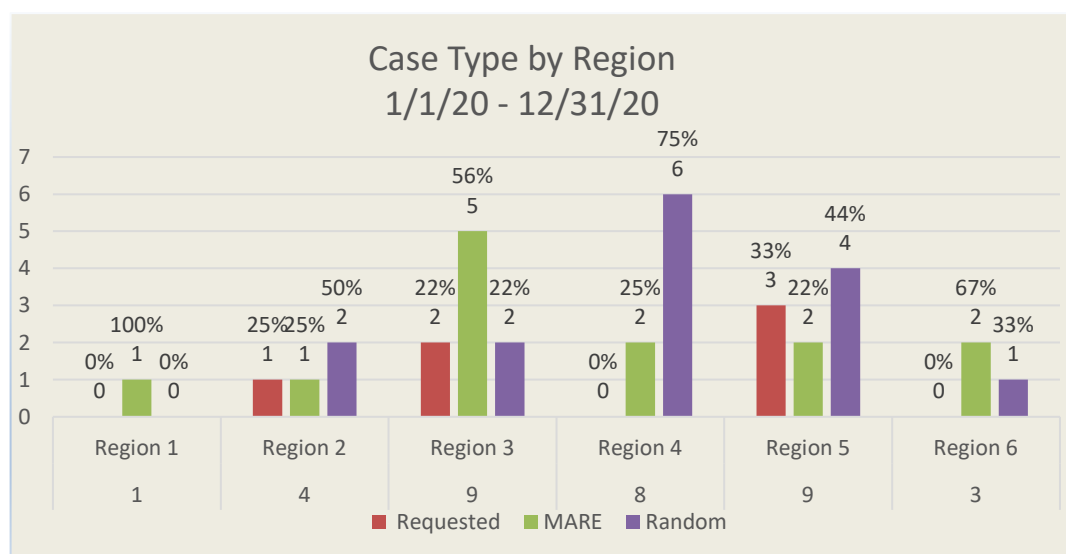
FCRB Case Reviews: Ensuring Children Achieve Timely Permanency

Foster Care Review Board members serve on one of 12 regional boards within the 6 SCAO regions (see page 19 for a map of the SCAO regions). The boards meet monthly to review foster care cases that are either referred to the FCRB for review or randomly selected. Once a case is identified for review, the FCRB continues to review the case until the child achieves permanency and the case is closed or when the person requesting the review states that further review is no longer necessary. Most boards have five permanent board members, and some boards have additional alternate members designated only for foster parent appeals or who serve when another board member is unavailable.

The chart below identifies the number of case reviews by region and by the case selection type. Cases selected from the Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) are randomly-selected cases of **permanent court wards** that the Boards are required to review pursuant to MCL 722.137(1)(g), which includes:

- (i) Children who are registered with MARE and who have been on hold status for not less than 12 months;
- (ii) Children who have not been registered with MARE, have been permanent wards for not less than 6 months, and do not have a documented permanency plan in place; and
- (iii) Children who are less than 12 years of age and have been listed in the MARE photo listing book for more than 6 months and for whom no family has been identified.

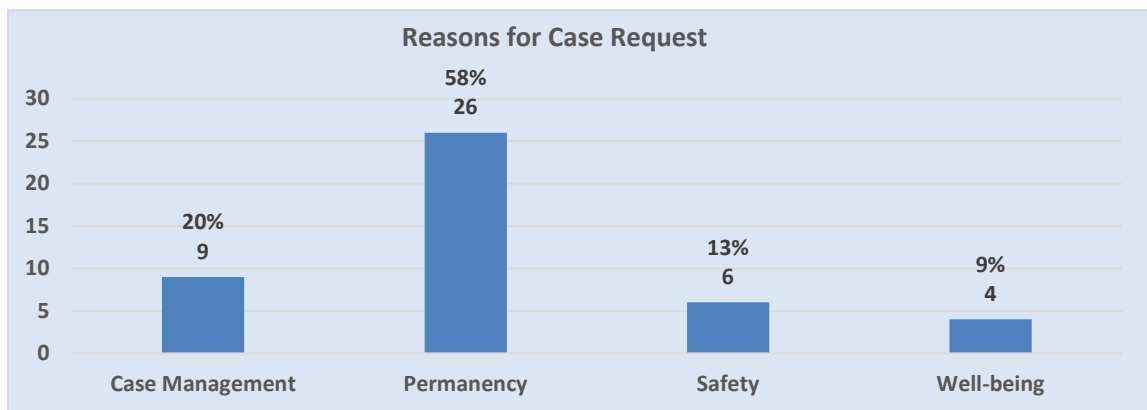
Statewide Total – Requested for Review	64
Statewide Total – MARE Cases	110
Statewide Total – Randomly Selected Cases	64
TOTAL Number of Cases Reviewed	238



Requested Case Reviews

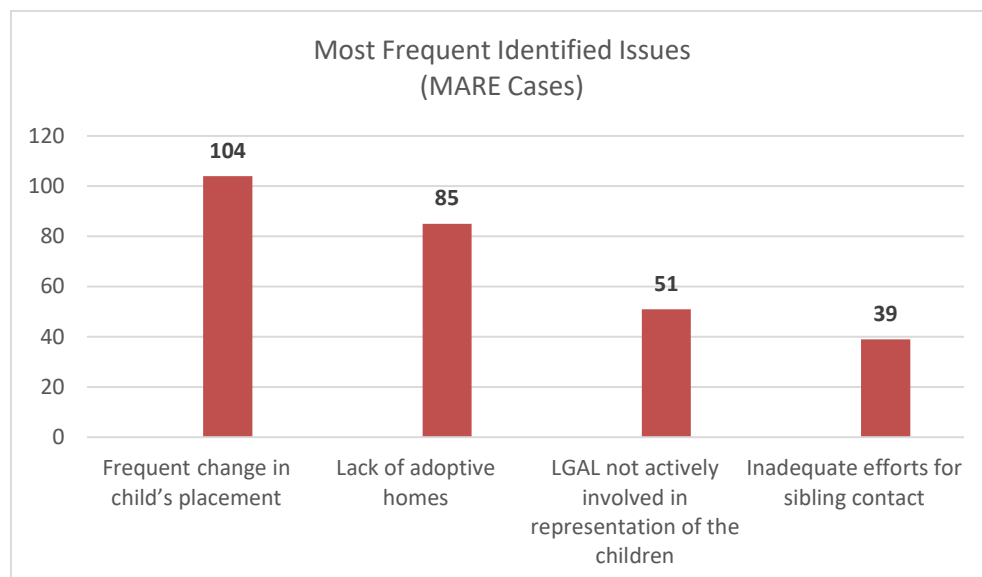
The top four reasons for FCRB case review requests in 2020 were:

- 1) Child not achieving timely permanency = 26 (58 percent)
 - 2) Case management concerns = 9 (20 percent)
 - 3) Safety concerns for the child = 6 (13 percent)
 - 4) Well-being concerns for the child = 4 (9 percent)
- * Requests often identify multiple case issues



Permanent Court Wards

The FCRB reviewed 110 permanent court ward, or MARE, cases in 2020. The top issues identified in these case reviews are reflected in the chart below.



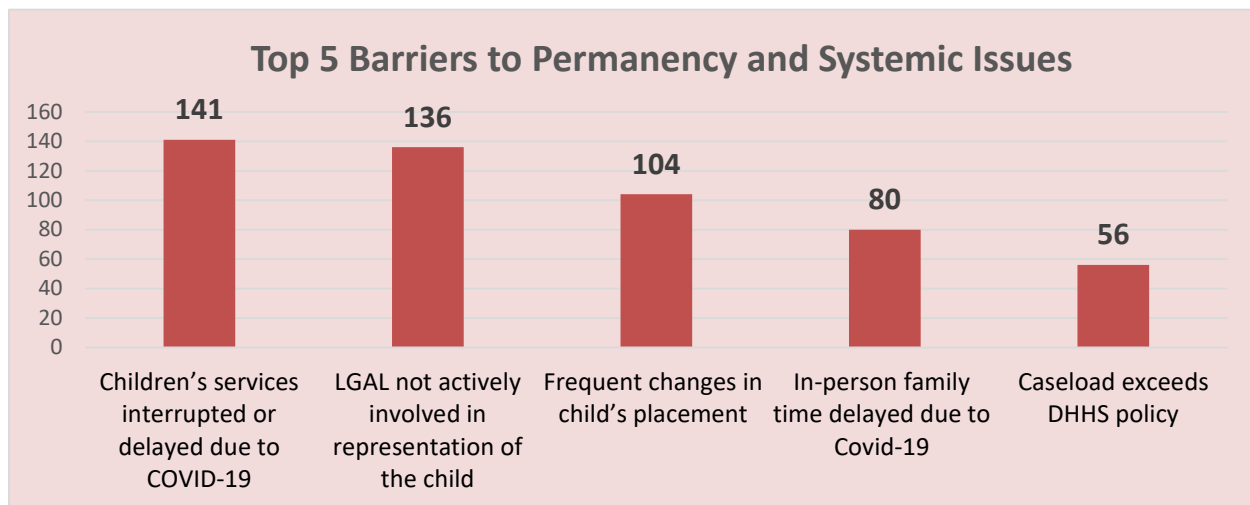
Identified Child Welfare Systemic Issues

Michigan law (MCL 722.139) requires the FCRB to identify system-wide problems that impede the timely achievement of permanency for children and make related recommendations to address these problems.

As shown in the chart below, the response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, including the Governor's Executive Order (Stay Home Stay Safe) which restricted access to non-emergency health care services and limited parenting time visits between children and their parents, accounted for two of the top five systemic issues in foster care cases reviewed by the Board in 2020. The FCRB program responded quickly to implement new data collection codes to accurately reflect the impact of the global crisis on foster children in Michigan.



Top 5 Barriers to Permanency and Systemic Issues



1. COVID-19 identified barriers.

- a. **Children's services interrupted or delayed due to COVID-19** (141 children). In the foster care cases reviewed by the Board in 2020, 141 children (32 percent) had limited access to services, such as medical, dental, mental health, behavioral and educational services. To ensure children have continued access to services even during an emergency, the FCRB recommends a hybrid model of service delivery going forward. Remote innovations, such as Tele-Health services and certain court hearings, should continue to be offered virtually where it may lead to better engagement and outcomes for families. The FCRB supports the guidance in the [MDHHS Behavioral Health and Development Disabilities Administration Communication #20-11](#) dated July 8, 2020, which states in part:

“All behavioral health services are essential to sustain and protect life and therefore must continue to be provided. Behavioral health services shall continue to be provided in homes, residential or clinical settings. Services should continue to be performed telephonically or through other virtual methods where appropriate and safe. For all persons served there should be an ongoing rebalancing with good-faith clinical assessments on an individual and family-centered basis. This assessment should include a review of whether the services provided require more in-person contacts, a balanced combination of in-person and virtual, or can continue solely through electronic means or connect with persons served in any way necessary to sustain and protect life.”

- b. **In-person parenting time interrupted due to COVID-19 resulting in delay of reunification** (80 children) Similarly, due to the Stay Home/Stay Safe Executive Order, parenting time for 80 children in cases reviewed by the FCRB in 2020 was interrupted. The FCRB recommends virtual options for parenting time, such as video conferencing through Zoom, FaceTime, or similar remote technology options that are now widely available. Virtual parenting time should also be combined with in-person parenting time (when safe) to increase communication and connections between parents and their children while in foster care. Moreover, virtual visits should not supplant in-person parenting time once the pandemic concludes; they should enhance opportunities for connectedness because as discussed in prior FCRB Annual Reports, frequent and high quality parenting time can significantly reduce the time to reunification.

The FCRB also recommends parents be offered opportunities to engage in activities and planning for their child as an additional option for in-person visits pursuant to the Reasonable Prudent Parent Standard [MCL 712A.19a\(5\)](#). Such activities included attending medical and dental appointments, attendance at school events and community gatherings.

2. **Lawyer Guardian Ad Litem (LGAL) not actively involved in representation of the child** (136 children). LGAL noncompliance with [MCL 712A.17d \(Lawyer-guardian ad litem; powers and duties\)](#), continues to be raised at FCRB meetings as an area of concern. Of the 439 children in cases reviewed by the FCRB in 2020, LGAL noncompliance with the statutory duties was reported as a concern for 136 children (31%).

Having an active, engaged LGAL who consistently discusses the case with the child and seeks his or her input and needs can (1) significantly improve the quality and depth of court hearings, (2) reduce the child’s stress and safety risks, (3) help prevent unnecessary placement moves; and ultimately (4) improve case outcomes.

Recommendations:

- a. The FCRB recommends that every contract for lawyer-guardian ad litem legal representation include an explicit requirement to comply with MCL 712A.17d, which governs the minimal LGAL powers and duties.

- b. Specific to the statutory requirement to meet with or observe the child and assess his or her needs and wishes before the pretrial hearing and all post-adjudicative hearings ([MCL712A.17d\(1\)\(d\)](#)), the FCRB recommends LGALs utilize remote technology to accomplish this if they are unable to see the child in person.

Further, consistent with the recommendations in the [2019 FCRB Annual Report](#), the FCRB continues to recommend:

- 1) Courts should apply for the MDHHS Child and Parent Legal Representation (CPLR) Grant, which provides federal reimbursement for parent attorney and LGAL costs to improve legal representation.
 - 2) Courts should require court-appointed LGALs to complete the online, self-paced SCAO-Child Welfare Services training program, [Michigan Lawyer-Guardian Ad Litem Online Training](#) to ensure they receive training appropriate to their role, as required by the federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act and MCL 712A.17d(1)(m).
 - 3) That the LGAL state at each court hearing when and where they last met with the child, what the child's wishes are, and what the LGAL recommends for the child's best interests.
 - 4) That the LGAL discuss the child's status, progress, and needs with the child and the foster parent before each post-adjudication court hearing.
 - 5) That the court require LGALs to file the SCAO Form [JC 82 \(Affidavit of Service Performed by Lawyer-Guardian Ad Litem\)](#) at each hearing or when seeking payment for services.
3. **Changes in child's placement** (104 children). In 2020, the percentage of cases reviewed by the FCRB that involved a placement change for the child (24 percent) was slightly higher than in 2019 (22 percent). Placement instability can lead to poorer outcomes for child well-being (e.g., increased behavioral and mental health issues) and permanency (i.e., permanency is delayed when a child has multiple placement moves).

Recommendations:

- a. The FCRB recommends diligent efforts be made to place children with relatives whenever possible upon initial entry into foster care, and for caseworkers to become familiar with the strategies included in the [Casey Family Program national commitment of "first placement, best placement, family placement, only placement"](#).
- b. The FCRB recommends expanding the definition of "relative" in state statute to be inclusive of fictive kin which would afford more options for the child's first and best placement. Fictive kin is a person not related to a child by blood or marriage, but who has a significant and positive relationship with a child (e.g., godparent, neighbor, or family friend). As recommended in the 2018 and 2019 FCRB Annual Reports, the FCRB continues to support better equipping relatives and foster homes to care for children with diverse and complex needs to minimize placement disruptions and build stability for

children.

4. **Caseload exceeds MDHHS policy** (56 children). In 2020, the FCRB noted that the worker's caseload exceeded the MDHHS caseload cap of 13 cases in cases involving 56 children (13 percent). This is a considerable improvement over 2019, when the FCRB reported this concern was identified in 34 percent of cases reviewed. The FCRB continues to support the recommendations in the 2019 FCRB Annual Report as the ability of caseworkers to meaningfully engaged with families is hindered when their caseloads are unmanageable, which contributes to employee retention and recruitment issues.



Additional Recommendation: Foster parent appeal training for agency staff.

The FCRB recommends agency staff receive further training regarding placement moves pursuant to MCL 712A.13b, which governs the foster parent appeal process. FCRB program staff are available to provide training to local county offices and private partners, upon request.



FCRB Board Members

The State Court Administrative Office and the Foster Care Review Board Program would like to express its appreciation and gratitude to the volunteer board members throughout the state for their time and dedication in helping to ensure that children are safe and well cared for while in the state foster care system and that their cases are being moved toward permanency in a timely and efficient manner. As shown in the chart below, 25 of the 61 board members have volunteered for the FCRB program for at least 10 years or longer.

Region 1	Year Joined	Region 2	Year Joined	Region 3	Year Joined
Brenda Boyd	1990	Fonda Brewer	2017	Chelsea Belote	2019
Katrina M. Dixon	2001	Diane Dugan	2021	Colin Buell	2011
George Eason	2002	Rika Gaylord	2019	Gary Holik	2006
Michael Eberth	2001	Jonathan Hale	2003	Elizabeth Holtgreive	2017
Michael Greene	2013	Marcia Jablonski	2016	Gary Madden	2006
Darryl V. Hunter	2001	Janet Olsen	2016	Shirley Norman	2005
Darryl Lewis	2011	Darshelle Pierce	2020	Willie Owens	2007
Lashawna Morman	2016	Neita Sudberry	2016		
Cameasha Muhammad	2019	Harold White	2009		
Elizabeth Oliver	1988	Stephanie Williams	2016		
Paul Smith	2020				
Rita Smythe	2009				
Region 4	Year Joined	Region 5	Year Joined	Region 6	Year Joined
Kenda Deschermeier	2008	Jan Foxen	2004	Lorette Adams	2019
Carol Morse	2019	Merrill Graham	2016	Lynn Aronoff	2019
Barbara Russ	2013	Meryl Greene	2008	Carol Borich	1996
David Smith	2012	Daniel Groce	1995	May Boshoff	2019
Mary Weyand	2019	Brandon Nichols	2021	John Dodge	2019
Glenn Wing	2007	Renee Orr	2019	Robert Goldenbogen	2000
Kim Wing	2019	Mary Roberts	2020	Eugene Groesbeck	2000
		Lisa Rodriguez	2012	David Haron	2019
		Tina Ryznar	2021	Monica Hunt	2019
		Dennis Schaaf	2009	Rosemary Sear	2006
		Joan Smith	2008	Shelley Vallier	2019
		Lucinda Wakeman	2005	Cheryl Verkeke	2019
				Jerry Webb	2013

FCRB Advisory Committee

MCL 722.133 requires SCAO to maintain a statewide advisory committee consisting of representatives from child care organizations, local boards, and other child welfare stakeholders to review the needs of the foster care system and to make recommendations to the appropriate groups and agencies. In spite of the pandemic, the FCRB Advisory Committee convened three times in 2020, and established three new workgroups, including an Annual Report Workgroup, Annual Training Planning Workgroup, and the Caregiver Engagement Workgroup.

This section of the Annual Report is authored, for the first time, by the new Annual Report Workgroup. The task of the Annual Report Workgroup is to emphasize the Advisory Committee's collective expertise in providing reflective advice, insight, and recommendations when systemic and practice issues, as well as gaps in services, are identified by the FCRB. The Annual Report Workgroup reviewed the three 2020 Advisory Committee recorded meetings and identified areas of challenges and accomplishments.

The workgroup identified data trends related to interruptions in services (and impacting outcomes) for children and families due to the unprecedented challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic. The Advisory Committee recognizes the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services for their ongoing efforts in implementing new policies in mitigating pandemic-related challenges. The repercussions of those challenges and delays will be revealed in the coming year(s) specific to timeliness of permanency outcomes. The Advisory Committee recommends the FCRB continue to collect data to monitor the impact, as well as identify **case specific solutions to remedy those cases impacted by COVID-19 delays that the FCRB reviews.**

The Advisory Committee believes that children should live in family settings whenever possible. Throughout 2020, the Advisory Committee participated in Family First Preservation Services Act/Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP) discussions and trainings to promote efforts to minimize long-term residential stays for foster youth and increase judicial oversight. To help ensure compliance with the new QRTP standards, the FCRB tailored new questions for case reviews specific to QRTP as prescribed in the law. **The Advisory Committee recommends the FCRB collect data to monitor compliance with QRTP standards.**

At the Advisory Committee meetings, FCRB board members representing their regional boards expressed the need for recruitment of citizen volunteers for the program. **The Advisory Committee recommends a media release for 2021 FCRB Board Member recruitment throughout the state.**

While the FCRB data system does not collect credit check information for children in foster care, based on the foster care cases reviewed, FCRB board members cited this as a systemic concern due to the frequency of the issue raised at meetings. Currently, MDHHS Consumer Credit Reports Policy (FOM 722-06E) requires a credit check for children in foster care age 14 – 21. **The Advisory Committee recommends eliminating the age requirement to provide credit checks for all children in foster care, regardless of age, as identity theft is not necessarily linked to a person's age, and significant harm can be made due to fraud or identity theft; especially if it is not detected early.**

FCRB board members identified a desire to follow up on children's safety, well-being, placement stability, and permanency after a foster parent appeal determination. **The Advisory Committee recommends the creation of a workgroup to track outcomes for foster youth who are subject of a foster parent appeal to determine how placement moves impact case trajectory.**

The Annual Training Planning Workgroup was established to develop the curriculum for the 2020 FCRB Annual Training program for board members and Advisory Committee members. The committee determined that the training would consist of two half-days and due to the pandemic, would be via Zoom. The event was well attended, the topics were diverse, and the post-training survey results revealed high satisfaction ratings (overall program rating of 4.6 out of 5). **The Advisory Committee recommends that all future FCRB annual trainings be planned by a workgroup of board members and advisory committee members.**

The Caregiver Engagement Workgroup was created to identify ways to increase engagement and inclusion of caregivers' voice in both court and agency decision-making. **The Advisory Committee recommends creating a standard form for caregivers to provide feedback about the child and case management issues, and that the FCRB distribute the form through partner organizations.**

The following is a list of the 28 FCRB Advisory Committee members, for whom we thank for their tremendous efforts to continuously improve the child welfare system.



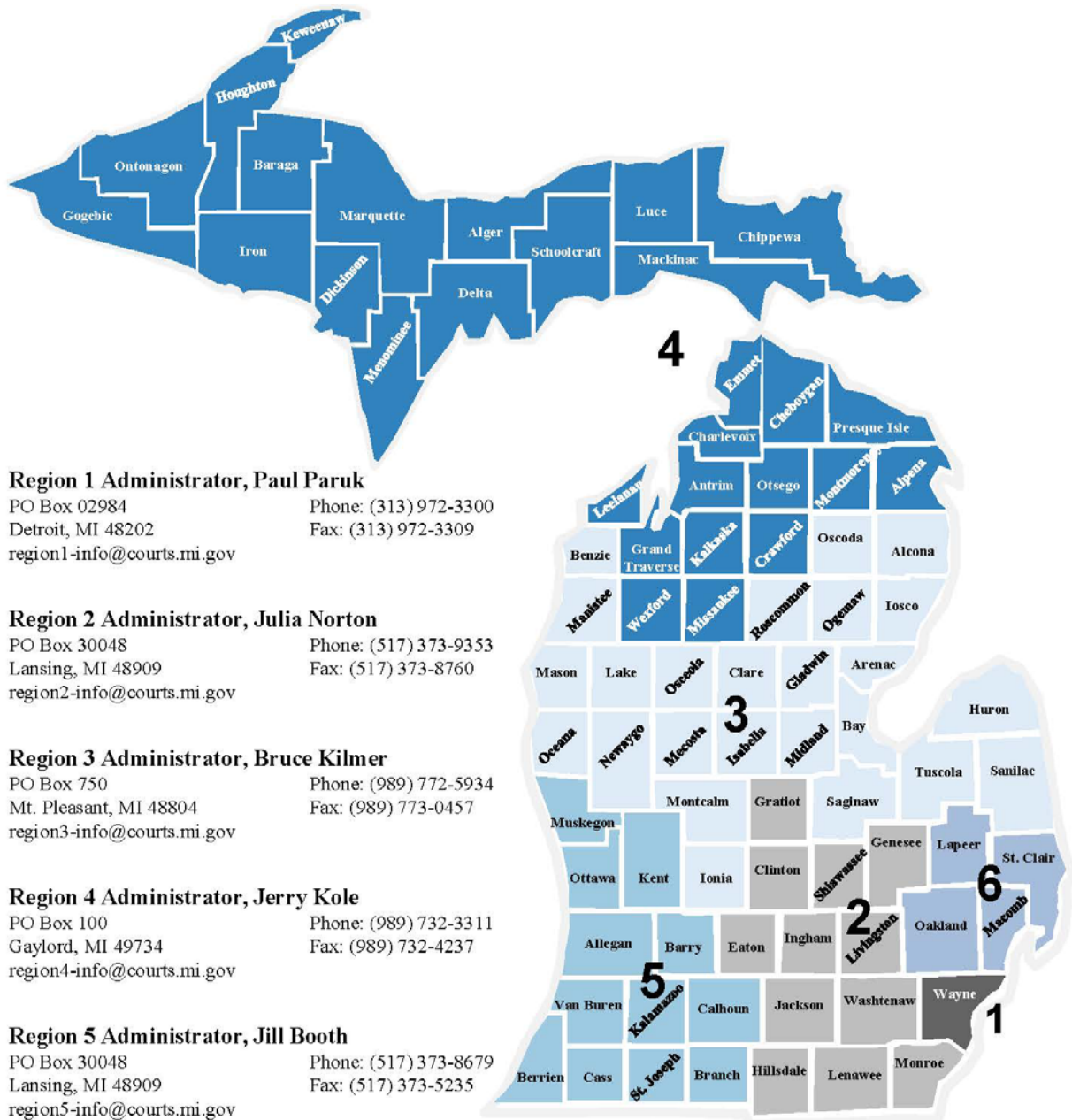
FCRB Advisory Committee Roster

Name	Title	Company
Stacie Bladen	Deputy Director, Children's Services Agency	DHHS
Lara Bouse	Co-President	Fostering Forward Michigan
Karen Braxton	Circuit Court Judge	3rd Judicial Circuit Court, Family Div
Fonda Brewer	Ingham County	FCRB Region 2 Board Member
Michele Corey	Vice President for Programs	Michigan's Children
Kenda Deschermeier	Emmet County	FCRB Region 4 Board Member
George Eason	Wayne County	FCRB Region 1 Board Member
Michael Eberth	Wayne County	FCRB Region 1 Board Member
Jan Foxen	Kent County	FCRB Region 5 Board Member
Rika Gaylord	Livingston County	FCRB Region 2 Board Member
Michael Greene	Wayne County	FCRB Region 1 Board Member
Elizabeth Henderson	Court Analyst	Court Improvement Program
Terri Henrizi	Education Coordinator	Assoc. for Children's Mental Health
Gary Madden	Manistee County	FCRB Region 3 Board Member
Lisa McCormick	Director	Office of the Children's Ombudsman
Karen McDonald	Circuit Court Judge	Oakland County Circuit Court
Rubina Mustafa	Legal Guardian ad Litem	Michigan Children's Law Center
Shirley Norman	Saginaw County	FCRB Region 3 Board Member
Michelle Parra	Program Manager	Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange
Kadi Prout	Director of Child Welfare Policy	MI Federation for Children & Families
Janet Reynolds Snyder	Executive Director	MI Federation for Children & Families
Patty Sabin	President/CEO	Michigan CASA
Suzanna Shkreli	Ombudsman	Office of Children's Ombudsman
Lucinda Wakeman	Branch County	FCRB Region 5 Board Member
Jerry Webb	Lapeer County	FCRB Region 6 Board Member
Glenn Wing	Marquette County	FCRB Region 4 Board Member
Jennifer Wrayno	Director, Business Service Center 5	MDHHS

Michigan Supreme Court Regional Map

State Court Administrative Office Regions

Effective May 13, 2020



Click [here](#) to read more about regional offices.



Michigan Supreme Court
State Court Administrative Office
Child Welfare Services-Foster Care Review Board

Michigan Hall of Justice
P.O. Box 30048
Lansing, Michigan 48909
517-373-0130

www.courts.michigan.gov/FCRB