

## Citizen Foster Care Review Board Fact Sheet (Fiscal Year 2017)

**Interested Party Reviews.** CFCRB volunteers conducted 6,881 IPRs in FY 2017, an 8 percent increase over FY 2016. The IPRs focused on 4,264 children, a 3 percent increase over the previous year. The number of review boards statewide that use IPR as the standard for reviewing all cases grew to 69 percent, up from 65 percent in FY 2016 and 59 percent in FY 2015.

**CFCRB Meetings.** CFCRB volunteers conducted a record number of meetings – 2,335 – in FY 2017. The additional board meetings were due to reviewing committed status offenders and the increase in interested party reviews.

### From our reviews, of children who are in states custody, we determined the following:

- **Children in Care.** In Fiscal Year 2017, 721 CFCRB volunteers conducted 13,521 paper reviews and 6,881 interested party reviews for a total of 20,402 reviews of 11,470 children. This represents 3,265 volunteer hours on case file reviews and 12,128 volunteer hours on interested party reviews.
- **Length of Stay.** The average length of stay for children in care was 18.7 months, a slight decrease over 18.9 months in FY 2016.
- **Reunification.** Of the children reviewed by the CFCRB, 35 percent were released through reunification to parents or primary caregivers in FY 2017. Another 27 percent were released through placement with relatives. These numbers remain consistent with FY 2016.
- **Exiting Care.** The percentage of children who aged out of care increased slightly, with 13 percent of youth aging out in FY 2017 compared to 12 percent in FY 2016.
- **Ages of Children Served.** Of the children reviewed by the CFCRB, those ages 5 and younger remain the largest age group at 33 percent. The next largest age groups were children ages 16 to 20 at 24 percent and ages 6 to 10 at 22 percent.
- **Number of Placements.** Children experienced an average of 1.59 placements per commitment, a slight decrease from the 1.85 placements per commitment reported in FY 2016. This figure is close to the federal expectation of no more than 2 placements until a child achieves permanency.
- **Finalized Adoption.** FY 17 remained consistent with FY 16 in the percentage of children achieving adoption, with 24 percent exiting care due to a finalized adoption. Children with a finalized adoption spent 37 months in care, a slight decrease from 38 months in care in FY 2016.