

Steering Kentucky's Children Toward a Brighter Future



Kentucky Citizen Foster Care Review Board *2017 Annual Report*



Working for Kentucky's Future ... Our Children

CFCRB volunteers play important role for Kentucky children in out-of-home care

Each year, dedicated volunteers from across Kentucky donate countless hours to helping foster children find safe, permanent homes. The members of the Kentucky Citizen Foster Care Review Board review the cases of children in out-of-home care due to dependency, neglect and abuse.



*John D. Minton Jr.
Chief Justice of
Kentucky*

In Fiscal Year 2017, 721 CFCRB volunteers conducted 20,402 reviews of the 11,470 children in the custody of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services. This careful, regular monitoring gives volunteers the information they need to recommend permanency plans to judges that are in the best interests of the children.

The Department of Family and Juvenile Services of the Administrative of the Courts oversees the CFCRB program and produces an annual report about its work. We are pleased to present the 2017 CFCRB Annual Report, which offers a wide range of information and statistics about the review boards and children in care.

As the number of foster children continues to grow, CFCRB volunteers continue to be there to improve their opportunities for a brighter future.

I certainly appreciate these individuals for acting upon the compassion and concern they feel for Kentucky's children.

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& AOC Administrative Support Staff





Progress Report on Kentucky Children in Foster Care

Executive Summary for Fiscal Year 2017: July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

Rachel Bingham, Executive Officer

Department of Family and Juvenile Services, Administrative Office of the Courts

Thank you for your interest in the work of the Kentucky Citizen Foster Care Review Board. The 2017 CFCRB Annual Report offers a comprehensive look at Kentucky children in out-of-home care. It also describes how the review boards operate and the role of the Department of Family and Juvenile Services in providing important support services.

The Kentucky General Assembly created the Citizen Foster Care Review Board in 1982 in response to federal legislation aimed at decreasing the amount of time children spend in foster care. CFCRB volunteers are appointed by their chief Family Court or District Court judge to review the cases of children placed in the custody of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services due to dependency, neglect or abuse.

CFCRB volunteers regularly review each child's case with a focus on the out-of-home placement and permanency

plan established by the Cabinet. Volunteers use information from the reviews to make recommendations to judges to ensure that children are placed in safe and permanent homes in a timely manner. Volunteers also submit legislative recommendations to help improve services available for foster children.

CFCRB volunteers also benefit from federal policies, such as the Adoption and Safe Families Act and the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act, which provide guidance on reducing the time it takes to achieve permanency for children in the child welfare system.

As Kentucky continues to be challenged by the growing number of children in care, the work of CFCRB volunteers is more vital than ever. I applaud the hundreds of volunteers who work diligently to improve the lives of our most precious and vulnerable citizens.

Snapshot of the Kentucky Foster Care System

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 2013 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.

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.

Kentucky Citizen Foster Care Review Board

2017 Recommendation for Legislative & Policy Reform

The Kentucky Citizen Foster Care Review Board is required by Kentucky Revised Statute 620.320(5) to evaluate and make annual recommendations to the Supreme Court of Kentucky, the governor and the Legislative Research Commission regarding state law and the practices, policies and procedures within the commonwealth that affect permanence for children in out-of-home placement.

The CFCRB State Board approved the following legislative recommendation for 2017:

Support Statewide Expansion of Family Court

The CFCRB has historically regarded the statewide expansion of Family Court as a high priority due to the improved outcomes for families and children who have access to the expanded services provided by Family Court when faced with trauma that brings their family into the court system.

To further this cause, the CFCRB supports the Judicial Redistricting Plan proposed by the chief justice of Kentucky as it would bring Family Court to all but 10 jurisdictions by 2022 by reallocating existing resources to areas of greater need.

CFCRB Mission

To ensure safe, permanent, timely placement of Kentucky's children in out-of-home care.

CFCRB Vision

With respect to children in care:

To ensure adequate and necessary services are provided to families and children with the utmost importance given to safety, well-being and permanency.

With respect to the judges we serve:

To provide timely, accurate and sufficiently detailed information about children in care so as to promote knowledgeable permanency decisions.

With respect to the CFCRB volunteers:

To promote awareness and understanding regarding children's issues through educational opportunities at local, regional and state levels.



CFCRB Overview by the Numbers

Out-of-Home Care Demographics

What are the ages of children in foster care?

In FY 2017, the youngest child reviewed by CFCRB volunteers was 7 months old and the oldest was 22 years old (due to extended commitment). The average age remained constant at 10 years. Children ages 5 and younger were the largest age group (33 percent) to be reviewed. The next largest age groups were children ages 16 to 20 at 24 percent and ages 6 to 10 at 22 percent.

The age analysis is based on children who were in out-of-home care on June 30, 2017, and includes children who were released from the custody of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services any time during the fiscal year.

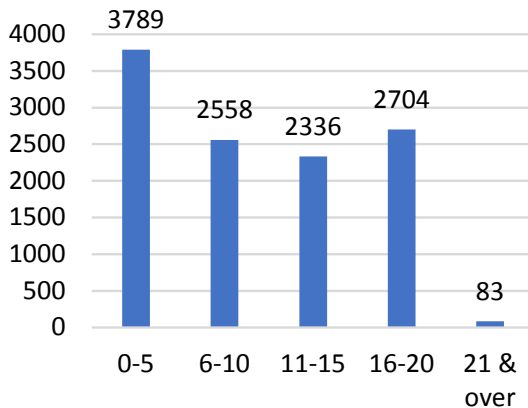
What gender are children in out-of-home care?

The gender of children in out-of-home care is almost evenly split, with 52 percent male and 48 percent female.

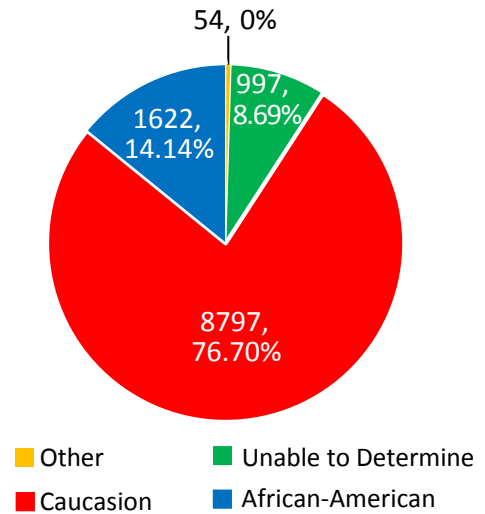
What race are children in foster care?

Of the children in foster care, 77 percent are Caucasian, 14 percent are African-American, 9 percent are unable to be determined and the remaining 1 percent are other races. The other races include American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander. Across all the races listed above, 4 percent identified their ethnicity as being Hispanic.

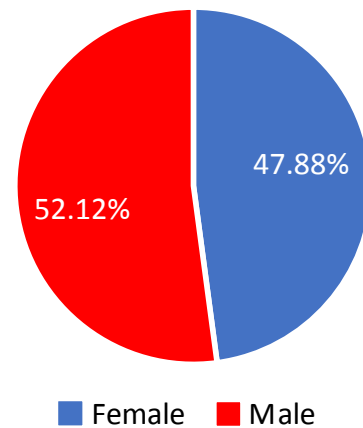
Foster Care Children by Age



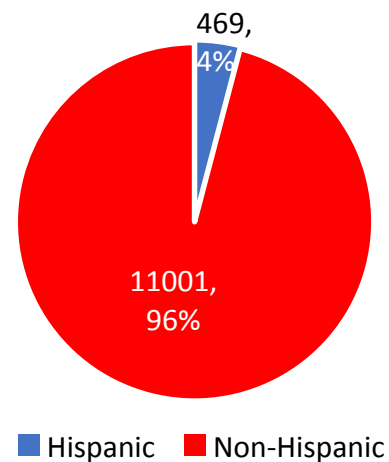
Foster Care Children by Race



Foster Care Children by Gender



Foster Care Children by Ethnicity



Time in Out-of-Home Care

What is the average length of stay by age group for children in out-of-home care?

Active children – children who were still in care at the end of FY 2017 – experienced an average length of stay of 20.7 months. Inactive children – children released at any time during the fiscal year – experienced an average stay of 16.5 months. The overall average length of stay for

FY 2017 was 18.6 months, which represents a slight decrease from the average length of stay of 18.8 months reported for FY 2016.

The chart illustrates the average length of stay for children by age. Children over age 15 continue to remain in care longer than younger children and are experiencing an average of 24 months in care compared to 15 months in care for children ages 5 and younger.

It should be noted that in calculating the average length of stay, children who were in care fewer than 24 hours are counted as “zero” on the spectrum of length of time in care. These are children who may have been in the process of being removed from the home when a suitable relative assumed custody of the child. When taking into account these zeros, it may actually skew the average to the lower end of the spectrum.

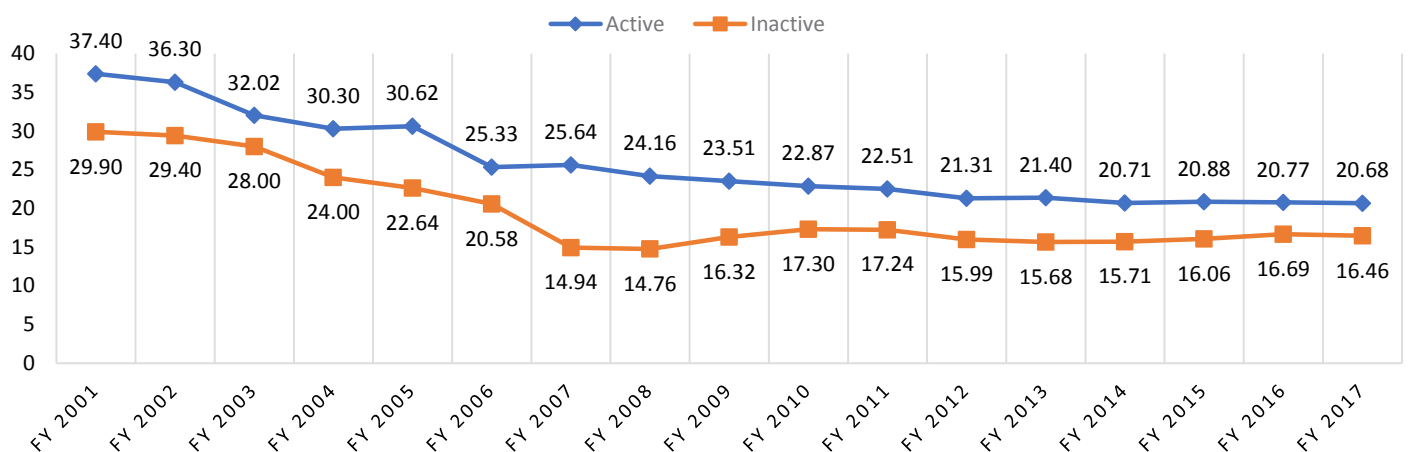
Note: Statistics captured in this chart represent all children whose cases were reviewed between July 1, 2016, and June 30, 2017. The term “active children” describes those whose cases were reviewed during the fiscal year and who were still in care on June 30, 2017. “Inactive children” describes those whose cases were reviewed during the fiscal year but were released prior to June 30, 2017.



Age in Years

Age Group	Active	Inactive	All Children
0-05 Years	16.7	13.4	15.0
06-10 Years	19.3	17.2	18.4
11-15 Years	20.2	14.3	17.9
Over 15 Years	26.9	21.3	24.2
Overall	20.7	16.5	18.7

Average Length of Stay in Months



Exiting Out-of-Home Care

Why are children released from out-of-home care?

Thirty-five percent of children were released from care through reunification with parents or primary guardians. The next largest group of children exiting care – 27 percent – was through placement with relatives. These percentages are consistent with FY 2016.

What percentage of children in out-of-home care were adopted?

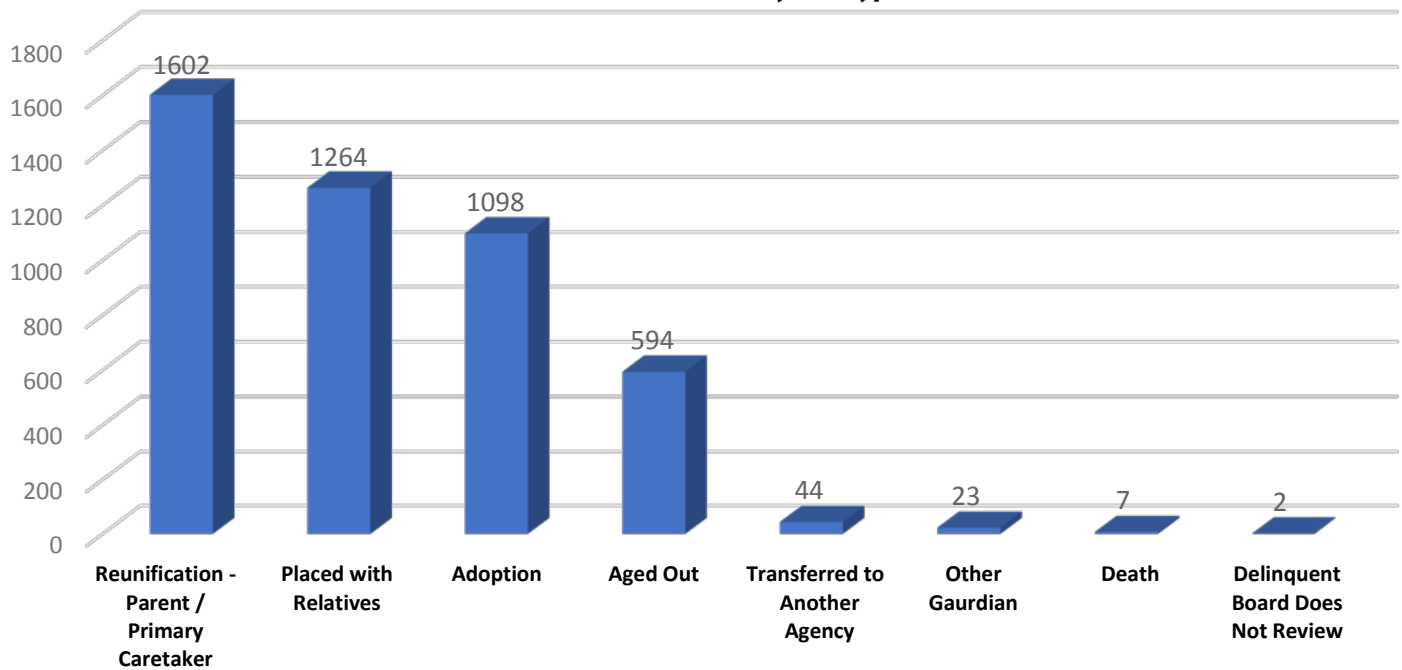
Twenty-four percent of children released from out-of-home care achieved permanency through adoption in FY 2017. Children who exited care because of a finalized adoption spent 37 months in care prior to adoption. The

percentage of children achieving adoption remained consistent with FY 2016, which saw 24 percent of children released through adoption.

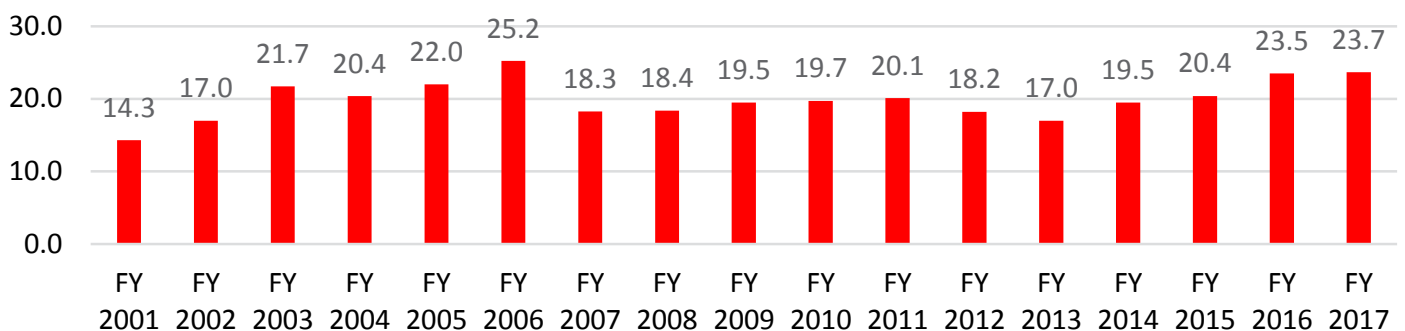
These two charts show the percentage of adoptions and average number of months to finalized adoptions.

Note: The variance in the statistical comparison between FY 2005 and FY 2006 (below) may be due to the implementation of CATS, the Children's Automated Tracking System. In FY 2005, the reasons for release were gathered from individual CFCRB case reviews. With CATS in place, the release information is obtained primarily through downloads from TWIST, the data-tracking system for the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

Foster Care Children by Exit Type



Percentage of Adoptions Per Fiscal Year



Placement Stability

What do fewer out-of-home placements mean for children in foster care?

Fewer placements create stability and lessen the trauma for children in care. Children experienced an average of 1.59 placements per commitment in FY 2017. The average number of placements is an improvement over the last three fiscal years, which reported 1.85 placements per commitment in FY 2016, 2.02 placements per commitment in FY 2015 and 2.15 placements per commitment in FY 2014. This number is also much closer to the federal expectation of 2 placements for a child in out-of-home care.

The number of placements per commitment for children still active as of June 30, 2017, has continued to decrease:

FY 2017 – 1.9 placements
 FY 2016 – 2.2 placements
 FY 2015 – 2.4 placement
 FY 2014 – 2.6 placements

The number of placements per commitment for children who were released from care decreased from the prior fiscal year:

FY 2017 – 1.3 placements
 FY 2016 – 1.5 placements
 FY 2015 – 1.6 placement
 FY 2014 – 1.7 placements

The Cabinet for Health and Family Services reports that 54.3 percent of the children in their custody in FY 2017 were placed in private child care arrangements, which is a slight decrease from the 55.5 percent reported in FY 2016. Children in foster care are in placements determined by the level of care necessary to meet their special needs, with Level 5 representing the most needs.

Of the children in private child care, 6 percent are in Level 5 placements with an additional 3 percent placed in therapeutic foster care at Level 5.¹

When determining placement for a child, the Cabinet considers the least restrictive and most appropriate placement. The Cabinet may change the placement of a child for a variety of reasons, such as safety concerns or the need for more intensive services.

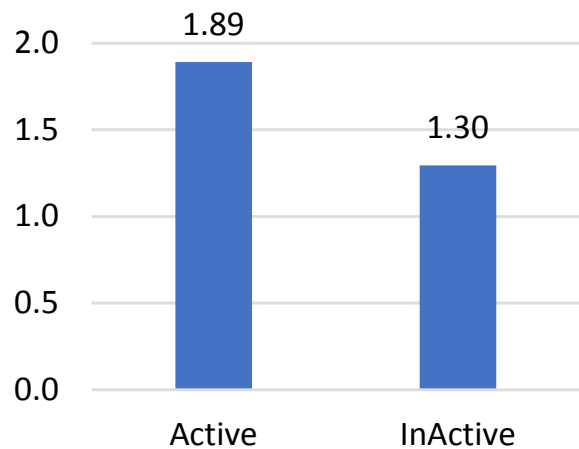
¹ Cabinet for Health and Family Services, TWS-058 SFY 2015, SFY 2016 and SFY 2017; Foster Care Facts for July 2015, July 2016, July 2017.

How many of these placements were out of state?

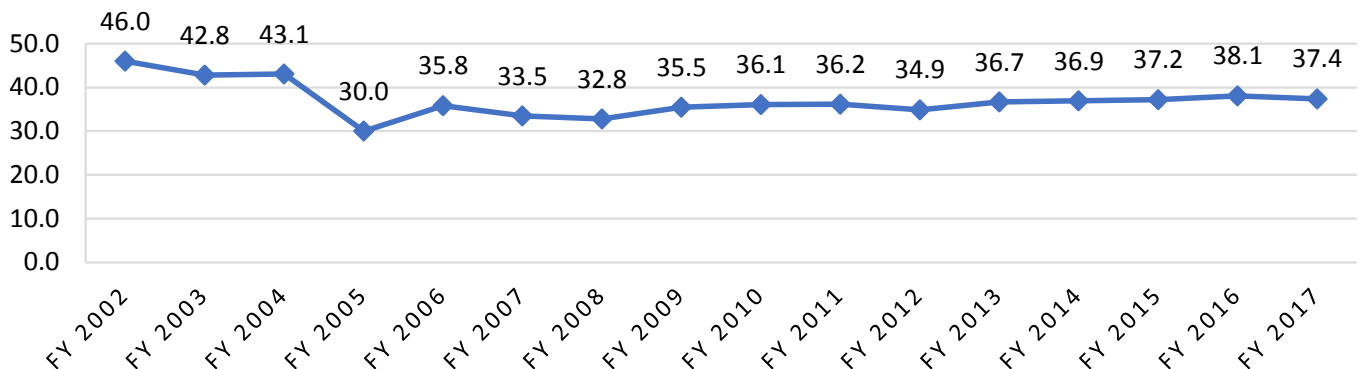
Based on information provided by the Cabinet, 58 children were placed out of state in FY 2017. Children are often placed out of state when the Cabinet locates a relative living outside of Kentucky who is willing to accept the child for placement.² Out-of-state placements are approved through the Interstate Compact process.

² Cabinet for Health and Family Services, TWS-058 SFY 2015, SFY 2016, SFY 2017; Foster Care Facts for July 2015, July 2016, July 2017.

Average Placements Per Child for FY 2016



Average Months to Finalized Adoption



Establishing Permanency Goals

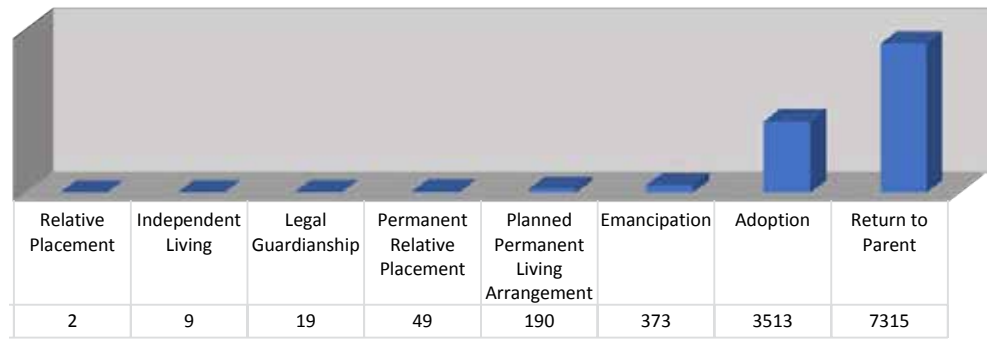
How is the permanency goal established and defined?

The Cabinet for Health and Family Services establishes a permanency plan for each child who enters foster care and his or her family. The plan is filed with the court and addresses the reason the child is in custody. The plan focuses on achieving objectives and completing tasks to ensure the child obtains a permanent home as quickly as possible.

The chart defines permanency goals that have been established for children. Return to parent and adoption remain the permanency goals for the majority of children reviewed by the CFCRB.

Per KRS 610.125, children who remain in the custody of the Cabinet for 12 months after initial placement are scheduled for a permanency hearing through the local court to determine their future status. At this hearing, the court addresses whether the child should be returned to the parents, placed for adoption, placed with a permanent custodian or provided with another type of permanent living arrangement.

Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care



CFCRB Overview

What is the Citizen Foster Care Review Board?

The Kentucky General Assembly created the Citizen Foster Care Review Board in 1982 in response to federal legislation aimed at decreasing the amount of time children spend in foster care. Today, 721 volunteers serve on 160 review boards throughout Kentucky.

CFCRB volunteers are appointed by their chief Family Court or District Court judge to review the cases of children placed in the custody of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services due to dependency, neglect or abuse.

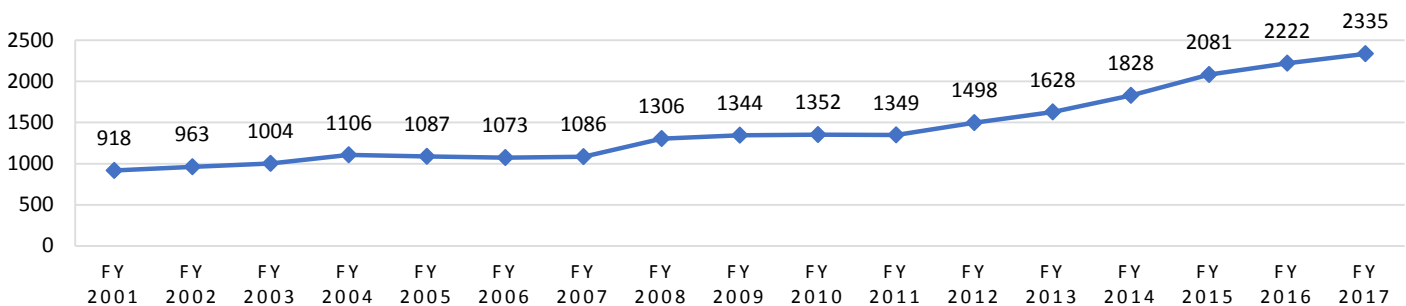
Volunteers regularly review each child's case with a particular focus on the out-of-home placement and the

permanency plan established by the Cabinet. Based on information obtained from the reviews, the volunteer makes recommendations to the judge to ensure the child is placed in a safe and permanent home in a timely manner.

In FY 2017, CFCRB volunteers held 2,335 meetings and conducted 20,402 reviews on 11,470 children in out-of-home care. The growth can be attributed in part to the increase in interested party reviews.

The CFCRB operates within the Department of Family and Juvenile Services of the Administrative Office of the Courts in Frankfort. The AOC is the administrative arm of the Kentucky Judicial Branch.

Board Meetings Per Fiscal Year

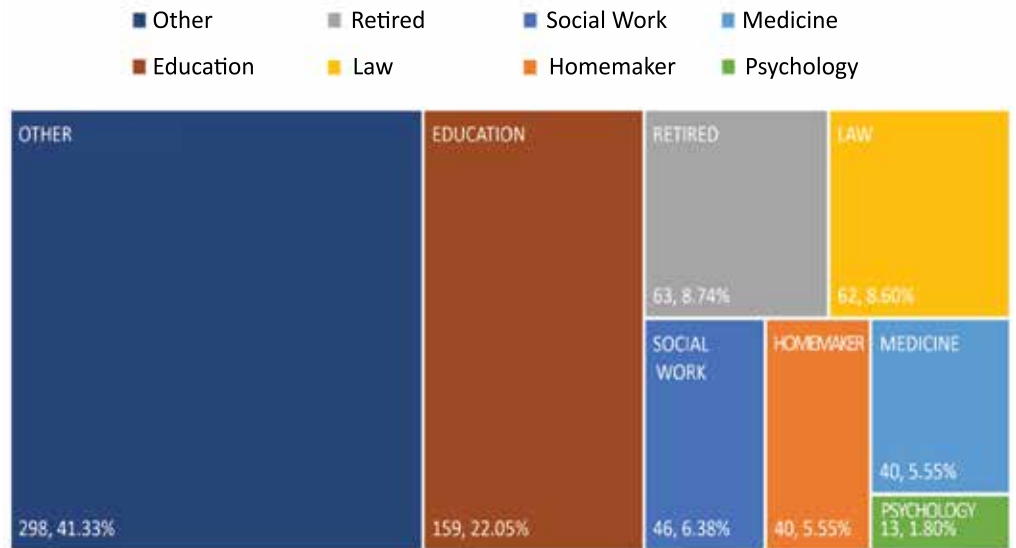


Who are CFCRB volunteers?

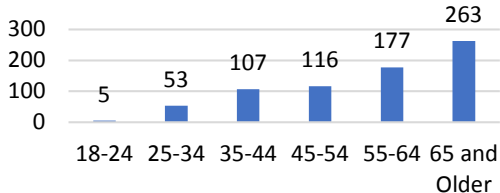
CFCRB volunteers come from a wide variety of educational and professional backgrounds, and all are committed to the welfare of Kentucky children.

Of the 721 volunteers, 86 percent are female and 44 percent have backgrounds in education, medicine, law, social work and psychology. The volunteers range in age from 18 to 90, with an average age of 58. The average length of service is six years, which demonstrates their dedication to the children they serve.

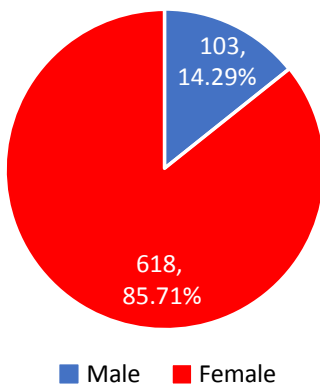
Volunteers by Profession



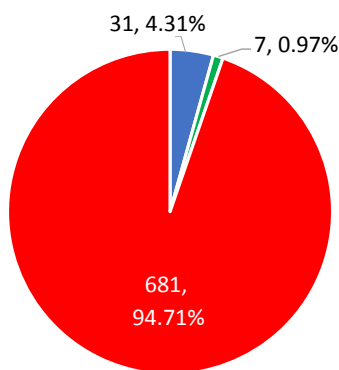
Volunteers by Age Group



Volunteers by Gender



Volunteers by Race



What are the requirements for becoming a CFCRB volunteer?

Those interested in volunteering must complete an initial six-hour training session and consent to a criminal record report from the Administrative Office of the Courts and a Central Registry Check from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

New volunteers are trained on the following topics:

- Cabinet for Health and Family Services procedures
- Department for Community Based Services procedures
- Family Engagement
- Dependency, neglect and abuse case forms
- Court processes
- Mental health needs of children in out-of-home care
- Process for conducting a review

Once a volunteer has provided the background checks and completed the initial training, a recommendation is made to the chief judge of the local Family Court or District Court for the volunteer to be appointed to the local board. Judges appoint volunteers for three-year terms. Volunteers are given a comprehensive handbook on the program and opportunities to earn six hours of continuing education, which is required each year.

What cases do CFCRB volunteers review?

Pursuant to KRS 620.270, CFCRB volunteers review the case of each child who is placed in the custody of the Cabinet by a court order for temporary custody or commitment. The reviews are conducted in the county or counties served by the local CFCRB board.

The cases include children whose commitments have been extended, children placed for adoptions that have not been finalized, children who have been returned home but remain committed and young adults whose

continued on page 9

continued from page 8

out-of-home commitments have been extended. Children and young adults are also subject to review if they were originally committed as dependent, neglected or abused, but have been recommitted as status or public offenders, provided the commitment was not interrupted.

What resources are needed to conduct a review?

The CFCRB reviews the case of each child or young adult who is in temporary custody or is committed by the court. The reviews take place in the county or counties served by the local CFCRB board. The reviews are conducted through the case file or an interactive meeting called an interested party review.

Each review board has access to all pertinent information and records maintained by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services on the parents or person exercising custodial control or supervision for the child being reviewed. The review board also has access to all pertinent information and records of the court, the Cabinet, and public and private child-care facilities for the child the CFCRB is reviewing. Information and records include, but are not limited to, case permanency plans, case progress reports and case records.

Pursuant to KRS 620.250, each local board may request in writing, with a notice of five work days, for employees of the Cabinet and other agencies to appear at local board meetings.

How often are reviews conducted?

According to KRS 620.270, every child must be reviewed at least once every six months. However, CFCRB volunteers may review cases more often if deemed necessary by the board. The CFCRB reports its findings to the court and to the Cabinet.

Where are reviews conducted?

Reviews are conducted in every county in Kentucky. Larger counties may have multiple boards. Smaller counties in the same judicial circuit or district may join together for a combined board.

The chief judge of Family Court or District Court designates where the review will take place. Reviews are often conducted at the local office of the Department for Community Based Services. Many of the interested party reviews are conducted in local judicial centers.

Where are CFCRB reviews conducted if a child moves to another county?

Pursuant to KRS 620.270(1), if a child moves to another county due to a pre-adoptive placement or if the Cabinet has moved the child, the responsibility for reviewing cases remains with the local review board that serves the county of commitment/temporary custody.

When does the CFCRB stop conducting reviews?

According to KRS 620.270, reviews by a CFCRB shall cease when the child is no longer in the custody of the Cabinet or an adoption has been finalized. The case record will document the release.

CFCRB Activity by Interested Party Review Board for Fiscal Year 2017

	IPR Reviews	Children Reviewed
ADAIR	36	22
ALLEN	78	49
BALLARD/CARLISLE	25	14
BOYD A IPR	74	59
BOYLE COUNTY IPR	120	83
BREATHITT	4	4
BREATHITT/WOLFE IPR	37	29
BRECKINRIDGE	87	54
BULLITT	68	44
BULLITT B	58	39
CALDWELL/LYON	31	20
CALLOWAY	124	80
CAMPBELL 4 IPR	42	27
CARTER IPR	93	57
CASEY	26	15
CHRISTIAN	118	73
CHRISTIAN B IPR	91	58
CLARK IPR	62	47
CLAY COUNTY IPR	112	63
CLINTON	11	8
CRITTENDEN	49	28
DAVIESS A	69	44
DAVIESS B	78	50
DAVIESS C	64	45
EDMONSON	69	45
ELLIOTT/MORGAN IPR	37	29
ESTILL	63	43
FAYETTE 1 IPR	3	3
FAYETTE 2 IPR	55	32
FAYETTE 4 IPR	36	26
FAYETTE B IPR	1	1
FAYETTE E	36	24
FAYETTE G IPR	75	45
FAYETTE I IPR	88	66
FLOYD	40	33
FULTON/HICKMAN	17	10
GARRARD	74	41
GRAVES	106	62
GREEN	25	15
GREENUP IPR	42	33
GREENUP/LEWIS IPR	19	19
HARDIN A	141	96
HARDIN B	136	90
HARDIN C	109	83
HARDIN D	74	61
HARLAN IPR	17	17
HARRISON/NICHOLAS IPR	160	94
HART	38	24
HENDERSON	70	46
HENRY IPR	22	14
HOPKINS	107	67
JACKSON	47	32
JEFFERSON 1/3 IPR	35	27
JEFFERSON 10 IPR	42	32
JEFFERSON 3 IPR	1	1
JEFFERSON 5	84	54
JEFFERSON 5A	70	39
JEFFERSON 7	38	28
JEFFERSON 7A	51	35
JEFFERSON 7B	5	5
JEFFERSON 8 IPR	41	21
JOHNSON COUNTY IPR	5	5
JOHNSON IPR	44	38
KENTON 4 IPR	99	52
KENTON 5 IPR	80	50
KENTON 8 IPR	58	27
Kenton Status IPR	41	27
KNOTT/PERRY IPR	21	18
KNOX COUNTY IPR	120	70
LARUE	45	28
LAUREL IPR	84	45
LAWRENCE IPR	36	24
LEE/OWSLEY	28	18
LESLIE	12	6
LETCHER	44	29
LINCOLN IPR	70	42
LIVINGSTON	3	3
LOGAN	73	47
Madison A	91	45
MAGOFFIN IPR	17	11
MARION/WASHINGTON IPR	63	39
MARSHALL	97	69
MARSHALL B	58	44
MARTIN IPR	34	25
MCCRACKEN B	84	55
MCCREARY	61	51
McCreary County IPR	51	44
MCLEAN	30	23
MEADE	141	89
MERCER	79	53
METCALFE	25	18
Monroe/Cumberland	27	17
MONTGOMERY IPR	107	70
MUHLENBERG	37	26
NELSON	55	35
OHIO	101	64
OLDHAM IPR	47	30
PENDLETON IPR	30	20
PIKE IPR	57	48
POWELL	57	32
PULASKI	116	66
ROCKCASTLE	1	1
ROCKCASTLE IPR	110	63
ROWAN A IPR	7	7
ROWAN B IPR	119	70
RUSSELL	47	31
SHELBY IPR	15	13
SIMPSON	54	32
SPENCER IPR	32	24
TAYLOR	48	31
TODD	35	21
TRIGG	21	11
TRIMBLE IPR	25	18
UNION	55	31
WARREN A IPR	66	38
WARREN B	79	51
WARREN C IPR	45	28
Warren Status IPR	2	2
WAYNE	28	20
WEBSTER	12	8
WHITLEY IPR	116	67
WOLFE	5	5
STATEWIDE	6,881	4,264

CFCRB Activity by Case Review Board for Fiscal Year 2017

	Paper Reviews	Children Reviewed		Paper Reviews	Children Reviewed
ADAIR	2	2	JEFFERSON 5	30	30
ALLEN	6	6	JEFFERSON 5A	32	31
ANDERSON	19	19	JEFFERSON 6	272	139
BALLARD/CARLISLE	173	75	JEFFERSON 7	32	31
BARREN	11	11	JEFFERSON 7A	22	22
BATH/MENIFEE	196	140	JEFFERSON 8	233	124
BELL	99	56	JEFFERSON 8 IPR	4	4
BOONE/GALLATIN	70	41	JEFFERSON 9	208	123
BOURBON	296	125	JESSAMINE IPR	123	85
BOYD	116	59	JOHNSON IPR	84	55
BOYD A IPR	417	278	KENTON 1 IPR	190	109
BOYD B IPR	3	3	KENTON 2	186	115
BOYLE COUNTY IPR	12	12	KENTON 3	189	89
BREATHITT	59	56	KENTON 4 IPR	7	7
BREATHITT/WOLFE IPR	4	4	KENTON 5	15	15
BRECKINRIDGE	39	33	KENTON 6	332	203
BULLITT	35	35	KENTON 7	111	67
BULLITT B	22	22	KENTON 8 IPR	24	23
BUTLER	23	23	KENTON STATUS IPR	31	30
CALDWELL/LYON	87	65	KNOTT	1	1
CALLOWAY	25	22	KNOTT/PERRY IPR	49	34
CAMPBELL 1	44	44	KNOX COUNTY IPR	49	45
CAMPBELL 2	271	144	LARUE	16	16
CAMPBELL 4 IPR	269	148	LAUREL IPR	24	24
CARROLL	6	6	LAWRENCE IPR	18	17
CARTER IPR	125	59	LEE/OWSLEY	23	22
CASEY	62	61	LESLIE	17	15
CHRISTIAN	10	10	LETCHER	23	21
CHRISTIAN B IPR	61	61	LEWIS	13	10
CLARK	15	15	LINCOLN	40	38
CLARK IPR	17	17	LIVINGSTON	5	5
CLAY	268	150	LOGAN	43	43
CLINTON	76	76	MADISON A	37	32
CRITTENDEN	5	5	MADISON B	178	100
DAVISS A	8	8	MADISON C	163	96
DAVISS B	31	31	MAGOFFIN IPR	11	11
DAVISS C	30	30	MARION/WASHINGTON IPR	25	25
EDMONSON	22	22	MARSHALL	40	40
ELLIOTT/MORGAN IPR	35	35	Marshall B	20	20
ESTILL	25	24	MARTIN IPR	18	16
FAYETTE 1 IPR	30	30	MASON/BRACKEN	200	131
FAYETTE 2 IPR	1	1	MCCRACKEN A	124	53
FAYETTE 4 IPR	9	7	MCCRACKEN B	23	23
FAYETTE A	7	7	MCCREARY	49	48
FAYETTE B	155	88	MCLEAN	10	10
FAYETTE C	184	91	MEADE	73	73
FAYETTE D	233	107	MERCER	26	26
FAYETTE E	158	85	METCALFE	30	30
FAYETTE F	30	27	MONROE/CUMBERLAND	22	22
FAYETTE G	181	114	MONTGOMERY IPR	77	60
FAYETTE H	187	95	MUHLENBERG	28	28
FAYETTE I	97	74	NELSON	24	23
FAYETTE I IPR	71	61	OHIO	57	57
FAYETTE J	151	65	OLDHAM IPR	49	35
FAYETTE K	157	100	OWEN	104	36
FAYETTE L	179	96	PENDLETON IPR	20	20
FLEMING/ROBERTSON	124	37	PERRY PAPER	150	94
FLOYD	88	72	PIKE	86	71
FRANKLIN	297	149	POWELL	19	15
FULTON/HICKMAN	1	1	PULASKI	52	52
GARRARD	29	27	ROCKCASTLE	27	26
GRANT	155	90	ROWAN	1	1
GRAVES	32	32	ROWAN A IPR	1	1
GRAYSON	247	170	ROWAN B IPR	38	38
GREEN	2	2	RUSSELL	36	36
GREENUP/LEWIS IPR	13	13	SCOTT	174	83
HANCOCK	16	9	SHELBY	202	123
HARDIN A	34	34	SHELBY IPR	9	8
HARDIN B	48	48	SIMPSON	39	37
HARDIN C	69	69	SPENCER IPR	37	35
HARDIN D	49	49	TAYLOR	21	20
HARLAN	24	19	TODD	13	13
HARRISON/NICHOLAS	2	2	TRIGG	8	8
HARRISON/NICHOLAS IPR	51	51	TRIMBLE IPR	36	30
HART	7	7	UNION	13	13
HENDERSON	25	25	WARREN A	319	221
HENRY IPR	18	18	WARREN A IPR	8	8
HOPKINS	42	42	WARREN B	32	32
IPR Fayette G	50	43	WARREN C	151	94
IPR GREENUP	34	34	WARREN C IPR	12	12
JACKSON	31	30	WARREN STATUS IPR	5	5
JEFFERSON 1	382	140	WAYNE	13	13
JEFFERSON 1/3 IPR	1	1	WEBSTER	8	8
JEFFERSON 10	254	145	WHITLEY	47	35
JEFFERSON 10 IPR	9	9	WHITLEY IPR	55	54
JEFFERSON 2	331	153	WOLFE	2	2
JEFFERSON 3	279	105	WOODFORD	67	30
JEFFERSON 4	318	167	STATEWIDE	13,521	8,456

What's New With the CFCRB

CFCRB volunteers improve their review, leadership skills at regional trainings

Citizen Foster Care Review Board volunteers benefit from regional trainings offered by the Department of Family and Juvenile Services of the Administrative Office of the Courts. These sessions help them earn the required six hours of continuing education each year.

Regional Trainings for CFCRB Volunteers

In the fall of 2017, CFCRB volunteers had the opportunity to attend one-day regional trainings offered in Louisville, Florence and Frankfort on the following topics:

Human Trafficking. Staff from Louisville Catholic Charities presented this session to help CFCRB volunteers become familiar with the definition of human trafficking and the associated terminology, promote an understanding of the scope of human trafficking on the local level, raise awareness of indicators used in determining if a situation is human trafficking, and describe the resources available to serve and protect victims of human trafficking.

Kinship/Relative Placement. Department for Community Based Services staff presented this training using a scenario to show the difference between kinship placement and foster care and to make volunteers aware of the options and services available for families.

Domestic Violence. This interactive session included the “Comings and Goings” exercise as a way to demonstrate how the choices made by victims of domestic violence can impact and harm the children in the home.

A half-day training on human trafficking was also offered in Fall 2017 in Bowling Green, Grayson, Lexington, London and Princeton.

Continuing education helps give CFCRB volunteers the ability to conduct thorough reviews and make meaningful recommendations to the court.

Chair/Vice Chair Trainings

In addition to regional trainings, the CFCRB offered chair/vice chair trainings in 2017. These trainings are designed to enhance the leadership skills of those who head the local review boards.

The 2017 session was titled “Enhanced Resource Guidelines: Improving Court Practice in Child Abuse and Neglect Cases.” The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges developed the guidelines, which cover all stages of the juvenile and Family Court process, from the preliminary protective hearing until the child can be safely returned home or placed in a new secure and permanent home.

2017 CFCRB State Board Meeting

The CFCRB State Board held its annual meeting Nov. 19, 2016, which gave chairs of the local review boards the opportunity to attend the board meeting and the final regional training for the calendar year.

There were 59 CFCRB volunteers who also attended the board meeting.

CFCRB volunteers gathered in Frankfort for 2017 Children's Advocacy Day

Each winter a group of dedicated Citizen Foster Care Review Board volunteers travel to Frankfort to take part in Children's Advocacy Day. This annual event allows hundreds of advocates to bring the needs of children and proposed solutions to the attention of state legislators.

The event began in 2004 as a way to unite advocates throughout Kentucky to speak on behalf of the safety, health, education and economic well-being of families.

CFCRB was one of the sponsors of the 2017 Children's Advocacy Day, which took place at the Capitol on Feb. 9.

While at the Capitol, CFCRB volunteers provided copies of the CFCRB legislative recommendations, which focused on streamlining interested party reviews and paper case

reviews to eliminate duplication in the dependency, neglect and abuse process, thereby improving and simplifying it for families and children.



AOC tracks children in care through Children's Automated Tracking System

The Children's Automated Tracking System is a key source of case information for the Administrative Office of the Courts, judges, the Citizen Foster Care Review Board and the Department for Community Based Services.

The AOC uses CATS to track children in care and fulfill its statutory requirement to provide a CFCRB annual report to the Supreme Court of Kentucky, the governor and state legislators.

In 2017, the AOC improved the CATS database by installing a new, updated review form that combines the paper case review with the interested party review.

CATS maintains reviews conducted by CFCRB volunteers on children in out-of-home care and receives weekly downloads from The Worker Information System.

TWIST is the statewide child welfare information system operated by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services. The downloads help ensure timely case reviews by notifying CFCRB volunteers when new children have entered care.

CATS also does the following:

- » Supplies review forms for paper case and interested party reviews.
- » Tracks and records removal and placement information, sibling visitation, and permanency and case planning.
- » Tracks the number of prior entries into foster care and the number of moves.
- » Maintains identifying and other key information from the CFCRB Findings and Recommendations forms as permanent records.
- » Records volunteer hours by training hours and hours spent at board meetings.
- » Records the parties notified of an interested party review.

Nearly 70 percent of reviews now done by interested party review

An interested party review is an interactive review that focuses on case plans for the parents and their child and the progress being made to secure permanency for the child.

Those involved include Citizen Foster Care Review Board volunteers, parents, care providers, service providers, Department for Community Based Services personnel, Court Appointed Special Advocate volunteers and the attorneys for the children and their parents. Once the mandatory IPR has been completed, the family services coordinator submits a comprehensive report with findings and recommendations to the judge responsible for the case review.

In Fiscal Year 2017, CFCRB volunteers conducted 6,881 IPRs for an 8 percent increase over FY 2016. There were 4,264 children who received this intensive review, which is a 3 percent increase over the previous fiscal year.

Since the CFCRB adopted IPR in 2008, the number of boards using this interactive review has grown quickly:

FY 2017 – 69 percent	FY 2013 – 37 percent
FY 2016 – 65 percent	FY 2012 – 29 percent
FY 2015 – 59 percent	FY 2011 – 24 percent
FY 2014 – 53 percent	FY 2010 – 18 percent

Interested Party Review Boards by County

Adair, Allen, Ballard/Carlisle, Boyd, Boyle, Breathitt/Wolfe, Breckinridge, Bullitt, Bullitt B, Caldwell/Lyon, Calloway, Campbell 4, Carter, Casey, Christian, Christian B, Clark, Clay, Clinton, Crittenden, Daviess A, Daviess B, Daviess C, Edmonson, Elliott/Morgan, Estill, Fayette 1, Fayette 2, Fayette 4, Fayette B, Fayette E, Fayette G, Fayette I, Floyd, Fulton/Hickman, Garrard, Graves, Green, Greenup, Hardin A, Hardin B, Hardin C, Hardin D, Harlan, Harrison/Nicholas, Hart, Henderson, Henry, Hopkins, Jackson, Jefferson 1/3 IPR, Jefferson 5A, Jefferson 5B, Jefferson 7A, Jefferson 7B, Jefferson 8 IPR, Jefferson 10 IPR, Johnson, Kenton 4, Kenton 5, Kenton 8, Kenton Status, Knott/Perry, Knox, LaRue, Laurel, Lawrence, Lee/Owsley, Leslie, Letcher, Lincoln, Livingston, Logan, Madison A, Magoffin, Marion/Washington, Marshall, Marshall B, Martin, McCracken B, McCreary, McLean, Meade, Mercer, Metcalfe, Monroe/Cumberland, Montgomery, Muhlenberg, Nelson, Ohio, Oldham, Pendleton, Pike, Powell, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Rowan A, Rowan B, Russell, Shelby IPR, Simpson, Spencer, Taylor, Todd, Trigg, Trimble, Union, Warren A IPR, Warren B, Warren C IPR, Warren Status, Wayne, Webster, Whitley, Wolfe

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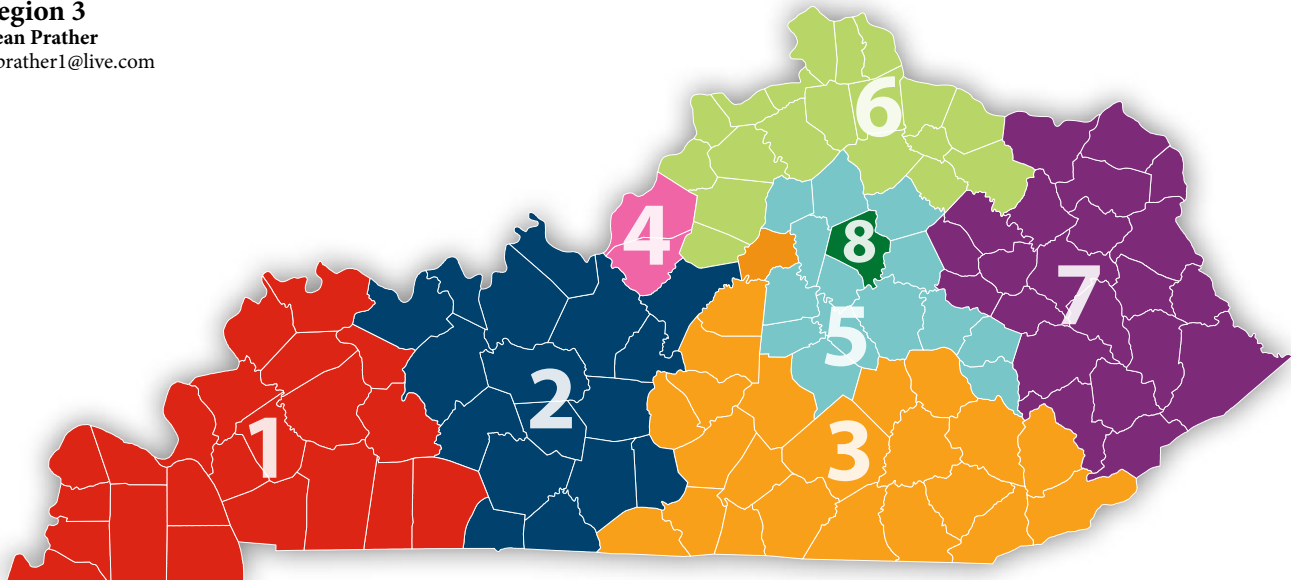
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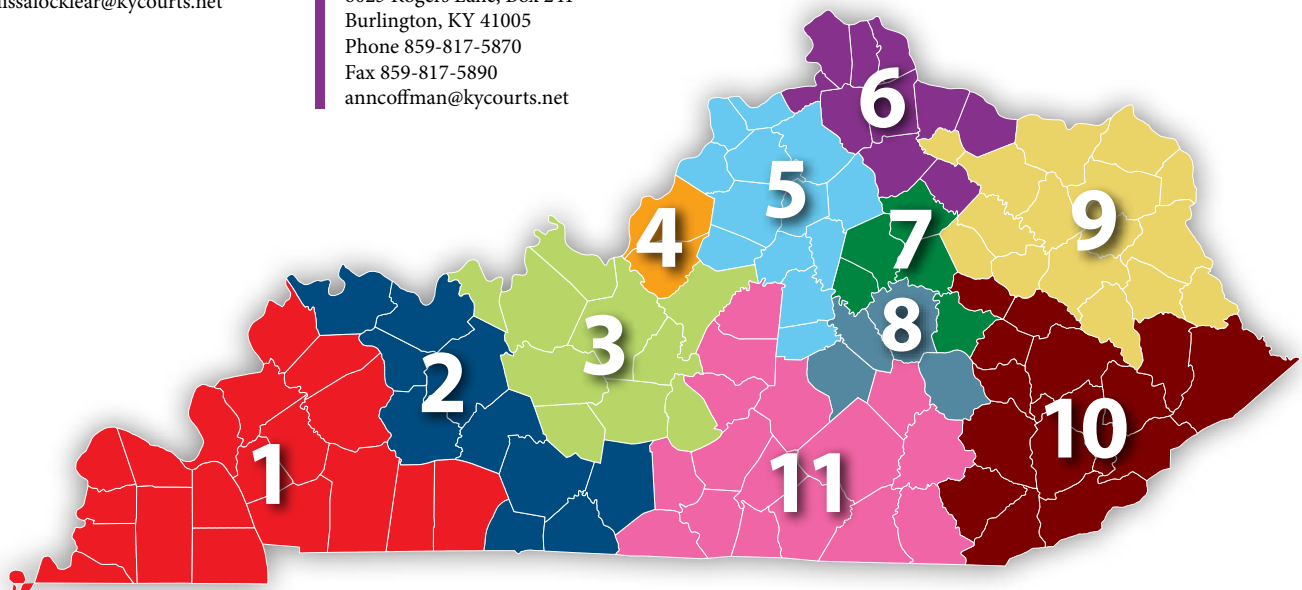
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Acknowledgments

2017 Kentucky Citizen Foster Care Review Board Annual Report
Submitted pursuant to Kentucky Revised Statutes 620.320

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