

Montgomery County Citizens Review Panel (MCCRP)

March 11, 2025 Meeting

Minutes

Members Present:

Laura Brown, Technical Advisor
Kay Farley, CRBC Representative

Stacey McNeely, Chair
Elizabeth Simon

Ms. Stacey McNeely called the meeting to order. Ms.

Review and Approval of the Minutes

The draft minutes of the February 11, 2025 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. Ms. McNeely made the motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Elizabeth Simon seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Agency Update

Lisa Merkin forwarded the February 2025 data to Ms. McNeely prior to the meeting.

Data Element	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2024	Jan 2025	Feb 2025
Assessment					
Number of calls to Screening Unit	1078	968	917	894	949
Reports of Child Maltreatment (referrals)	803	707	667	666	688
Number of new Alternative Response (AR) investigations	91	89	52	70	90
Number of new Investigation Response (IR) investigations	71	73	67	59	63
New non-CPS cases	63	52	66	49	50
Number of completed IR investigation findings – allegation indicated	54	34	52	46	31
Number of completed IR investigation findings – allegation unsubstantiated	17	17	21	20	19
Number of completed IR investigation findings – allegation ruled out	40	33	28	53	36
Out of Home					
Number of new out of home placements (entries)	15	7	7	14	4
13Total children who left care (exits)	7	20	5	11	8
Total out-of-home children in care at month's end	338	325	327	330	326
Placement					
Number of children in foster care	212	205	205	199	192
Number of children placed with relatives	85	78	81	87	87
Number of children in residential placement	41	42	41	44	47
Length of Stay					
Average (mean) length of stay in foster care (months)	32	32.5	32.5	32.5	33
Median length of stay in foster care (months)	26	24	24	23.5	24

Resource Homes					
Number of licensed regular foster homes (does not include restricted/relative homes)	115	113	109	108	112
Number of newly assigned regular home studies	1	3	1	2	2
Number of recruitment inquiries	37	43	34	32	280

It was noted that the number of children in foster care has gone down, and the number of children placed with relatives has gone up since the beginning the year.

Panel Vacancies

Ms. McNeely advised that interviews were conducted with the three candidates that applied as a result of the December posting.

Interviews will be scheduled with the candidates that applied as a result of the second posting that closed March 3, 2025.

Ms. McNeely advised that she will be transitioning off the MCCRP in October as her term will be expiring. She is not eligible to reapply as she has served two full terms. A new chairperson will need to be elected when she transitions off the MCCRP.

Sub-panel Discussions

The MCCRP members would like input from Lisa Merkin on potential topics for the next sub-panel.

Other Discussion

The MCCRP members are interested in understanding what guidance has been provided to resource homes regarding the new federal undocumented immigrant policies.

Panel Availability for April 8, 2025 Meeting

The next meeting will be April 8th.

The meeting adjourned.