

*Michigan Supreme Court  
State Court Administrative Office*

# **Michigan Foster Care Review Board 2007 ANNUAL REPORT**



**Michigan Supreme Court**

State Court Administrative Office  
Michigan Hall of Justice  
P.O. Box 30052  
Lansing, Michigan 48909  
Phone (517) 373-0128

Carl L. Gromek, Chief of Staff  
State Court Administrator

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Governor Jennifer Granholm  
Honorable Members of the Michigan Legislature

**FROM:** Carl L. Gromek, State Court Administrator

**DATE:** June 3, 2008 

**SUBJECT:** 2007 Foster Care Review Board Annual Report

---

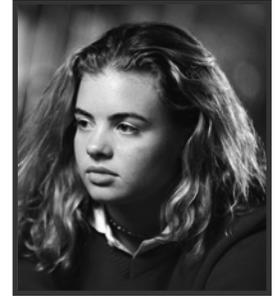
It is my pleasure to present the 2007 Annual Report of the Foster Care Review Board. This report, submitted to you pursuant to 1997 PA 170, Section 9, provides both an overview of the review board's functions and many details of its activities during this past year. Included here you will find data, trend summaries, and observations gleaned by the board during 2007 from the review of cases involving over 1,700 children in foster care. These reviews were conducted by 200 dedicated and well-trained citizen volunteers. The information obtained from the reviews provides an objective, third-party evaluation of the care that Michigan's foster care system provides to abused and neglected children.

This year's report discusses the significant challenges that remain to ensuring safe and timely permanency for the children in our foster care system. It focuses particularly on those challenges that involve the judiciary, but also includes recommendations for successfully addressing these challenges.

I hope that the enclosed report will prove to be valuable as we work together to ensure the best possible outcomes for the children and families served by our state foster care system.

Please feel free to contact our Foster Care Review Board or Child Welfare Services staff at (313) 972-3280 with any questions you may have regarding this report.

/jn



## **FCRB MISSION STATEMENT**

*The mission of the Foster Care Review Board is to utilize 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.*

## **FCRB VISION STATEMENT**

*The Foster Care Review Board will be viewed and valued by the courts, the Department of Human Services, private child-placing agencies, the Legislature, and the citizens of Michigan as a major source of credible data on the performance of the child welfare system. Additionally, citizens of the state will use the data to shape public policy and promote awareness regarding the child foster care system.*

## INTRODUCTION

We are pleased to present the 2007 Annual Report of Michigan's Foster Care Review Board Program.

The Foster Care Review Board Program (FCRB) provides third-party reviews of cases in the state child foster care system. Established by the Michigan Legislature in 1984 Public Act 422, and subsequently amended by 1986 PA 159, 1989 PA 74, and 1997 PA 170, the FCRB helps ensure that children are safe and well cared for while in the state foster care system, and that their cases move toward permanency in a timely and efficient manner. The FCRB helps to achieve those goals by randomly reviewing individual foster child cases within each county, and then making case-specific recommendations to the family division of the local circuit court, to local offices of the Department of Human Services (DHS), and to contracted agencies.

Citizen review remains a cost-efficient and effective means of providing the courts, DHS, the legislature, and other interested parties with an objective perspective on the foster care case management process. It also serves to identify systemic barriers to permanency and child well-being.

The FCRB's 30 review boards are composed of citizen volunteers from a variety of professions and backgrounds. The volunteers are recruited, screened, and then trained on key aspects of the child welfare and foster care systems, including court policy and rules, federal funding requirements, DHS policy, and the state statutes regarding child protection.

This annual report is our opportunity to detail the FCRB's recent efforts, and to share with Michigan's policymakers some of the systemic issues that our citizen volunteers have identified while reviewing foster care cases from throughout the state.

In 2007, the state budget cuts resulted in a reduction of FCRB staff. We also found it increasingly difficult to obtain essential case information from the DHS. These circumstances combined resulted in a reduced number of FCRB case reviews (as compared with previous years) and compromised the quality of those reviews whenever we could not obtain the requested case documentation. Unfortunately, this occurred at a time when our state's ability to objectively and accurately assess the needs and challenges within its foster care system is already limited by the lack of an integrated data system that can measure court and DHS performance levels.

Michigan's foster care system is presently under close scrutiny due to a pending federal lawsuit brought by the Children's Rights advocacy organization, and will come under further scrutiny in early- to mid-2009, when federal child welfare officials will visit Michigan to conduct a Child and Family Services Review (CFSR). Previous years' FCRB annual reports have raised many of the concerns now being litigated in the *Children's Rights* lawsuit, as well as many of the system performance issues that the upcoming CFSR will evaluate.

In last year's annual report, the FCRB highlighted its concerns about an overburdened and underfunded child protection system that has substantial and related DHS workforce issues, including high caseloads and high worker turnover. We were very pleased and encouraged when the Legislature subsequently budgeted for a significant increase in DHS caseworkers during fiscal year 2008.

The 2006 FCRB report also addressed concerns related to adoptions and the representation of children by court-appointed guardians ad litem. The FCRB was again pleased to learn that the State Court Administrative Office

(SCAO), under the leadership of Supreme Court Justice Maura Corrigan, subsequently organized a statewide adoption forum to address the barriers to completing timely adoptions. Also, the SCAO Court Improvement Project has worked diligently to improve legal representation for children in foster care.

This year's annual report focuses on court-related issues that present barriers to achieving safe and timely permanency for children in foster care, and includes recommendations for eliminating those barriers.

As always, the Foster Care Review Board hopes that the annual report's information, observations, and recommendations will be strongly considered and acted upon by the state leaders and officials who must bear the ultimate responsibility for ensuring the safety and well-being of the children in Michigan's foster care system.

## PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Number of children closed for review in 2007 who achieved the following permanency goal or discharge status:	#	Average Number of Days in Care
Placement with Parent(s)	134	552.7
Permanent Relative Placement	4	1109.8
Adoption	186	728.7
Legal Guardianship	16	722.9
Long Term Foster Care	3	1780.7
Adjudicated Delinquent	2	995.5
AWOL	2	3310
Conflict of Interest	4	345.0
APPLA- Another Permanency Planned Living Arrangement		
Permanent Foster Family Agreement	16	1225.3
Independent Living	4	2222.8
Emancipation	20	1464.0

Number of children's open cases reviewed as of 12/3/07 with the following goal:	#	Average Number of Days in Care
Placement with Parent(s)	358	558.7
Permanent Relative Placement	21	1268.0
Adoption	604	690.8
Terminate Parental Rights	64	824.7
Legal Guardianship	9	754.9
Long Term Foster Care	3	601.7
Other	3	1656.0
APPLA- Another Permanency Planned Living Arrangement		
Permanent Foster Family Agreement	35	1334.7
Independent Living	29	1341.5
Emancipation	59	1222.4

## THE COURTS' ROLE IN FACILITATING TIMELY PERMANENCY

State data collected for the upcoming federal Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) seems to indicate and a recent lawsuit-driven report prepared by the Children's Research Center alleges that Michigan's foster care system is not establishing permanency in a timely manner for the children in our system. Foster Care Review Board (FCRB) data from 2007 appears to support this observation. The state's failure to comply with CFSR "timely permanency" requirements could result in millions of dollars worth of cuts in federal assistance to our state child welfare system.

There are many reasons why the state has not complied with the federal standards, including several court-related factors that can and do contribute to our state's failure to bring about safe and timely permanency for all children in our foster care system. The Foster Care Review Board has identified the following court-related areas of concern, based on its review of case records, interviews, interactions with interested parties, and observations of court processes:

- Absence of consistent judicial leadership.
- Inefficient administrative processes.
- Lack of mandatory jurist training and experience.
- Inconsistent local court/agency collaboration and cooperation.

### **Judicial Leadership**

Child protection is first and foremost a legal process. This concept, although always inherent in practice, was formally legislated in the federal Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980 and reaffirmed in the 1997 Adoption and Safe Families Act. Both acts emphasized and authorized comprehensive judicial oversight of child protection cases. The court is deemed responsible for making the final determination regarding a child's need to be placed in foster care, and when court jurisdiction should be discontinued because the child has obtained a permanent placement. In addition, the court must uphold the child's rights to safety, adequate care and nurturing, and timely permanency planning for the entire time the child is in the foster care system.

The 2004 report of the Pew Commission on Children in Foster Care emphasized that judicial leadership is needed nationwide to improve court performance in ensuring safe and timely permanency for children in foster care.

Although federal legislation requires the court to place each child with the Department of Human Services for care and supervision, the child remains under the court's jurisdiction, and the court must continue to diligently monitor the child's safety and well-being. To carry out that responsibility, the court must ensure that DHS and others in the child welfare system meet the physical, psychological, educational, and developmental needs of these children, which includes reviewing the stability and safety of each child's placement and promoting the continuity of family relationships, such as frequent and regular visits with parents and siblings. In addition, the court must ensure that children with special needs receive timely and effective service interventions.

While upholding the child's right to timely permanency, a jurist also must safeguard each party's right to due process. If reunification is the goal, then the services necessary to safely reunite children with their parents must be provided in a timely manner. When reunification cannot be accomplished, the court must ensure that those responsible take timely steps toward placement with an alternative permanent caretaker.

Finally, the jurist must ensure that court-appointed attorneys for both children and parents provide their clients with quality legal representation and provide the court with the information it needs to guide its permanency decisions.

### **Efficient Administrative Processes**

Administratively, the court must facilitate prompt notification to parties; strive for real-time scheduling of hearings; minimize postponements and adjournments; and ensure that court orders are accurate, complete, and served in a timely manner. Any failure to do those things delays permanency. When the FCRB reviews cases that have not met federal permanency guidelines, it often finds problems in these areas of judicial administration. To cite just one example, most local courts do not have automated information systems to track permanency outcomes or related administrative processes which limit the capacity for self-evaluation.

### **Experience and Training**

Juvenile or family court judges who preside over child welfare cases must play a role that is more complex and comprehensive than that of judges in other courts. In addition to understanding the complex legal issues related to child protection, they must comprehend the complex social and clinical considerations that determine what is in the child's best interests. A jurist's lack of child welfare training and experience may undermine that jurist's ability to make sound and timely decisions or efficiently manage a case, which may lengthen the time children remain in foster care awaiting a permanency decision. Although we cannot expect that judges be "experts" on all child welfare issues, they must know what information they need and who can provide that information. They then must utilize the information to make decisions that are in a child's best interests in areas of safety, permanency, and well-being.

Judges' decisions in child protection cases will have lifelong consequences for the children and families involved. It is troubling that Michigan does not currently require that judges assigned to child protection cases have some minimum level of training and experience with child welfare issues. Michigan does have many exemplary jurists who have the interest and background required for handling these cases and who take it upon themselves to continually expand their knowledge. But Michigan also has a significant number of judges who do not fit that profile.

When the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) or other entities have offered statewide trainings to address critical child protection issues, the participation levels among jurists have usually fallen well below the levels for other professional groups. In 2006-2007, SCAO utilized funding from the Court Improvement Program Grant and the Governor's Task Force on Juvenile Justice to present a number of cross-disciplinary trainings for professionals involved in child protection proceedings, including a one-day conference in November 2007 that focused on judicial leadership in child protective proceedings with a special presentation on developing a judicial leadership model to promote collaboration among local courts, attorneys, and child welfare agencies. On average, judges made up only about five to six percent of the participants at any one of these trainings.

Judges, particularly those from larger counties, often attribute their low attendance rates in part to high judicial caseloads that limit their time for attending such trainings.

**Local Court/Agency Collaboration and Cooperation**

Both the Pew Commission report and the federal Child and Family Services Review have emphasized the critical need for judicial leadership and oversight to promote collaboration among the local courts, child welfare agencies, and all the other parties involved in a child's care.

Collaboration ensures that judges will obtain the information that they need to determine what is truly in a child's best interests and to move the case toward timely permanency. In many cases where permanency timelines are exceeded, the FCRB's review panels have often noted an obvious lack of collaboration between the court and the child-placing agency.

Both the courts and the child-placing agencies have identified factors that inhibit collaboration on child abuse and neglect cases. The FCRB has also observed many of these issues in our review of cases and our observance of courtroom processes. The most significant issues are as follows:

**Collaboration Barriers Identified by the Courts:**

- Agency workers are not prepared or knowledgeable about their cases.
- Agency workers do not provide well-written, comprehensive court reports, which require jurists or attorneys to ask for clarification and follow-up. Jurists are looking for information that assures them the child is safe and well cared for, and that demonstrates the need for whatever services the caseworker asks the court to order.
- Agency workers do not always provide clear, specific, and solid information or evidence to support the permanency plan.
- Agency workers do not always follow up on referrals for court-ordered services in a timely manner. (Jurists do not like to hear excuses about why their orders are not followed.)
- Agencies are not always able to maintain a stable workforce. Inexperienced caseworkers and frequent caseworker turnover do not engender the court's confidence in an agency's efforts to care for children and move the case toward timely permanency.
- Agency caseworkers do not always have even a minimum working knowledge of court rules, statutes, or policies related to child protection proceedings.
- There is a lack of a regular forum in which judges and agency personnel can discuss mutual concerns and needs.

**Barriers to Effective Collaboration Identified by the Agencies:**

- Courts do not always make orders conveniently available to caseworkers in a timely manner.
- Court management of dockets and lack of real-time scheduling requires that caseworkers spend inordinate amounts of time at the courthouse merely waiting for hearings to begin. That waste of time is compounded by frequent delays and postponements.
- Judges and attorneys do not show caseworkers the same level of professional respect and courtesy that they afford to other professionals in the court room.
- Jurists do not know or understand DHS policy and procedures.
- There is a lack of regular local forums for discussions with the court regarding mutual concerns and needs.

**RELATED RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1) We recommend that the Michigan Supreme Court promulgate a court rule requiring that all jurists, upon their initial assignment to handle child abuse and neglect cases, participate in an introductory course that will help prepare them to efficiently manage these cases.
- 2) We recommend that the State Court Administrative Office create an introductory curriculum for jurists assigned to child abuse and neglect cases. That curriculum should address the following topics:
  - a) Introduction to the Juvenile Code sections that govern child protective proceedings.
  - b) Relevant considerations and the information required to make “child’s best interests” findings in proceedings to terminate parental rights.
  - c) Introduction to DHS policy and procedure related to case management of child abuse and neglect cases.
  - d) Methods for establishing effective working relationships with caseworkers and child-placing agencies.
  - e) Monitoring and evaluating parental progress through Parent Agency Treatment Plans and court progress reports.
  - f) Interviewing children.
  - g) Effective use of Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) and local Foster Care Review Boards.
  - h) Federal funding requirements (Title IV- E and the CFSR process).
  - i) Judicial leadership in collaboration with community partners.
- 3) We recommend that the Legislature pass a law that requires direct election to the family division of the circuit court, which would require candidates to run on the basis of their interest and experience in child and family law.
- 4) We recommend that the State Court Administrative Office work with local courts to develop information systems that will allow the courts to track the administrative processes that impact timeliness of permanency and child well-being. This may also require increased legislative funding, which we recommend be provided.
- 5) We again recommend that the State Court Administrative Office implement the “court report card” concept and apply it to all family division courts so that SCAO can evaluate, on a statewide basis, the courts’ compliance with federal funding requirements for both process and outcomes in child abuse and neglect cases.
- 6) We recommend that DHS collaborate with SCAO and/or local courts to offer training for DHS caseworkers to help them gain competency and confidence in interacting with the court and the legal community.

COUNTY COMPARISONS  
1/1/2007-12/31/2007

County	Number of Reviews	Number of Children	Number of Cases	County	Number of Reviews	Number of Children	Number of Cases
Alcona	1	2	1	Lake	7	21	7
Alger	1	2	1	Lapeer	7	5	4
Allegan	19	16	11	Leelanau	0	0	0
Alpena	2	5	1	Lenawee	7	9	4
Antrim	4	11	4	Livingston	8	10	7
Arenac	4	8	4	Luce	4	7	4
Baraga	3	3	2	Mackinac	2	4	2
Barry	2	5	1	Macomb	32	64	24
Bay	9	16	8	Manistee	3	4	2
Benzie	2	3	2	Marquette	4	5	4
Berrien	32	59	23	Mason	5	12	4
Branch	9	18	6	Mecosta	8	12	6
Calhoun	23	53	21	Menominee	2	3	1
Cass	9	15	6	Midland	12	20	9
Charlevoix	1	1	1	Missaukee	3	4	2
Cheboygan	5	6	4	Monroe	9	11	7
Chippewa	4	7	4	Montcalm	5	8	4
Clare	9	10	6	Montmorency	3	3	2
Clinton	8	14	7	Muskegon	37	66	27
Crawford	5	12	5	Newaygo	6	12	4
Delta	11	13	8	Oakland	29	53	21
Dickinson	1	5	1	Oceana	1	1	1
Eaton	4	2	2	Ogemaw	2	2	2
Emmet	1	1	1	Ortonagon	1	1	1
Genesee	39	75	26	Osceola	5	11	4
Gladwin	1	1	1	Oscoda	0	0	0
Gogebic	0	0	0	Otsego	3	4	2
Traverse	7	9	4	Ottawa	7	17	7
Gratiot	4	7	3	Presque Isle	5	3	3
Hillsdale	9	16	5	Roscommon	2	4	2
Houghton	3	4	2	Saginaw	28	45	19
Huron	7	7	5	St. Clair	25	33	17
Ingham	40	60	31	St. Joseph	4	11	4
Ionia	1	1	1	Sanilac	5	13	5
Iosco	1	2	1	Schoolcraft	2	1	1
Iron	5	5	3	Shiawassee	11	21	8
Isabella	8	21	8	Tuscola	8	15	5
Jackson	24	36	16	Van Buren	10	18	9
Kalamazoo	28	48	22	Washtenaw	21	27	14
Kalkaska	1	1	1	Wayne	308	527	218
Kent	35	64	25	Wexford	7	7	4
Keweenaw	0	0	0				

Total Number of Reviews	1030	Total Number of Cases	755
Total Number of Children	1738		

County specific and service outcome data can be found at  
<http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/resources/publications/reports/summaries.htm#fcrbr>

## FOSTER PARENT APPEALS

Pursuant to 1997 PA 163, foster parents may appeal the movement of a ward from their home. If the local foster care review board, which hears the appeal, agrees that a move is not in the child (ren)'s best interests, the court must hold a hearing or, if an MCI ward, the MCI Superintendent must review the case. There were 146 calls into the Foster Care Review Board Program from foster parents during the year of which 88 resulted in board appeal hearings. Of the 88 appeal hearings, boards supported foster parents 35 times (40%) and agencies 53 times (60%).

### 2007 Foster Parent Appeal Outcomes

	Supported Foster Parents <sup>1</sup>	Supported Agency
<b>Department of Human Services</b>	15	33
<b>Purchase of Service Agencies</b>	20	20
<b>Total</b>	35	53

Of the 23 court ward reviews where boards supported foster parents, the courts upheld the board's decision 12 times, supported the agency 7 times, and 3 had unknown results. In the 11 subsequent reviews by the MCI Superintendent, he upheld the board's decision 7 times, supported the agency 3 times, and 1 with unknown results. Two cases were not subsequently reviewed by either the court or MCI Superintendent because the foster parents withdrew their appeal.

### Final Outcomes

Court Decisions			MCI Decisions		
FP	AG	U/K	FP	AG	U/K
12	7	3	7	3	1

<sup>1</sup> Must be reviewed subsequently by court or MCI Superintendent

## BIANNUAL PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT GOALS – 2008 and 2009

The Foster Care Review Board (FCRB) established the following biannual goals for 2008-2009 at the FCRB 2007 Annual Training. This is part of the FCRB's continuing effort to ensure statutory compliance, meet legislative intent, maximize utilization of our available resources, and support and benefit system stakeholders.

- 1. Establish an annual forum at which to present our Annual Report to the Michigan Legislature. The forum would involve advocates and professionals from the foster care system who can knowledgeably present and support the “system” and “resource” findings and recommendations in our report.**

**Progress:** *Continued from 2006-2007. We met with the chairpersons of the House and Senate DHS appropriations committee, and also the legislative aide for the chair of the House Committee on Family and Children's Services. We have not been able to arrange meetings with the chair of that House Committee or the Senate Committee on Families, Mental Health, and Human Services.*

- 2. Establish a system for tracking and documenting instances where the board's review of an individual case contributed directly to the resolution of child safety and well-being issues or the removal of barriers to permanency.**

**Progress:** *Continued from 2006-2007. Formal system not yet developed.*

- 3. Establish an award or means of recognition for outstanding work being done by professionals in the foster care system.**

**Progress:** *This goal continues from 2007. Criteria and protocol for selection of caseworker and children's court-appointed lawyer-guardian ad litem awards will be developed by the Program Improvement Subcommittee. Tentative timeline for first award presentation is November 2009.*

- 4. Increase advocacy by citizen volunteers with state legislators.**

**Progress:** *Protocol for monitoring and communication of pending legislation in process of development.*

- 5. Increase the ability of the Statewide Advisory Committee to monitor, identify, and address critical systemic issues that delay permanency for children and compromise child safety and well-being.**

**Progress:** *Subcommittee process established in September 2006. Presently assessing integration of our subcommittees with other statewide committees working on system improvement and reform.*

- 6. Establish a more efficient review system that fulfills our statutory mandate, reduces case material transfers, increases communication and collaboration with foster care system stakeholders, results in useful recommendations to local courts and foster care agencies, provides accurate data for DHS quality assurance reports, and supports our annual report recommendations.**

**Progress:** *Implement new system by September 2008.*

*The Foster Care Review Board is comprised of citizen volunteers from all Michigan counties and all walks of life, who meet once a month to review cases of abused and/or neglected children in foster care.*

County	First Name	Last Name	County	First Name	Last Name	County	First Name	Last Name	County	First Name	Last Name
Alcona	Carline	Bendig	Jackson	Jonathan	Hale	Otsego	Vicky	Rigney	Wayne	Doncella	Floyd
Alcona	Tamara	Quick	Jackson	Diana	Liechty	Ottawa	James	McIlvain	Wayne	Bernice	Fulson
Allegan	Chris	Seidel	Jackson	Harold	White	Ottawa	Carol	Rickey	Wayne	Brenda	Godfrey
Allegan	Vivien	Vandenberg	Kalamazoo	Joy	Light	Presque Isle	Denise	Parrott	Wayne	Tina	Gomez
Antrim	Susan	Manturuk-Gielda	Kalamazoo	Sally	Putney	Roscommon	Kathryn	Bangs	Wayne	Remberito	Gomez-Baez
Barry	Ronald	Heilman	Kalamazoo	Helayne	Smith	Saginaw	Barbara	Hill	Wayne	Wendy	Greene
Barry	Carol	Stanton	Kalamazoo	Herman	Smith	Saginaw	Vivian	Keys Brown	Wayne	Willie Jane	Griggs
Barry	Roberta	Taffee	Kalamazoo	Shirley	Topp	Saginaw	Shirley	Norman	Wayne	Romal	Griggs
Bay	David	Dunn	Kalkaska	Carrie	Latta	Saginaw	Willie	Owens	Wayne	Mary	Hammons
Berrien	Steven	Sowder	Kent	Jan	Fotsch-Foxen	Sanilac	Richard	Hug	Wayne	Warren	Harrison
Berrien	Mary	Wood	Kent	Daniel	Groce	Schoolcraft	Judith	Ruttan	Wayne	Cathyann	Haynes
Branch	Cathy	Gordon	Kent	Randall	Halstead	Shiawassee	Jorja	Ackels	Wayne	Jonas	Hill, Sr.
Branch	Michael	Ronzone	Kent	Joan	Irons	Shiawassee	Jacob	Drenovsky	Wayne	Loretta	Horton
Branch	Lucinda	Wakeman	Kent	Vernon	Laninga	St. Clair	Linda	Bombard	Wayne	Kathie	House
Branch	Jerry	Yoder	Kent	Suzanne	McCune	St. Clair	Kathryn	Bruer	Wayne	David L.	Hunt
Calhoun	Kathryn	Hemenway	Kent	Jacqueline	Rudolph	St. Clair	Robert	Goldenbogen	Wayne	Darryl V.	Hunter
Cass	James	Rutten	Lake	Frances P.	Arquette	St. Clair	Michele	Vilas	Wayne	Carlton	Jackson
Charlevoix	Mary Lee	Campbell	Lenawee	Eloise	Hosken	St. Joseph	Robyn	Emde	Wayne	Yvette	Jenkins
Cheboygan	Karin	Hayes	Livingston	Patricia	Siegel	St. Joseph	Kenneth	Orlich	Wayne	Rod	Johnson
Cheboygan	Margaret	Howe	Luce	Ronald	Ford	St. Joseph	Marlene	Roberts	Wayne	Charmaine	Johnson
Clare	Angela	Chicilli	Macomb	Elayne W.	Gray	Tuscola	Gary	Holik	Wayne	Ethel	Knight
Clare	Kathryn	Mitchell	Macomb	Angie	Greenslade	Tuscola	Cristi	Smith	Wayne	Angelita	Krasson
Dickinson	Cynthia	Donahue	Macomb	Eugene	Groesbeck	Van Buren	Dean	Beckwith	Wayne	Mark	LaBerge
Eaton	Carol	Little	Macomb	R. Steve	Middelstadt	Van Buren	Jennifer	Carpio	Wayne	Mary	Lemanek
Genesee	Monica	Driver	Macomb	Jackie	Pittman	Van Buren	Anthony	Caruso	Wayne	Robert	Lemanek
Genesee	Marilyn	Hoffman	Macomb	Rosemary	Sear	Washtenaw	Rose Marie	Barhydt	Wayne	Gary Curtis	Madden
Genesee	Ann Marie	Kenderski	Macomb	Lynda Jo	Steele	Washtenaw	Marion	Hoey	Wayne	Robert	McDonnell
Genesee	Kimberly	Mears-Thomas	Manistee	Marilee	Johnson	Washtenaw	Henry	Johnson	Wayne	Daedra	McGhee
Genesee	Mel	Tormey	Marquette	Cara	Korhonen	Washtenaw	Lisa	Ruby	Wayne	Romona	McKinney
Genesee	Margaret	Vaughter	Marquette	Glenn	Wing	Washtenaw	Gayle	Stewart	Wayne	Jacqueline	Moss-William
Genesee	Stephanie	Young	Marquette	Jill	Zueger	Wexford	Pamela	Anderson	Wayne	Floyd	Myers
Gogebic	Laurie	Niemi	Mason	Barry	Matthews	Wayne	Brooke	Adams	Wayne	Daphne	Nedd
Gr. Traverse	Mary Lou	Bonacci	Menominee	Diane	Larsen	Wayne	Derrick	Anderson	Wayne	Don	Novak
Gr. Traverse	Michael	Herron	Midland	Diane	Bedford	Wayne	Marsialle	Arbuckle	Wayne	Elizabeth	Oliver
Hillsdale	Martha	Crow	Midland	Stephen	Ignatowski	Wayne	Lillian	Bernstein	Wayne	Sue	Parker
Hillsdale	Ronald	Hayes	Monroe	Frederick	Corser, Jr.	Wayne	Ben	Biddle	Wayne	Rita	Parier Mathis
Huron	Brenda	Battle	Muskegon	Donna	Fiebelkorn	Wayne	John	Bishop	Wayne	Granada L.	Peterson
Huron	Janice	Holz	Muskegon	Evelyn	Geile	Wayne	Henry	Bohm	Wayne	Michael C.	Piper
Huron	Charles	Roberts	Muskegon	Patricia	Hanson	Wayne	Brenda	Boyd	Wayne	Tricia	Richardson
Ingham	Mary Lou	Blanchard	Muskegon	Edward	Holouka	Wayne	Keenan	Brown	Wayne	James	Rogers Sr.
Ingham	Fonda	Brewer-Williams	Muskegon	Norman	Swier	Wayne	Willie	Cambell Sr.	Wayne	Rita	Ross-Price
Ingham	Kristen	Capps	Muskegon	Melba	White Newsome	Wayne	Rhonda	Chaffin Metayo	Wayne	Wain	Saeger
Ingham	Edwina	Divins	Newaygo	Larry	Feikema	Wayne	Carol	Coccia	Wayne	Janine	Sladewski
Ingham	Selena	Harris	Oakland	Barbara	Allen	Wayne	Janelle	Coklow	Wayne	Tracy	Smith
Ingham	Michael	Kessler	Oakland	Carol	Borich	Wayne	Ida	Coleman-Eckell	Wayne	Willie	Stanley
Ingham	Kristina	Marshall	Oakland	Cassandra	Chandler	Wayne	Ivan	Cotman	Wayne	Mark	Steinhauer
Ingham	Cheryl	Mask-Nealy	Oakland	Charles	Ludwig	Wayne	Wilhemina	Cotton	Wayne	Ellen	Stephens
Ingham	Susan	Sharkey	Oakland	Eleanor	Mickens	Wayne	Tonie	Dance	Wayne	Carol	Terpak
Ingham	Stephanie	Smith	Oakland	Darnita	Stein	Wayne	Lynda	DeFrain	Wayne	Marsha	Thacker
Ingham	Kimber	Thompson	Oakland	Judith	Stephens	Wayne	Doris	DeMarco	Wayne	Shelly	Thomas
Ingham	Arnetta	Tyus	Oscoda	Gerald	Corey	Wayne	Marvin	Dick	Wayne	Sara	Tyranski
Ionia	Frederick	Puffenberger				Wayne	Fred	Durhal	Wayne	Re Esther	Watkins
Isabella	Karen	Kerr				Wayne	George	Eason	Wayne	Cassandra	Wells

*The FCRB Advisory Committee is a collaborative body of representatives from each local board, as well as professionals and advocates from the child welfare community. The information, conclusions, and data presented in the annual report, along with any related recommendations, are the product of this collaborative effort and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Michigan Supreme Court or the State Court Administrative Office, under whose auspices this program is conducted.*

**FCRB STATEWIDE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Professional Members**

**Hon. Michael Anderegg**

Chief Judge  
Marquette Cty. Probate Court

**Ms. Mary Chaliman**

Foster Care Program Manager  
Dept. of Human Services

**Ms. Jeanne Fowler**

Child Advocate  
Big Family of Michigan

**Ms. Amy Hartmann**

Attorney at Law  
Michigan Children's Law  
Center

**Ms. Terri Henrizi**

Training and Family Support  
Specialist  
Assoc. for Children's Mental  
Health

**Mr. Bill Johnson**

Superintendent  
Mich Children's Institute

**Ms. Mary Johnson**

President  
MJ3 Consulting

**Ms. Zoe Lyons**

Office of Family Advocate  
Dept. of Human Services

**Mr. Bill Memberto**

Director, Family Services  
Ottawa Indians

**Ms. Kathryne O'Grady**

Deputy Director for Children  
and Adult Policy  
Dept. of Human Services

**Ms. Carolyn Rayford**

Deputy Regional Director  
Lutheran Child & Family  
Services

**Ms. Verlie Ruffin**

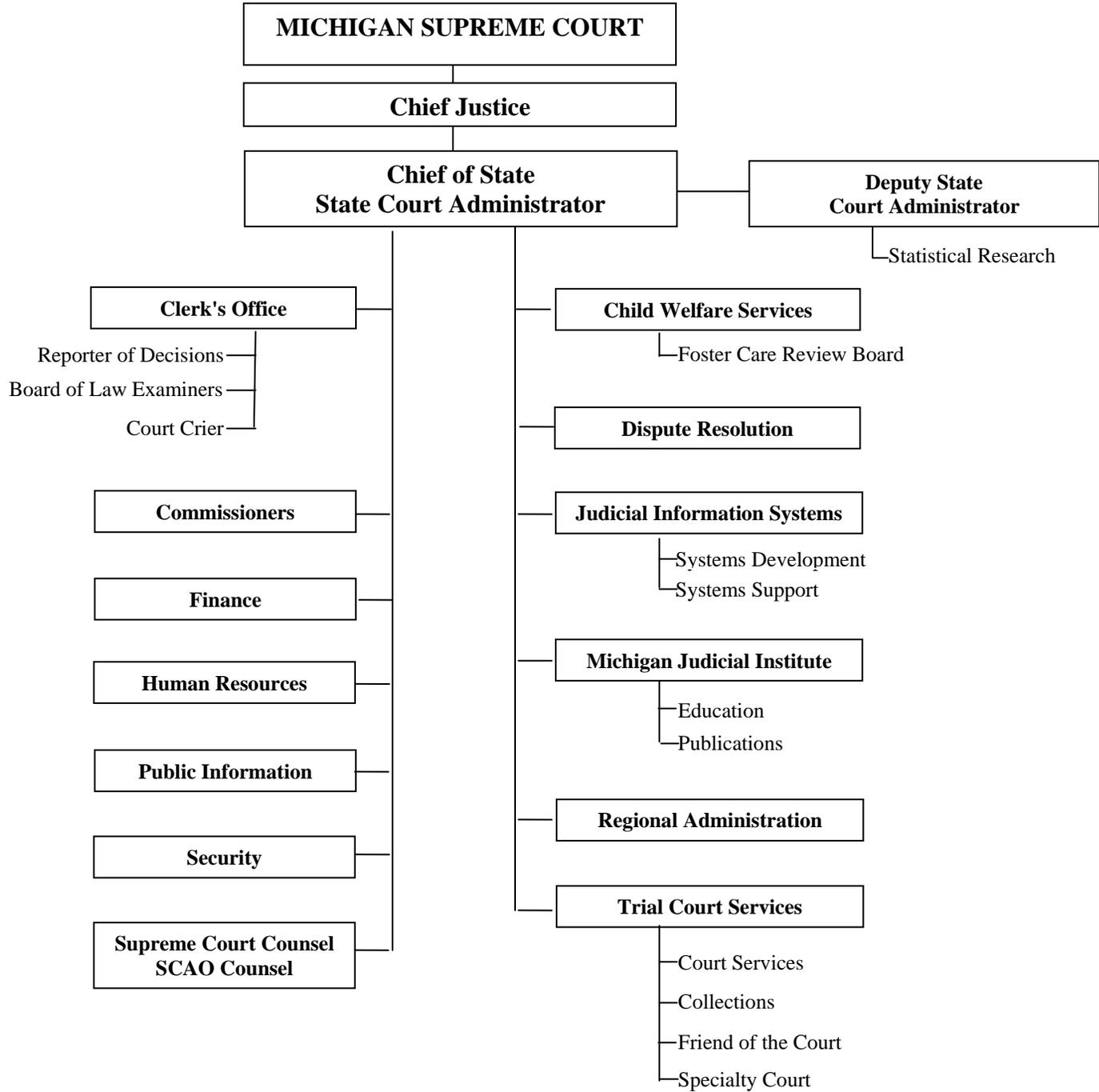
Children's Ombudsman  
State of Michigan

**Hon. Leslie Kim Smith**

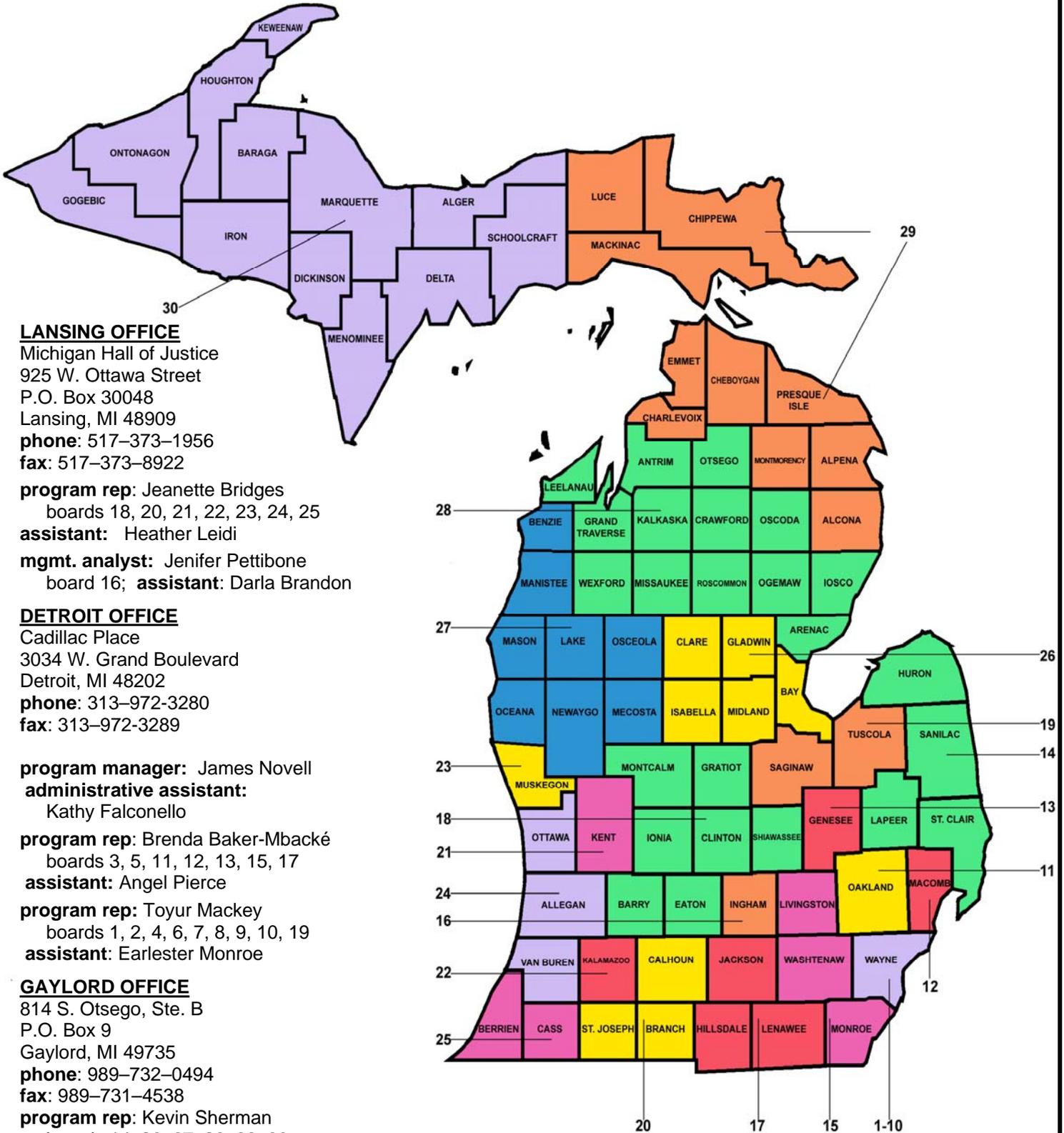
Circuit Judge  
3rd Circuit Court, Family Div.

**Ms. Janet R. Snyder**

Executive Director  
MI Federation for Children &  
Families



# MICHIGAN'S FOSTER CARE REVIEW BOARDS



## LANSING OFFICE

Michigan Hall of Justice  
 925 W. Ottawa Street  
 P.O. Box 30048  
 Lansing, MI 48909  
**phone:** 517-373-1956  
**fax:** 517-373-8922

**program rep:** Jeanette Bridges  
 boards 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25  
**assistant:** Heather Leidi  
**mgmt. analyst:** Jenifer Pettibone  
 board 16; **assistant:** Darla Brandon

## DETROIT OFFICE

Cadillac Place  
 3034 W. Grand Boulevard  
 Detroit, MI 48202  
**phone:** 313-972-3280  
**fax:** 313-972-3289

**program manager:** James Novell  
**administrative assistant:**  
 Kathy Falconello  
**program rep:** Brenda Baker-Mbacké  
 boards 3, 5, 11, 12, 13, 15, 17  
**assistant:** Angel Pierce  
**program rep:** Toyur Mackey  
 boards 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 19  
**assistant:** Earlester Monroe

## GAYLORD OFFICE

814 S. Otsego, Ste. B  
 P.O. Box 9  
 Gaylord, MI 49735  
**phone:** 989-732-0494  
**fax:** 989-731-4538

**program rep:** Kevin Sherman  
 boards 14, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30  
**assistant:** Kelly Jencks

**Website:** <http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/services/fcrb/fcrb.htm>