

Update on Congregate Care Rightsizing

Status of Youth 12 and under
Nancy DiMauro, MSW
DCF Director of Child Welfare
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DCF's Goals/Mission

Serve children in care in the least restrictive & most appropriate family-based setting while planning permanency from day one.

The Process

- DCF has engaged in an exhaustive review of children 12 years old and younger who were residing in Congregate Care facilities as of January, 2012
- Each case review focused on potential discharge to community-based setting
- Facilitated case review using the Ann Arundel County Child and Family Readiness Tool (see handout)

Readiness Results

- Readiness is assessed by determining the child's readiness for community-based placement *and* the family's readiness to receive the child (See handout)

Demographics of Children in Initial Cohort (118 youth)

- **Age:**

18 children were 8 years old or younger

Vast majority (100) were ages 9 -13

Placement:

RTC: 30

PDC: 12

GH: 25

Hospital: 7

SafeHome: 23

PRTF: 21

Demographics (cont.)

- **Permanency Plan:**

Reunification: 60

Adoption: 32

Foster Family : 11

APPLA: 7

Relative/Kin: 6

TOG: 2

Data Review

- Review of data by Area Office on youth who have stepped down from Residential Care and those who remain in Congregate Care (see handouts)