

HHS - CHILD AND ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES UNIT

The County Attorney’s Division of Health and Human Services represents the Department of Health and Human Services, including Child Welfare Services in Juvenile Court, and Adult Protective Services.

| Action - Child Welfare Services/Juvenile Court | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 (July – Dec 2023) |
|--|-------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Number of Children in Need of Assistance (CINA) or Guardianship Hearings | 2,210 | 2,228 | 1,013 |
| Number of New CINA Petitions Filed | 99 | 101 | 49 |
| Number of CINA Cases Closed | 103 | 90 | 46 |
| Number of New Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) Petitions Filed | 38 | 34 | 15 |
| Number of TPRs Granted | 33 | 9 ¹ | 21 |
| Number of New Adoption Petitions Filed | 20 | 38 | 16 |
| Number of Adoptions Granted | 20 | 29 ² | 23 |

¹14 pending and 11 withdrawn.

²9 pending.

The HHS Division also represents the Public Guardianship Program, a highly specialized department within HHS. For adults under 65, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services may be appointed as guardian of the person. For adults over 65, the Director of the County Office on Aging may be appointed as guardian of the person. For both age groups, Maryland law stipulates that the County may only be appointed as guardian as a last resort, when there are no other viable alternatives.

| Action – Adult Protective Services/Circuit Court | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 (July – Dec 2023) |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Number of Adult Guardianship Hearings | 100 | 136 | 39 |
| Number of Adult Guardianship Petitions Filed | 21 | 16 | 8 |