

Resource Parent Quarterly Newsletter



Happy Spring, Resource Parents!

Spring has officially sprung, and with it comes a season of growth, renewal, and appreciation. In March, we proudly celebrated National Social Work Month with the theme “Social Workers: Uplift. Defend. Transform.” — a powerful reminder of the dedication and advocacy that support children and families every day. We are so grateful for the partnership between social workers and resource parents as we work together to make a lasting impact!

As we look ahead to May, we are excited to celebrate National Foster Care Month — a time to honor you, our incredible resource parents, for the compassion, stability, and unwavering commitment you provide to children and youth. Your willingness to open your hearts and homes truly makes a difference, and we look forward to celebrating you in meaningful ways.

In this newsletter, you will find important updates and reminders, information about the Charles County Resource Parent Association, current foster care statistics, a spotlight on our 2026 Resource Parents of the Year, details on upcoming trainings, and exciting Independent Living (IL) events for our youth ages 14+. Please be sure to review the upcoming IL opportunities, as participation is required for youth in that age group. Thank you for all you do to uplift, defend, and transform the lives of children in our community. We’re excited for what this season holds!

April, May and June Birthdays!

FRANK KNOX

MAKEBA GIBBS

CARLINE MODL

New to the Crew! Newly licensed Resource Parents!

ANDREA SCOTT

JAYMIE AND FRANK KNOX

CARLINE MODL

Congratulations to our 2026 Resource Parents of the Year, Kimyada Hooks and Trenease Moore!

Your dedication, compassion, and commitment to the children and families you serve truly make a difference. Thank you for opening your hearts and homes and for being such a powerful example of advocacy, love, and support within our resource parent community. We are proud to celebrate this well-deserved recognition!

As their Family Development Specialist, Shanice Randall shared:

“Kimyada and Trenease are highly deserving of recognition as Foster Parents of the Year for their exceptional dedication and compassion. They began their fostering journey in July 2025 and, in a short amount of time, have made a profound impact on the lives of the children in their care. Over the past six months, they have provided a safe, stable, and nurturing home for a sibling group of two, ensuring the children remained together and felt a true sense of belonging.

From the very beginning, they welcomed the children into their family as their own. They go above and beyond to meet not only the children’s basic needs, but also their emotional, developmental, and social needs. They prioritize routines, celebrate milestones, and create meaningful family experiences that help the children feel secure and valued.

In addition to their daily caregiving, these foster parents are actively engaged with the agency. They consistently attend resource parent meetings and events, demonstrating their commitment to learning, collaboration, and advocacy. They are highly communicative, responsive, and never hesitate to ask thoughtful questions to ensure they provide the best possible care.

Their dedication was further demonstrated when they accepted an emergency placement of a child. They stepped in without hesitation, offering stability during a critical moment. Their flexibility, patience, empathy, and willingness to support children in need truly exemplify the spirit of foster care.

Kimyada and Trenease are a tremendous asset to the agency and a powerful source of stability, hope, and love for the children they serve.”



Upcoming CWA Trainings

April

- Thu 4/9 6:00-9:00pm (3 Hours) - Supporting Children in Care Through Parent Partnership
- Sat 4/11 9:00-11:00am (2 Hours) - Medication Management – Children’s Mental Health Defined
- Wed 4/15 6:00-8:00pm (2 Hours) - Cultural Humility
- Fri 4/17 12:00-1:00pm (1 Hour) - Top 10 Car Seat Mistakes
- Tue 4/21 6:00-8:00pm (2 Hours) - Behavior Discipline with A Foster/Adoption Care Twist
- Mon 4/27 6:00-8:00pm (2 Hours) - Improving Communication with Your Teens

May

- Fri 5/1 12:00-1:00pm (1 Hour) - Resource Family Requirements Re-Envisioned (Comar Updates)
- Sat 5/2 9:00-11:00am (2 Hours) - Behavior Responding to Children in Crisis
- Wed 5/6 6:00-8:00pm (2 Hours) - Addicted to Likes – social media And Mental Health
- Fri 5/15 12:00-1:00pm (1 Hour) - MRPA Lunch and Learn
- Tue 5/19 6:00-8:00pm (2 Hours) - Medication Management – Effective Mental Health Treatment
- Tue 5/26 6:00-8:00pm (2 Hours) - Children in Foster Care: Understanding the Need for Identify Formation

June

- Thu 6/4 6:00-8:00pm (2 Hours) - Behavior What to Do When Your Child Lies, Steals and Hoards Food
- Fri 6/12 12:00-1:00pm (1 Hour) - Digital Safety
- Wed 6/17 6:00-8:00pm (2 Hours) - Attachment and Trauma - Helping Kids Heal Through Reparative Relationships
- Fri 6/26 11:00am-1:00pm (2 Hours) - Medication Management - Being Truly Trauma-Informed: Looking Beyond the Diagnosis
- Tues 6/30 6:00-8:00pm (2 Hours) Building Safety and Trust: Supporting Youth with Diverse Sogie

Charles County Resource Parent Association – Let’s Get Started!

We’re launching the 2026 Charles County Resource Parent Association, and we’d love for you to be involved!

Why Join?

- Support groups to connect with fellow resource parents
- Mentorship for newly licensed parents
- Community events and family activities
- Respite & childcare networking
- Free annual tax assistance support through the Maryland Resource Parent Association (MRPA)

We Need You!

To start we’re forming a full executive board. If you’re interested, please contact Jenna Davis at Jenna.Davis2@maryland.gov or Stefany Lang, MRPA Executive Director, at Slang@mrpa.org.

Let’s build a strong, supportive community together!

Upcoming Independent Living Program Events!

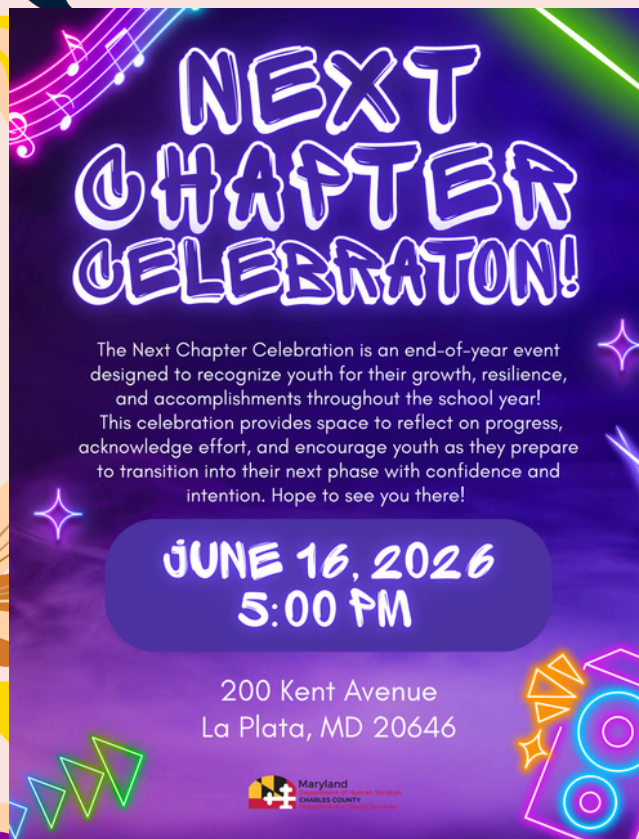
We have several engaging and informative Independent Living Program (ILP) events coming up for our youth! These events are designed to build life skills, confidence, and prepare youth for successful adulthood. Please remember, if you have a youth in your care who is 14 years or older, attendance is mandatory. Your support in ensuring they participate is greatly appreciated as these opportunities are essential to their growth and transition planning.



MONEY MATTERS!

MAY 19, 2026 FROM 5:00PM - 6:30PM
200 KENT AVENUE, LA PLATA, MD 20646

Money Matters is an interactive event designed to provide youth with clear, age-appropriate guidance on financial basics, including budgeting, saving, and responsible money management. The session focuses on building confidence, awareness and practical skills youth can immediately apply to support their financial independence.



NEXT CHAPTER CELEBRATION!

The Next Chapter Celebration is an end-of-year event designed to recognize youth for their growth, resilience, and accomplishments throughout the school year! This celebration provides space to reflect on progress, acknowledge effort, and encourage youth as they prepare to transition into their next phase with confidence and intention. Hope to see you there!

**JUNE 16, 2026
5:00 PM**

200 Kent Avenue
La Plata, MD 20646



NEXT MOVE SUMMER CAREERS

Next Move Summer Careers, in collaboration with Southern Maryland JobSource, is designed to help youth explore a variety of career pathways, while gaining an understanding of job requirements and the essential soft skills needed to secure and maintain employment.

April 21, 2026
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm
200 Kent Avenue
La Plata, MD 20646



Youth Currently in Care

Total of **33** youth in care:

- **22** Female
- **11** Male
- **20** are ages 12+

- **26** are Black/African American
- **3** are Bi-racial
- **4** are White/Caucasian



RESOURCE HOMES TEAM

- Andrea Leys, Family Development Specialist-andrea.leys@maryland.gov
- Brianna Pinnock, Independent Living Program-brianna.pinnock@maryland.gov
- Dahlia Freeman, LMSW Family Development Specialist-dahlia.freemandoms@maryland.gov
- Jenna Matheny, LMSW Recruiter & Trainer Specialist-jenna.davis2@maryland.gov
- Jimmietta Adams-Corsey, Independent Living Program-jimmietta.adams3@maryland.gov
- Shanice Randall, LMSW Family Development Specialist-Shanice.Randall1@maryland.gov
- Tracey Higgins, LCSW-C Resource Homes Supervisor-tracey.higgins@maryland.gov