



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
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December 5, 2024

Chair Robyn K. Kennedy  
Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with  
Disabilities  
State House, Room 507  
Boston, MA 02133

Chair Jay D. Livingstone  
Joint Committee on Children, Families and  
Persons with Disabilities  
State House, Room 146  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairs Kennedy and Livingstone:

Chapter 18B Section 6A requires the Department of Children and Families to submit an annual report on the performance of the Foster Care Review Unit. The report enclosed is an analysis of the 2023 Fiscal Year. As part of the work done in collaboration with the Legislature and the Office of the Child Advocate, this report provides a comprehensive public view of Foster Care Review (FCR) performance data and how child-serving organizations can support permanent homes for children.

When children cannot remain safely at home, DCF acts immediately to identify a safe foster care placement. FCR serves the critical purposes of monitoring efforts to plan for and achieve permanency for children, reassuring the Department is meeting children's needs while they are in foster care, and engaging with parents working to reunify with their children.

DCF will continue to work with the OCA to improve the quality of FCRs. Childhood cannot be put on hold and every child deserves a timely resolution of a permanent family or a lifelong connection to support them into adulthood. A strong FCR system is imperative to meeting that goal.

Please contact Emily Hajjar at [Emily.Hajjar@mass.gov](mailto:Emily.Hajjar@mass.gov) should you have any questions about this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Staverne Y. Miller'.  
Staverne Y. Miller