

C4378
1.982
Cop. 3

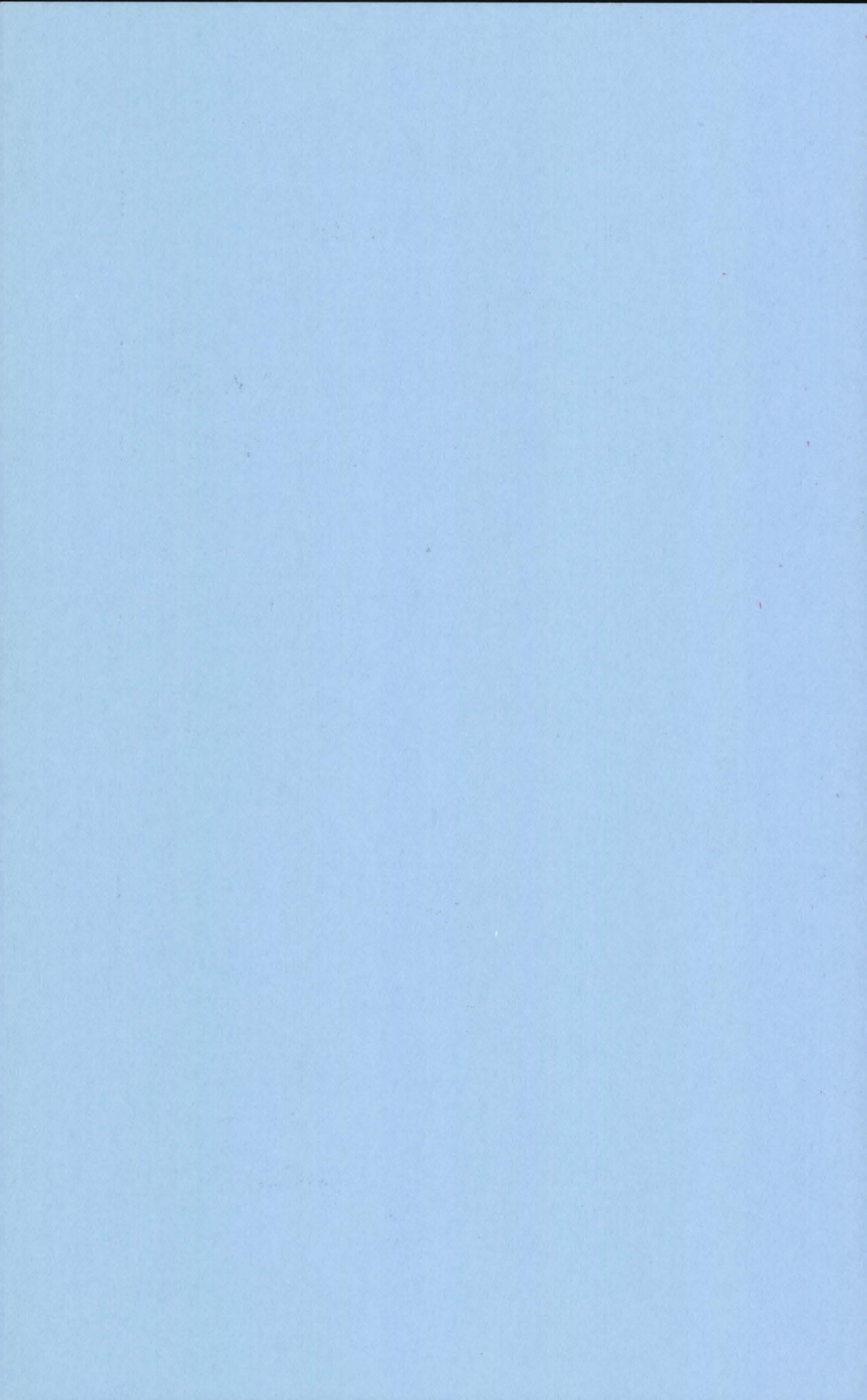
**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CHILDREN'S FOSTER CARE
REVIEW BOARD SYSTEM
OF THE
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

(Covering Period July 1, 1981 through June 30, 1982)



S. C. STATE LIBRARY
MAY 5 1983
STATE DOCUMENTS

**Children's Foster Care Review Board System
2221 Devine Street Suite 418
Columbia, South Carolina 29205**



**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CHILDREN'S FOSTER CARE
REVIEW BOARD SYSTEM
OF THE
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

(Covering Period July 1, 1981 through June 30, 1982)



**Children's Foster Care Review Board System
2221 Devine Street Suite 418
Columbia, South Carolina 29205**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter of Transmittal	1
Historical Development	2
Statutory Authority for the Agency	5
Organizational Chart	7
Staff.....	8
Organization	9
Documents.....	13
Financial Statement.....	14

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

The Honorable Richard W. Riley, Governor
and Members of the General Assembly

I am pleased to report herein the activities of the South Carolina Children's Foster Care Review Board System for the fiscal year 1981-82.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Chappell". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and date.

Barbara Chappell, Director
September, 1982

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

In South Carolina during the years 1970 through 1974, six major private organizations spearheaded a growing community interest in obtaining permanent homes for children in foster care. As a result of the activities of these groups, the State Legislature passed bills setting up three major child welfare programs for 1) broader involuntary termination of parental rights, 2) a statewide foster care review board system and 3) subsidized adoption. To ensure implementation, the Governor established an Office of Child Advocacy.

The six major organizations were: the American Civil Liberties Union, the South Carolina Council for Human Rights, the South Carolina League of Women Voters, the Midlands Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, the South Carolina Youth Workers Association and Helping Hands of Aiken County. Child psychiatrists, child psychologists, social work professors, law professors and various church leaders also participated as private citizens to help give direction to the project.

These organizations and individuals worked together to research and document the state of abused, neglected, abandoned and dependent children in cooperation with Representative Carolyn Frederick, Vice Chairperson of the General Assembly's Study Committee on Legal and Legislative Matters Pertaining to Children. These studies showed the following problems to exist:

1. Seventy-six percent (76%) of the children in the Department of Social Services foster care program would not return home nor be adopted under the present system. Services were not provided to the parents to facilitate return home. Also, no efforts were made to free the children for adoption under the abandonment statute although the children were eligible for such action.
2. In the seventeen institutions (formerly known as orphanages and all being private except three), forty-three percent (43%) of the children were placed there by the Department of Social Services and fifty-seven percent (57%) were placed by some other party. Twenty-five percent (25%) to fifty percent (50%) of the children in these institutions were eligible for adoption under the abandonment statute but all seventeen institutions stated that adoption was not one of their services. Most of them also offered no services to families to enable return of the children home.
3. Forty-three percent (43%) of the children in foster care had been in

two or more foster placements and eighteen percent (18%) had been in three or more.

4. No method existed for keeping track of children in foster care. The courts expressed concern about children being lost in the system. Even when children were freed for adoption, the courts had no way of knowing if the children had been adopted.
5. Getting children out of foster care into permanent families not only saves children but tax dollars. It cost \$2,000 per year to keep one child in foster care. (It is now estimated to be \$3,500 per year per child.

As a result of these studies and the public interest they generated, a statewide foster care review board system was legislated by the 1974 General Assembly. The system was devised mainly by Representative Carolyn Frederick and Barbara Chappell, the current director of the Children's Foster Care Review Board System.

In March 1975, Governor James Edwards, by executive order, established the Office of Child Advocacy as a division of the Office of the Governor. The funding was shared by the state and a private foundation, the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation of New York City. The executive order charged the Office of Child Advocacy with the responsibility of acting as ombudsman on behalf of the abused, neglected, abandoned and dependent children of the state, but the primary purpose was to establish and coordinate the Children's Foster Care Review Board System.

The Governor's executive assistants set June 20, 1977, as the expiration date for the Office of Child Advocacy. Private monies which funded the office were due to expire by that date. Also by that date, the review board system had its own budget as authorized by statute and had been determined to be a separate state agency. The Governor's executive assistants believed that the Office had accomplished its mission by having implemented the review board system.

The State Auditor's Office and the Governor's Office advised transferring the Office of Child Advocacy staff, the Director and the Administrative Assistant, to the review board system because they served as the administrative unit of the review board system and supervised the review board system staff. The transfer was approved by the General Assembly in the '77-'78 budgetary process.

From July 1977 through July 1980, the Office of Child Advocacy existed as a program of the Children's Foster Care Review Board

System. It conducted an ombudsman program for children in general and a training program for hospitals and other organizations upon request in the prevention as well as identification of child abuse and neglect. In 1980, the General Assembly returned the function of the Office of Child Advocacy program to the Governor's Office.

The Children's Foster Care Review Board System is currently comprised of a staff of twelve, serving twenty-nine review boards across the state. The Review Board System reviews approximately 3,000 children in public and private agencies and institutions twice annually, statistically evaluates the state of foster care in South Carolina and makes recommendations to the General Assembly and child caring agencies as outlined in the review board statute.

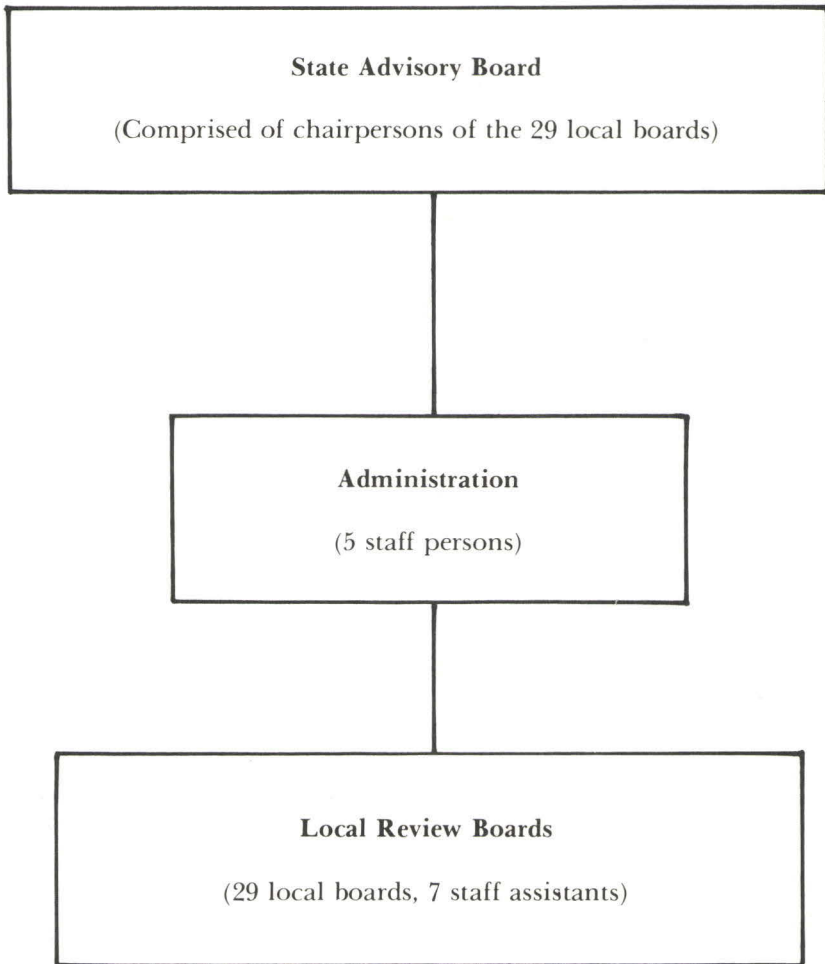
STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THE AGENCY

Section 20-7-2380 through 2430 of the South Carolina Children's Code creates the Children's Foster Care Review Board System and establishes the agency to administer case review in accordance with the provisions of Section 20-7-1630, as follows:

1. To review every six months cases of children who have resided in public or private foster care for a period of more than six months to determine what efforts have been made by the supervising agency or child caring institution to acquire a permanent home for such child.
2. To encourage and facilitate the return of all such children to their natural parents or, upon a determination that such return is not in the best interest of the child, to initiate such procedures pursuant to law as would make the child eligible for adoption or direct the appropriate agency to take such action followed by a maximum effort to place the child adoptively.
3. To promote and encourage all agencies and institutions involved in placing children in foster care to place children with persons both suitable and eligible as adoptive parents.
4. To advise foster parents of their right to petition the appropriate court for termination of parental rights and the right of adoption for any child who has been in their care for a period of more than six months and to encourage such foster parents to initiate such proceedings in an appropriate case.
5. To direct a child-caring institution or agency and exert all possible efforts to make arrangements for permanent foster care or guardianship for children for whom return to natural parents or adoption is determined to be unfeasible or impossible.
6. To report to the State Office of the Department of Social Services and other adoptive or foster care agencies and institutions deficiencies in such agencies' efforts to secure permanent homes for children discovered in the board's review of such cases as provided for in item (1) of this section.

After having received a hearing before the board, if a child-caring institution or agency does not plan to comply with the review board decision relating to permanent placement of a child in its care, such child-caring institution or agency shall notify the local review board within twenty-one days after receipt of the decision.

Section 20-7-2390 of the South Carolina Children's Code requires the State Advisory Board to review and coordinate the activities of the local review boards and make recommendations to the General Assembly with regard to foster care policies, procedures and deficiencies of public and private agencies which arrange for foster care of children. The Advisory Board is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations relating to the function and procedures of local review boards in accordance with the policies established for such boards as provided for in the applicable sections of the Children's Code.

CHILDREN'S FOSTER CARE REVIEW BOARD SYSTEM

STAFF

Barbara Chappell	Director
Cecilia Gregory	Administrative Assistant
Herman Richardson	Staff Attorney
Linda Pollard	Staff Assistant to the Administration
Yvonne Naylor	Agency Accountant
Hanna Buford	Staff Assistant to the Local Review Boards
Denise Ruff	Staff Assistant to the Local Review Boards
Wilhelmina Rhodarmer	Staff Assistant to the Local Review Boards
Trena Zaranski	Staff Assistant to the Local Review Boards
Debra Moore	Staff Assistant to the Local Review Boards
Melissa Thomas	Staff Assistant to the Local Review Boards

ORGANIZATION

1. State Advisory Board

The State Advisory Board consists of the chairpersons of the twenty-nine local review boards, who are appointed by the Governor. The Board is responsible for promulgating rules and regulations relating to the functions and procedures of local review boards and all issues related to governance of the Children's Foster Care Review Board System. It is responsible for making recommendations to the General Assembly with regard to foster care policies and procedures of public and private agencies/institutions which arrange for foster care for children. The Advisory Board is the policy-making and governing authority of the Children's Foster Care Review Board System, appoints the Director and is responsible for seeing that all children in foster care are reviewed by the local boards according to statute.

Advisory Board Members:

Rev. A.L. Brodie, Jr., Chairman, Columbia

Board 1A Ms. Linda Wright, Social Worker, Summerville, term expires December 31, 1982

Board 1B Ms. Jackie Wylie Brunson, Nurse, St. Matthews, term expires December 31, 1984

Board 2A Rev. A.L. Brodie, Jr., Chaplain at Willow Lane School, Columbia, term expired December 31, 1980, but still serving until such time as replacement has been appointed

Board 3A Ms. Vivian Floyd, Homemaker, Sumter, term expires December 1, 1984

Board 4A Ms. W.A. Brigman, Homemaker, Blenheim, term expires December 31, 1982

Board 5A Ms. Dorothy Harmon, Social Work Professor, Columbia term expires December 31, 1982

Board 5B Ms. Suzanne Rhodes, Public Health Consultant, Columbia, term expires September 25, 1983

Board 5C Ms. Suzanne Lewis, Project Director, Columbia, term expires September 25, 1985

Board 5D Ms. Doreen Jenkins, Social Worker, Irmo, term expires September 25, 1983

- Board 6A Ms. Caroline Lyles, Social Worker, Winnsboro, term expires December 31, 1984
- Board 7A Mr. James Cheek, Attorney, Wellford, term expired December 31, 1980, but still serving until such time as replacement has been appointed
- Board 7B Mr. Lloyd Lovelace, Insurance Broker, Gaffney, term expired December 31, 1978, but still serving until such time as replacement has been appointed
- Board 8A Ms. Margaret Anderson, Social Worker, Greenwood, term expires December 31, 1982
- Board 8B Rev. Bachman Harris, Minister, Clinton, term expires September 30, 1982
- Board 8C Mr. David Keeler, Executive Director, Greenwood, term expired September 30, 1980, but still serving until such time as replacement has been appointed
- Board 9A Ms. Alma Wilbanks, Nurse, North Charleston, term expires December 31, 1982
- Board 9B Ms. Martha Ulmer, Teacher, Charleston, term expires December 31, 1984
- Board 9C Ms. Christine Jackson, Executive Director, Charleston, term expires September 30, 1984
- Board 10A Ms. Rachel Bruner, Teacher, Westminster, term expires December 31, 1984
- Board 10B Mr. Dick Helmly, Manager, Pendleton, term expired November 15, 1981, but still serving until such time as replacement has been appointed
- Board 11A Ms. Gwendolyn C. Stevens, Social Worker, Columbia, term expires December 31, 1982
- Board 11B Rev. Michael Guffee, Minister, McCormick, term expired December 31, 1980, but still serving until such time as replacement has been appointed
- Board 12A Ms. Joan Harrington, Businesswoman, Florence, term expires December 31, 1984
- Board 13A Dr. Paul Wood, Clinical Psychology Professor, term expires December 31, 1982

- Board 13B Mr. Calvin Drayton, Insurance Consultant, Greenville, term expires December 31, 1985
- Board 13C Mr. Bobby Burch, Businessman, Greenville, term expires September 15, 1985
- Board 14A Ms. Mary L. Oswald, Teacher, Allendale, term expired December 31, 1980, but still serving until such time as replacement has been appointed
- Board 15A Ms. Pat Schooler, Teacher, Georgetown, term expires December 31, 1982
- Board 16A Ms. June Attaway, Homemaker, Union, term expires December 31, 1982.

II. Administration

The Administrative Unit of the Children's Foster Care Review Board System consists of the Director, Administrative Assistant, Staff Assistant, Staff Attorney and Accountant. The duties of this unit include:

1. Applying for and administering funds necessary for operation of the review board system.
2. Hiring and supervising review board system employees.
3. Recommending and encouraging implementation of needed policies and procedures on an interim basis between meetings of the State Advisory Board.
4. Supervising the day to day operation of the review board system.
5. Providing training for review board members.
6. Conducting research and advocacy projects designed to improve the services to abused, neglected, abandoned and dependent children.

III. Local Review Boards

There are twenty-nine local review boards, composed of five members each, from the sixteen judicial circuits throughout the state. Board members are appointed by the Governor as recommended by their local legislative delegations.

The review boards' seven staff assistants are full-time employees of the Children's Foster Care Review Board System. They provide a full

range of secretarial and administrative support services to the review boards. They travel to all review meetings, record case information and board decisions and advisory recommendations, coordinate scheduling of case reviews, mail review board decisions and recommendations to the appropriate parties, maintain central files and act as resource persons and consultants to the boards they serve. It is also their responsibility to ensure uniform implementation of all official policies and procedures promulgated by the State Advisory Board.

The functions of the local review boards are outlined in the review board statute. (see page 5)

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE AGENCY

Conducting foster care case reviews, as outlined in the statute, is the primary function of the Children's Foster Care Review Board System and is the sole program of the agency.

DOCUMENTS

Manual of Policies and Procedures Relating to the Children's Foster Care Review Board System in South Carolina, (revised November 1980)

A Summary of Statistical Information Regarding Children Reviewed by the Children's Foster Care Review Board System Prior to July 1, 1977

A Summary of Statistical Information Regarding Children Reviewed by the Children's Foster Care Review Board System Prior to January 1, 1978

A Summary of Statistical Information Regarding Children Reviewed by the Children's Foster Care Review Board System Prior to January 1, 1979

A Summary of Statistical Information Regarding Children Reviewed by the Children's Foster Care Review Board System During the 1979 Calendar Year

A Summary of Statistical Information Regarding Children Reviewed by the Children's Foster Care Review Board System During the 1980 Calendar Year

Progress Report, March 1, 1978

Progress Since Implementation of the Review Board System, 1977 - 1980

Recommendations Regarding Foster Care Policies, Procedures, and Deficiencies of Public and Private Foster Care Agencies and Institutions, 1978

State Advisory Board Report to the General Assembly, April 1, 1982

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1981 - 1982

Appropriations from State Budget \$283,542.00

Expenditures:

One unclassified position	25,634.32
Eleven classified positions	149,418.67
Per Diem to review board members	27,230.00

Travel reimbursement to staff and review board members	21,825.00
---	-----------

Contractual services	9,039.63
----------------------------	----------

Supplies	4,222.16
----------------	----------

Fixed charges	15,315.61
---------------------	-----------

Equipment	197.39
-----------------	--------

Employer contributions	30,630.86
------------------------------	-----------

TOTAL	283,513.64	283,513.64
-------------	------------	------------

Balance at close of Fiscal 1982	\$	28.36
---------------------------------------	----	-------

Special Donations Account

Total contributions brought forward ..	\$	1,947.43
--	----	----------

Expenditures	1,945.41	
--------------------	----------	--

Balance at close of Fiscal 1982	\$	2.02
---------------------------------------	----	------

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE LIBRARY



0 01 01 0041189 0

