

CASA OF THE MID-SHORE

Alphabet Soup

Acronym	Meaning
504 Plan	A plan for children with disabilities who need accommodations and services, but who may not qualify for Special Education Services.
ADD	Attention Deficit Disorder
ADHD	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution - mediation services
APPLA	Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement - a federally accepted permanency plan added through the enactment of the John H. Chafee Independent Living Act.
ASFA	Adoptions and Safe Families Act - federal legislation promoting permanency for children by expediting the adoption process when return to family is not in the child's best interest.
BHA	Behavioral Health Administration
BIP	Behavioral Intervention Plan
CAC	Child Advocacy Center
CANS	Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (Assessment)
CAPTA	Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act
CASA	Court Appointed Special Advocate
CFSA	Child and Family Services Agency
CFSR	Child and Family Service Review - a process of quantitative and qualitative review of a State's child welfare system to determine substantial conformity and standards for child welfare outcomes and systemic factors established by the federal Children's Bureau.

CINA	Child In Need of Assistance - "means a child who requires court intervention because: (1) the child has been abused, has been neglected, has a developmental disability, or has a mental disorder, and the child's parents, guardian, or custodian are unable or willing to give proper care and attention to the child and the child's needs."
COC	Continuum of Care (Mid-Shore Roundtable)
COMAR	Code of Maryland Regulations - collection of program requirements and policies established by state mandates.
CPS	Child Protective Services - a specialized service provided by the local Department of Social Services to children and families in situations where neglect or physical or sexual abuse are alleged.
CRBC	Citizens Review Board for Children
CVI	Chesapeake Voyagers, Inc.
DDA	Developmental Disabilities Administration
DHMH	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
DHS	Department of Human Services
DJS	Department of Juvenile Services - Maryland agency responsible for servicing juvenile offenders and their families.
DORS	Division of Rehabilitation Services
DSM	Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (psychological and psychiatric diagnoses come from this book)
DSS	Department of Social Services
DV	Domestic Violence
EBP	Evidence Based Practice
ED	Emotional Disturbance
ESL	English as a Second Language
ESOC	Eastern Shore Operations Center
FAPE	Free Appropriate Public Education (a key component of the Individual with Disabilities Act [IDEA])

FAS	For All Seasons
FBA	Functional Behavioral Assessment
FC	Foster Care
FCA	Foster Care Agency
FCPP	Family-Centered Practice and Permanency Planning
FTDM	Family Team Decision Meeting
GAL	Guardian Ad Litem
GED	General Education Diploma
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act of 1996
ICPC	Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children - systematic process among states to ensure protection and services to children placed across state lines for foster care and adoption.
ICWA	Indian Child Welfare Act - 1978 federal legislation establishing "minimum standards for the removal of Indian children from their families and the placement of such children in foster or adoptive homes which will reflect the unique values of Indian culture."
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
IEP	Individual Education Plan - developed by the school system for children who need specialized educational services.
IFPS	Interagency Family Preservation Services - This service is to help prevent out-of-home placement for youth who are at imminent risk of removal from their homes.
IL	Independent Living
ILP	Independent Living Program (DSS-transitional foster youth)
IOP	Intensive Outpatient Program
ITP	Individual Treatment Plan
LCT	Local Care Team - The role of the LCT is to ensure that community alternatives have been exhausted before a child is placed in institutional care. If appropriate, community services will be developed to prevent placement in institutional care.

LD	Learning Disability
LGBTQ	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, or Questioning
LMB	Local Management Board
LRE	Least Restrictive Environment
MA	Medical Assistance
MCSS	Mobile Crisis Stabilization Services
MCT	Mobile Crisis Teams
MEPA	Multi-Ethnic Placement Act - prohibits the delay or denial of a foster or adoptive placement based on the race, color, or national origin of the prospective foster parent, adoptive parent, or child.
MSBH	Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.
MSDE	Maryland State Department of Education
Multi-D	The Multi-Disciplinary Team - the purpose is to discuss cases from Child Protective Services or LCT that have multi-agency involvement.
ODD	Oppositional Defiant Disorder
OPS	Order of Protective Supervision
PIP	Performance Improvement Plan
PO	Probation Officer
PP	Permanency Planning
PRP	Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program
PTSD	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
REM	Rare and Expensive Case Management - health care program designed to provide services to children who have serious and/or complex special needs.
RICA	Regional Institute for Children and Adolescents
RTC	Residential Treatment Center

SAFE-C	Safety Assessment for Every Child - Maryland's assessment tool that alerts DSS staff to situations that pose an imminent danger requiring immediate intervention to protect the child.
SAO	State's Attorney's Office
SEP	Supported Employment Program
SFC	Services to Families with Children - program designed to provide services needed to maintain family stability and unity.
SILA	Semi Independent Living Arrangement
SSA	Social Services Administration - the child welfare division of the Maryland Department of Human Resources.
SSDI	Social Security Disability Insurance
SSI	Supplemental Security Income
SUD	Substance Use Disorder
TAY	Transitional Age Youth
TCA	Temporary Cash Assistance - program providing funds for families with children needing financial aid.
TFC	Therapeutic Foster Care
TFH	Therapeutic Foster Home
TPR	Termination of Parental Rights
WIC	Women, Infants and Children