

Joseph Meyerhoff, 1957; Lee L. Dopkin, 1959; Frank C. Marino, M.D., 1959.

Thomas J. S. Waxter, Director

120 West Redwood Street, Baltimore 1 Telephone: Lexington 9-0050

The State Department of Public Welfare is the central, coordinating and directing agency of all welfare activities in the State, including aid to dependent children, old age assistance, public assistance to the needy blind, aid to the permanently and totally disabled, child welfare services and any other welfare activities, financed in whole or in part by the State or Federal government. The Governor is authorized to designate the Chairman of the Board, and to arrange the terms of the members so that they will hold office for staggered terms of six years, the terms of three members expiring on June 1st of every second year (Code 1951, Art. 88A, secs. 2, 3).

In each county there is a County Welfare Board, constituting an administrative department of the local government, with authority to administer under the supervision, direction and control of the State Department, the welfare activities within each county, including the care of neglected, dependent and delinquent children. Each County Board consists of six persons, who are appointed for six-year terms by the Board of County Commissioners. Each year the County Commissioners designate one of their members to serve on the Welfare Board (Code 1951, Art. 88A, secs. 13, 14).

The duties of the Department include the investigation of the system of public and private institutions, organizations and agencies of a charitable nature in the State, including those which receive part of their income from the State, except those placed by law under the supervision of another State agency. Prior to the convening of each regular session of the General Assembly, the Director furnishes to the Governor a report which includes activities of the Department, the conditions of all charitable institutions, organizations, and agencies, excepting hospitals, receiving financial aid from the State, and recommendations as to appropriations (Code 1951, Art. 88A, sec. 3. All monies appropriated to institutions, organizations, and agencies, excepting hospitals, are paid on a per capita basis at the rates, and subject to the rules and regulations, established by the State Board of Public Welfare (Code 1951, Art. 88A, sec. 10).

The Department administers the child care laws with regard to the placement of children in this State. It licenses agencies and institutions having the care and custody of minors (Code 1951, Art. 88A, secs. 19-31).

The State Department of Public Welfare is responsible for the supervision, direction and control of the four State training schools. In developing the program within each training school, including provision for after-care supervision, the Department establishes rules and regulations, standards of care, policies of admission, transfer and discharge, and may order changes in the policies, conduct or management of the four State training schools. Subject to these limitations, each of the schools is under the general management of its Board of Managers. The Governor appoints nine members for