

22-month review of foster care 'heartbreaking'

State auditor issues 129 pages of findings

BY TOM LATEK
KENTUCKY TODAY

FRANKFORT — Auditor Allison Ball called “heartbreaking” the findings in a report that examined accounts of foster children sleeping in office buildings, hotels and state parks. She said the Cabinet for Health and Family Services were “failing foster children” across Kentucky.

Ball and Ombudsman Jonathan Grate released a 129-page report on research into the foster care experience Monday. “The findings of this examination are heartbreaking and it’s clear that CHFS is failing foster children across Kentucky,” Ball said. “Housing children in office buildings, hotels and state parks is a terrible and dangerous non-solution to a problem that is solvable. This is causing significant harm to many of Kentucky’s children.”

The examination covered a 22-month review in which 304 children were placed in nontraditional placement settings like CHFS office

buildings, state park, or other unlicensed settings.

The examination’s findings indicate the system of nontraditional placements is rife with conditions enabling runaways, physical abuse while in care, vulnerability to sex trafficking and other forms of mistreatment and neglect.

Examples cited in the report include:

- The population of children in nontraditional placements ranges from those without prior placements or serious diagnoses to those needing extensive supervision and medical care.
- 83 children with suicidal thoughts and behaviors were housed in office

buildings without documented psychiatric care, suicide-safe design or trained clinical supervision. Children with suicidal ideation were placed in nontraditional settings for an average cumulative stay of longer than one week; this is longer than the average stay of children without noted increased risks of suicide.

- Despite many of the children having medical and mental health issues, CHFS’ documentation of care provided was so lacking that in 247 or 81.2% of the cases, medical care, medication management, continuation of therapy and school attendance were not readily apparent for the period when the child was housed in a

nontraditional setting.

The report states despite this issue persisting for four years and a continued public commitment by CHFS leadership to find a solution, CHFS has failed to meaningfully address the problem.

Under state law, the Cabinet must submit written responses to the ombudsman addressing the findings by March 24. Then, within 60 days, CHFS shall notify the ombudsman of which recommendations have and have not been implemented and its reason for failure to do so.

A link to the full report can be found under audit reports at auditor.ky.gov.

UK study finds clues to side effects of new Alzheimer's drug

BY HILLARY SMITH
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

LEXINGTON — A team of University of Kentucky researchers has uncovered a surprising clue in the battle against Alzheimer’s disease that could help doctors predict, and ultimately prevent, a common side effect of the newest generation of Alzheimer’s therapies.

Their findings, recently published in *Nature Communications*, reveal an immune “fingerprint” in the blood of patients who develop amyloid-related imaging abnormalities after treatment with lecanemab — the first Food and Drug Administration-approved drug shown to slow Alzheimer’s disease progression.

The study was recognized as an Editors’ Highlight by *Nature Communications*, a designation the journal reserves for research its editors consider particularly noteworthy and impactful.

ARIA, which can show up as brain swelling or small bleeds on MRI scans, is one of the biggest obstacles to broader use of the promising anti-amyloid antibody therapies now becoming available. Before now, clinicians and families have had little to go on to explain why some people develop these side effects and others do not.

“We asked a simple question: do people who develop ARIA show a different immune ‘fingerprint’ in their blood than those who don’t? The answer appears to be yes,” said Josh Morganti, Ph.D., assistant professor of neuroscience in the UK College of Medicine and researcher at the University of Kentucky’s Sanders-Brown Center on Aging.

Using genetic and metabolic profiling on blood samples from patients treated with lecanemab at Norton Neuroscience Institute in Louisville, Morganti and colleagues found that people who developed ARIA had an expansion of a specific type of immune cell — that was metabolically “revved up” and poised for action.

“This isn’t random noise. We’re seeing a coordinated immune response that distinguishes patients with ARIA at a biological level,” he said.

Critically, the study shows that this signal can be detected in a simple blood draw, not through invasive procedures.

“Until now, we really didn’t understand why some people develop ARIA and others don’t,” Morganti said. “And we can’t biopsy someone’s brain to figure that out. This study shows that we can learn something meaningful from the blood, which is an important step if we ever want to turn these findings into a real-world screening tool.”

Lance Johnson, Ph.D., associate professor of physiology and researcher at Sanders-Brown, said the findings set the stage for a more personalized approach to Alzheimer’s care.

“We now know that ARIA isn’t just an imaging artifact,” Johnson said. “There’s biology behind it that we can measure. That means we have something to work with.”

Before this research, the primary risk factor clinicians knew for ARIA was genetic: carriers of the APOE •4 gene variant were at higher risk. But what was happening biologically remained mysterious. The UK team’s work — the first in-depth look at the peripheral immune system in ARIA patients — reveals that certain T cells expand, shift their metabolism and express the molecular machinery needed to interact with the vascular system.

“This suggests ARIA may have a biological signature we can detect in the blood,” said Johnson.

The ultimate goal of this work is to make Alzheimer’s immunotherapies safer and more accessible. The immune signatures the UK researchers identified could, after validation in larger patient groups, become the basis for a blood test to flag individuals at higher risk before they begin treatment.

“If we can validate these findings in larger groups,

clinicians could adjust treatment — closer monitoring, different dosing schedules or even targeted interventions — based on a patient’s immune profile,” said Morganti. “For people and families facing an Alzheimer’s diagnosis, anything that makes these new treatments safer and more accessible is meaningful.”

Johnson agreed: “Right

now, ARIA is a cloud hanging over these otherwise groundbreaking therapies. If we can use this work to help predict or even prevent these side effects, it will be a big step forward.”

Both researchers said this study pushes the field past guesswork into measurable biological terrain.

The study was supported by the Alzheimer’s Association,

whose joint grant to Johnson and Morganti played a crucial role, as well as funding from the National Institutes of Health’s National Institute on Aging, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences and National Institute of General Medical Sciences that funds the CNS Metabolism COBRE program.

The UK research team expressed their grateful for the contribution of Norton Neuroscience Institute and Norton Research Institute in Louisville.

Both Johnson and Morganti agree that the collaboration exemplifies how academic medical centers can extend their research through relationships with community-based clinical programs.



LEGAL NOTICE

MASTER COMMISSIONER SALES

To comply with the orders of the Hardin circuit court, the Commissioner will sell the property described in the following actions on **Wednesday, March 18th, 2026, at the hour of 2:00 p.m.** at the Hardin County Justice Center, 120 East Dixie Ave., Elizabethtown, Kentucky. Said property shall be sold to raise the amounts hereinafter set forth, together with interest and the costs of the action, and upon the following terms and conditions.

At the time of sale, the successful bidder shall either pay cash or check, if paying in full, or make a deposit of 10% with the balance on a credit of thirty (30) days. In the event the successful bidder desires or elects to credit the balance, he or she will be required to produce one of the following:

1. An irrevocable letter of credit (MUST HAVE THE ORIGINAL, NO COPIES) from lending institute at the time of the sale. Please note that a loan commitment or bank statement will not be sufficient.
2. Post bond and furnish an acceptable surety thereon. If a purchaser chooses to use a surety for the remaining balance of property purchased, **THE SURETY MUST PROVIDE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING TO THE MASTER COMMISSIONER BY 2 PM THE MONDAY PRIOR TO THE SALE AND BE PRESENT AT THE TIME OF THE SALE** (If a married individual intends to act as surety, their spouse must also sign.):
 - (i) A COPY OF A DEED WHICH IS UNENCUMBERED AND A COPY OF THE STATEMENT OF VALUE FROM THE PROPERTY VALUATION ADMINISTRATOR (PVA OFFICE), TO WHICH THIS BOND WILL ATTACH.
 - (ii) A COPY OF THE CURRENT ACCOUNT STATEMENT. A SWORN FINANCIAL STATEMENT WHICH SHOWS A NET WORTH OF AT LEAST 2 1/2 TIMES THE SALE PRICE.
3. AN IRREVOCABLE LETTER OF CREDIT (MUST HAVE THE ORIGINAL, NO COPIES) FROM THE LENDING INSTITUTE TO THE SURETY.

The down payment, in addition to either an irrevocable letter of credit (MUST HAVE THE ORIGINAL, NO COPIES) or acceptable surety (see requirements above), must be produced at the time of the sale. Said bond and/or irrevocable letter of credit shall be for the unpaid purchase price and bear interest at the rate of six percent (6%) per annum from the date of sale until paid. (Unless otherwise court ordered)

- (a) The purchaser shall be required to assume and pay all taxes or assessments upon the property for the current tax year and thereafter.
- (b) All properties are sold subject to the judgment and order of sale in each case which should be reviewed carefully prior to purchase. The Judgment and Order of Sale can be reviewed at the Hardin Circuit Clerk’s office, 120 E. Dixie, Elizabethtown, Ky.
- (c) The Master Commissioner does not obtain a title search or investigate for further liens on the properties listed below nor conduct or authorize a survey of the property. ****the purchaser is responsible for title searches and/or any additional liens not named in the judgment and order of sale and for the results of any good and accurate survey of the property.**
- (d) The Master Commissioner does not have access to the properties listed below and therefore makes no representation or warranty of any kind as to the conditions of these properties.
- (e) Bidding is in increments of \$500.00 up to \$75,000.00 and \$1,000.00 for over \$75,000.00. If Plaintiff provided a one-time opening bid, a first-bid increment of \$100.00 may be made.
- (f) If the property sells for less than 2/3 of the Master Commissioner’s appraisal amount, there is a 6 month right of redemption period.
- (g) If purchasing as a Corporation, LLC, or Trusts please provide the Master Commissioner’s Office by the Monday prior to the sale date with the following:
 - 1.) An updated certificate of good standing for the entity for which they are purchasing.
 - 2.) Entity must provide its EIN Number
 - 3.) Resolution- Proof that the person bidding is authorized to bid on behalf of the entity.
 - 4.) Identification: Current Driver’s License and SSN

SALE NO. 1
 Kentucky Housing Corporation vs. Tammy Wartluft, et al (25-CI-01076)
 Amount of Judgment: \$176,279.91 plus interest and costs
 146 CORVIN LANE, ELIZABETHTOWN, KY
 MAP ID# 166-00-0A-024
 Recorded in Deed Book 1571 Page 50 in the Hardin County Clerk’s Office

SALE NO. 2
 Kentucky Housing Corporation vs. Cameron Chad Haycraft, Sr., et al (25-CI-01782)
 Amount of Judgment: \$212,585.40 plus interest and costs
 752 PEARMAN AVENUE, RADCLIFF, KY
 MAP ID# 161-10-02-073
 Recorded in Deed Book 1555 Page 1561 in the Hardin County Clerk’ Office

SALE NO. 3
 Pennymac Loan Services, LLC vs. Steven N. Piacentino, et al (25-CI-01813)
 Amount of Judgment: \$117,764.84 plus interest and costs
 698-700 NEW STREET, RADCLIFF, KY
 MAP ID# 160-10-06-020
 Recorded in Deed Book 1349 Page 1549 in the Hardin County Clerk’s Office

SALE NO. 4
 John Becker vs. Ricky Cottrell, et al (24-CI-1110)
 Amount of Judgment: \$3,954.21 plus interest and costs
 2491 MILLERSTOWN ROAD, UPTON, KY
 MAP ID# 177-00-00-037
 Recorded in Deed Book 1459 Page 1446 in the Hardin County Clerk’s Office

SALE NO. 5
 Vanderbilt Mortgage & Finance, Inc. vs. Glenn Earl Crabtree, et al (24-CI-01515)
 Amount of Judgment: \$116,748.48 plus interest and costs
 138 PONY CHASE LANE, ELIZABETHTOWN, KY
 MAP ID# 247-00-06-011
 Recorded in Deed Book 1506 Page 654 in the Hardin County Clerk’s Office

SALE NO. 6
 US Bank National Association, as Trustee for Asset Backed Securities Corporation Home Equity Loan Trust, Series MO 2006-HE6, Asset Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series MO 2006-HE6 vs. Eugene M. Moore, et al (25-CI-00785)
 Amount of Judgment: \$113,656.72 plus interest and costs
 1456 CRESTVIEW DRIVE, RADCLIFF, KY
 MAP ID# 139-30-13-073
 Recorded in Deed Book 724 Page 228 in the Hardin County Clerk’s Office

SALE NO. 7
 Freedom Mortgage Corporation vs. Tabitha M. Hendley, et al (25-CI-00230)
 Amount of Judgment: \$29,760.80 plus interest and costs
 1406 GEOGHEGAN STREET, WEST POINT, KY
 MAP ID# 136-30-01-027
 Recorded in Deed Book 1306 Page 34 in the Hardin County Clerk’s Office

SALE NO. 8
 Waterside Tax Service Company, LLC vs. Alan Investments III, LLC (24-CI-01109)
 Amount of Judgment: \$1,247.92 plus interest and costs
 10261 LEITCHFIELD ROAD, CECILIA, KY
 MAP ID# 105-00-00-033
 Recorded in Deed Book 1428 Page 1302 in the Hardin County Clerk’s Office

SALE NO. 9
 M&T Bank vs. Jeremy S. Welch, et al (25-CI-01618)
 Amount of Judgment: \$201,855.62 plus interest and costs
 738 CRESCENT WAY, RADCLIFF, KY
 MAP ID# 160-20-02-002
 Recorded in Deed Book 1526 Page 204 in the Hardin County Clerk’s Office

SALE NO. 10
 Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC vs. Timothy Myers-Angeline, et al (25-CI-00080)
 Amount of Judgment: \$354,969.83 plus interest and costs
 548 POPLAR TRACE, ELIZABETHTOWN, KY
 MAP ID# 231-00-01-018
 Recorded in Deed Book 1535 Page 281 in the Hardin County Clerk’s Office

BARRY BIRDWHISTELL
 MASTER COMMISSIONER
 HARDIN CIRCUIT COURT
 270-234-0250
 HARDINCOUNTYMASTERCOMMISSIONER.COM



CROWNE POINTE THEATRE



This is Your Seat!



DON'T FORGET
BARGAIN TUESDAYS!
All Movies only \$5.75

2908 Dolphin Dr., Elizabethtown, KY
270.600.0090



Purchase your tickets online at crownepointetheatre.com and sign up for our newsletter.

ACE

CONTRACTING



SEAMLESS GUTTERS

270-405-0423

6" GUTTERS AND LEAFGUARD!