## CRP Success Story: Kayla & Tiana

In January 2015, the Citizen Review Panel (CRP) heard the case of Kayla and Tiana, ages 2 and 4, who were then staying with their grandmother. At the time, the children's parents, who suffered from severe substance abuse and mental health issues, could not be located.

Upon examining the details of the case, the CRP identified critical issues. First, the children were not being taken for updated medical check-ups, nor were they receiving pending neurological assessments or play therapy. Second, for more than six months, neither of the parents had visited the children or complied with the court-ordered case plan tasks required to regain custody. Despite this, no one had filed to terminate parental rights so that the children could seek a better, more permanent living arrangement.

As a result, the CRP found the case management agency to be in non-compliance and set the case for a special hearing before the judge to address the many issues. A few days later, the judge accepted all the CRP's recommendations. The judge ordered Children's Legal Services to file a termination of parental rights by early March. FFCR is optimistic that the next time the case comes before the CRP, the children will be up-to-date with their medical visits and therapy, and in the process of being adopted into a loving, lifelong family.