



Office of Child Abuse Prevention

State Fiscal Year Annual Report

2020

www.health.ok.gov

*An equal opportunity
employer and provider*



Table of Contents:

Overview:.....	3
Mission.....	3
History.....	3
Program Costs.....	3
Parents as Teachers Eligibility Criteria.....	3
Activities of the Office:	4
Quality Assurance Site Visits	4
Continuous Quality Improvement Projects.....	4
Professional Education and Training Provided.....	12
Implementing Virtual Personal Visits.....	18
Program Recommendations for SFY 2021:.....	20
Model Fidelity and COVID-19.....	20
Virtual Training Plan	20
Supervisor Activities.....	20
Blue Ribbons Sites	21
Budget and Program Needs:	21
Parent Success Story	24
Acknowledgements:.....	25

Overview:

Mission

The Office of Child Abuse Prevention’s (OCAP) mission is to promote health and safety to children and families by reducing child abuse and neglect through the funding of direct services; the training of professionals that work in the child abuse prevention and protection arenas; and conducting activities that educate the public about child maltreatment and enhance the infrastructure that supports prevention efforts.

History

The OCAP was created in 1984 by the Oklahoma Child Abuse Prevention Act, Title 63, O.S. Section 1-227.1. The Act declared prevention of child maltreatment as a priority in Oklahoma. Recognizing child abuse and neglect as a significant public health issue, the legislature placed the OCAP at the Oklahoma State Department of Health – emphasizing the importance of prevention rather than “after-the-fact” intervention. In 1995, the OCAP in partnership with Oklahoma State University began researching home visiting as an effective prevention strategy. The Health Families America Model was implemented in Oklahoma to provide such services, and in 2016, the decision was made to transition to the Parents as Teachers (PAT) Model. The PAT Model allowed a broader enrollment criteria and universal access to all Oklahoma families.

Program Costs

The state expenditure per family for PAT during SFY 2020 was \$2,890. This amount was calculated by dividing the total contract expenditures of \$1,873,023 by the total number of unduplicated families participating in PAT. During SFY 2020, a total of 648 families received at least one home visit. Nine contracts serving 28 counties provided home visitation services to families during SFY 2020. The PAT Evidence-Based Home Visiting Model estimates the average cost per family to participate in the program is \$3,750 annually. Current available funding would allow approximately 535 families to receive home visiting services. Due to the process of awarding for a total cost of \$2,014,668 and \$150,378 administrative costs in SFY 2020.

Parents as Teachers Eligibility Criteria

Referrals to local PAT Programs come from a variety of sources including Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) clinics, the ParentPRO free telephone referral line¹, the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS), and most often friends and family.

Participation in PAT is voluntary and the families may remain actively engaged in services until their child completes kindergarten.

In order to enroll, the following criteria must be met:

- The mother is beyond her 29th week of pregnancy; or
- The mother is pregnant with at least her second child; or
- The mother/caregiver has a child under the age of kindergarten completion.

¹ parentPRO: <https://www.parentpro.org/>

Activities of the Office:

Quality Assurance Site Visits

The Office of Child Abuse Prevention provides on-site technical assistance to assist Contractor Sites with implementation of the PAT Evidence-Based Home Visiting Model as well as adherence to the OCAP policies and procedures and the provisions of the contract. The goal of the quality assurance site visit is to increase quality assurance in program delivery through:

- Reviewing program documentation to ensure contract compliance
- Identifying technical assistance needs
- Providing onsite consultation, technical assistance, and training to program staff
- To continue to build on the positive working relationship between staff at the Contractor Site and the OCAP.

Upon completion of the site visit, a monitoring plan is shared with the Contractor Site that addresses strengths as well as any challenges meeting the contractual and/or PAT Model requirements. If a formal recommendation is issued, Contractor Sites will develop a Success Plan and action steps to address areas of deficiencies.

Legislative Updates

In 2019, the first session of the 57th Legislature passed House Bill 1061 (HB1061) and Senate Bill 742 (SB742). These bills relate to the Child Abuse Prevention Act by providing for dissemination of new information in the 2020 Child Abuse Prevention Annual Report.

Below is information provided by Oklahoma Department of Human Services in regards to HB1061 for the number of individuals whose parental rights have ever been terminated and number of children born to an individual whose parental rights have ever been terminated.

Distinct Count of Children	Distinct Count of Parents	Total Count of Terminated Parental Rights
2243	1990	3132

The Office of Child Abuse Prevention was unsuccessful after several attempts in obtaining the information related truancy in schools in regards to SB742 from the State Department of Education but will continue to work in collaboration with the State Department of Education in order to provide the data in future reports.

Continuous Quality Improvement Projects

A Continuous Quality Improvement Project (CQI) is a formal approach to the analysis of performance and systematic efforts toward improvement. These efforts can seek “incremental” improvement over time or “breakthrough” improvement all at once. The tool that is used by the OCAP for CQI is a four-step quality model, the Plan-Do-Check-Act process (PDCA):

- Plan: Identify an opportunity and plan for change
- Do: Implement the change on a small scale
- Check: Use data to analyze the results of the change and determine whether it made a difference
- Act: If the change was successful, implement it on a wider scale and continuously assess results. If the change did not work, begin the cycle again

The Contractor Site will complete at least one CQI project annually. The following steps will be taken by the contractor to ensure adherence to model, and OCAP CQI guidelines:

- Complete and submit the CQI Application
- CQI project implementation
- CQI project completion
- Complete storyboards
- Present story boards at the designated meeting

On March 5th, 2020, the Contractors attended a quarterly meeting and presented CQI Projects*. In addition, the Contractors were able to enjoy a networking lunch and participate in the Spectrum Training²

Contractor Site	Counties Served	Description of Project	Reason for Focus
CREOKS	Adair, Cherokee, Creek, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, Sequoyah, Wagoner	Increase LSP ³ numbers for our program by January 2020	To improve quality of the program by increasing the number assessment completed for our families.
Test & Check Results			
Administration of the LSP showed an increase from August to December 2019.			

“I had a mom share that they felt anxious about enrolling in PAT because they had a bad experience with another service provider who made her feel like a bad parent. I reassured her that the goal of PAT was to be her partner and support her parenting journey. The mom was emotional and shared that PAT was exactly what she needed because she currently does not have a support system in our area. – Parent Educator, serving McClain & Garvin Counties

Contractor Site	Counties Served	Description of Project	Reason for Focus
Northwest Family Services (NFS)	Alfalfa, Grant, Major, Woods	Establish a “Mommy and Me” Parent-child interaction group; NFS will increase enrollment from 0 participants to 5 participants.	Publicity and promotion of the NFS PAT program in order to bring awareness to the community, meet parent’s needs, and increase number of participants enrolled.
Test & Check Results			
The results for this project were favorable as the goal number of participants was met.			

² Spectrum Training: <https://www.spectrumdevelopment.com/model>

³ Life Skills Progression Parent/Child Observation Tool: <http://www.lifeskillsprogression.com/home/index>



“Thanks to the PAT team which have good preparation and training. The efforts, time and dedication that each of the workers carry out during the home visits is amazing. A special thanks to my worker, Marina, who always advised me, had the patience and flexibility to be able to motivate me to be a better human being, and the best teacher of my children.” – Isabel Salinas, Oklahoma County

Contractor Site	Counties Served	Description of Project	Reason for Focus
Great Plains Youth & Family Services (GPYFS)	Beckham, Greer, Jackson, Kiowa, Tillman, Washita	Increase child development screenings from 48% to at least 80%.	To meet the benchmarks set by OCAP and PAT
Test & Check Results			
CQI Project proved to be successful and help increase percentile of child screenings within 90 days of entry into program.			



“I just want to thank my Parent Educator for all the wonderful things she does for us. Not a day goes by that I’m not thankful for the nice things she does and all my blessings.” – Shannon McDaniel, Woods County

Contractor Site	Counties Served	Description of Project	Reason for Focus
Frontline Family Solutions	Southern Cleveland, McClain, Garvin	Increase documented goals set by families with the support of their Parent Educator from 71% to 80%.	Increased goal percentages will increase percentage of completed home visits and help families become aware of resources in the community.
Test & Check Results			
Documented goals increased from 71% to 93.75 % which exceeded the Aim statement by 13.75%.			

“I have mother who is working really hard on her goal. She wanted to become a teacher but was unable to go back to school to finish her degree because of money issues, and she did not qualify for student financial aid. I was able to connect her with Oklahoma Work Force and she now only lacks two classes to qualify for their tuition program.” – Parent Educator serving Alfalfa, Grant, Major and Woods Counties

Contractor Site	Counties Served	Description of Project	Reason for Focus
Parent Child Center of Tulsa (PCCT)	Tulsa	Increase father involvement by using father-friendly welcome letters, referrals to Group Connections and the Fatherhood Coalition as well as providing handouts relevant to fatherhood.	The importance of a father or father figure in the life of a child is recognized, therefore increasing father engagement in fatherhood roles serves to benefit the child and family.
Test & Check Results			
<p>PCCT experienced that upon initiation of the CQI Project 92% of mothers reported they were satisfied with the child/father engagement in fatherhood rolls. Upon conclusion the percentage stayed the same. PCCT recognized an opportunity to increase the percentage of fatherhood engagement was low considering that the percentage upon initiation was high.</p>			

“One of the families I work with has a cage full of hens and one rooster. The preschooler I work with “made” me go inside the caged to grab fresh eggs because he wanted to show me how he could make green eggs and ham with his mom. The rooster tried to attack me Lol... I only grabbed one. It was before the pandemic, those were the fun days. – Parent Educator serving Oklahoma County

Contractor Site	Counties Served	Description of Project	Reason for Focus
Parent Promise	Oklahoma	Increase home visitation completion rates to 75% of scheduled home visits by 90 days of implementation	Active involvement of families in home visiting program shows benefits for the children and parents.
Test & Check Results			
<p>The proportion of completed visits has gradually increased over time, until the average is just below the original goal of 75%.</p>			

“When I started administering the ASQ, I noticed that Omar had some deficiencies in language skills. I worked with his mom, Evelia and together we planned activities that would help strengthen Omar’s speech and communication skills. With dedication and determination from Omar’s parents, his language skills increased and he became much more verbal.” – Parent Educator, Consuelo Rozo, Oklahoma County



Contractor Site	Counties Served	Description of Project	Reason for Focus
Northern Oklahoma Youth Services (NOYS)	Kay, Osage, Noble & Pawnee	To reach 85% actual visit completion percentage on the monthly capacity report.	Meeting PAT model fidelity & OSDH requirements ensuring every family receives at least 2 visits a month.
Test & Check Results			
The goal is achievable but unforeseen disrupters prohibited achieving the goal. Although NOYS has made a huge leap, an additional 6 months is needed to continue working on the goal.			



“I have found friends who support me and Elizabeth and I have a stable home, thank you to my Parent Educator, De-De for the help with my daughter. I am glad this program is for all parents.” - Anna Hawley, Garvin County

Contractor Site	Counties Served	Description of Project	Reason for Focus
Youth & Family Services for Hughes & Seminole Counties	Hughes, Seminole	Increase the number of families enrolled in the program by 10-15 families. The ultimate goal is to have both fulltime parent educators at 20 families each.	Meeting PAT model fidelity & OSDH requirements and expanding services to more families in Hughes & Seminole Counties.
Test & Check Results			
The CQI Project revealed an increase in the number of families enrolled in the program.			



“My Parent Educator, Isabel is like my guardian angel, I am so thankful for everything that she has done for me. I feel that I am a better mom and I am still learning so many new things about parenting that I didn’t know before. Everything is amazing from the information that helped me learn more about my child’s development to learning about the resources in the community available to us. I feel much more confident as a person and as a mom.” – Maricruz Rivera, Oklahoma County

Contractor Site	Counties Served	Description of Project	Reason for Focus
Latino Community Development Agency (LCDA)	Oklahoma	Home Visitors will reduce the number of invalid cancellations by 10% for new families introduced to the missed visit protocol by December 31, 2019.	By creating a home visit protocol for cancelations at the beginning of the services could decrease missed visits.
Test & Check Results			
LCDA experienced positive changes following implementation. Thirty-four families enrolled during the CQI Project, of which thirty-three are still active.			

I have always been in awe at how resilient Grace is. She is strong, not only for Bracen, but for herself as well. Grace is the epitome of strength in how she has carried herself, how she raises Bracen and works with him, and all she does to continue on with a healthy lifestyle.” – Parent Educator, Hope Jackson, Kiowa County



Professional Education and Training Provided

Orientation

<p>Supervisors and Parent Educators receive orientation training (separate from intensive role specific training) prior to direct work with families to familiarize them with the functions of the site. New Supervisors who do not perform direct services with families must receive orientation training within 3 months of hire.</p>	
Boundaries	Onsite training by a trained staff member, prior to delivering personal visits.
Confidentiality	Onsite training by a trained staff member, prior to delivering personal visits.
Community Resources	Onsite training by a trained staff member, prior to delivering personal visits.
Provisional Child Abuse and Neglect Indicators	Onsite Training, developed by the Contractor. New staff must complete CAME to satisfy this requirement.
Provisional Child Screenings: Hearing & Vision	Onsite training by a trained staff member, prior to administering the Child Screenings.
Provisional Efforts to Outcomes (ETO) Database Training	Onsite training by a trained staff member, prior to entering data into the ETO Database. May schedule an On-Site training with the ETO Administrator, please contact the OCAP for scheduling.
<i>Provisional</i> HIPAA and Cyber Security	Onsite training by a trained staff member, prior to entering data into ETO, performing personal visits or contacting enrolled families.
Provisional Life Skills Progression (LSP)	Onsite training by a trained staff member, prior to completing an LSP for a family. Must view the following webinar and be provided with an overview from the LSP User’s Manual. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ct0kWXaFu44
<i>Provisional</i> S.O.A.P. Notes	Onsite training by a trained staff member. New employees must view the S.O.A.P. Notes PowerPoint found in the Appendices folder prior to entering documentation in ETO.
Provisional Staff Safety	Onsite Training, developed by the Contractor. Must complete the required training to satisfy this requirement.
Site and Role Specific Orientation	Onsite training by a trained staff member, prior to delivering personal visits.

Parents as Teachers (PAT) Model Training

<p>Registration for all PAT trainings listed below can be found on the Parents as Teachers Training Page. All Parent Educators and Supervisors are required to complete all PAT trainings below.</p>	
PAT Foundational I	Complete prior to performing home visits with families who are prenatal, parents of newborns to 3 years
Model Implementation	Model Implementation must be completed after affiliation and before delivering personal visits.
PAT Foundational II	Complete prior to performing home visits with families who have children 3-5

Annual Training

Completed within 30 days of employment and every year thereafter.	
Diversity Awareness <i>Based on their current service population</i>	Institute for the Advancement of Family Support Professionals: https://institutefsp.org/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural Humility Part One: Supporting Immigrant Families, A Culturally Humble Approach • Cultural Humility Part Two: Support Dual Language Learners • The Dad Effect: Engaging Fathers in Their Children’s Lives and in Home Visiting.
Child Abuse and Neglect Indicators Training	During the first year of model implementation, the CAME training will satisfy this requirement. During the second year and beyond of model implementation, the webinars listed below may satisfy this requirement or the site may develop a local training. Institute for the Advancement of Family Support Professionals: https://institutefsp.org/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Abuse and Neglect, Part One: Education and Prevention • Child Abuse and Neglect, Part Two: Abusive Head Trauma

Required Training

<p>Registration for all required trainings can be found on the OSDH Training Calendar unless otherwise noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual indicates the training can be access through the OSDH Training Calendar. • Webinar indicates an online training has been identified by the OCAP to satisfy a particular topic. <p>Completion time frames are best practice and provided as guidance.</p>	
Completed within 4 months of employment	
ASQ 3, ASQ;SE 2	Virtual Must be completed prior to administering
Child Abuse Medical Examiners (CAME) Training including Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting**	Virtual <i>Can count as the annual training requirement, Child Abuse and Neglect Indicators</i>
Developmental Milestones	Institute for the Advancement of Family Support Professionals: https://institutefsp.org/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Development 0-3 • Child Development 3-5 • Child Development: Secrets of Baby Behavior
Family/Domestic Violence	Virtual

Home Visitors Safety Training	Institute for the Advancement of Family Support Professionals: https://institutefsp.org/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Safety for Home Visitors • Staying Safe while Supporting Families
Maternal Depression/Reproductive Health	Virtual
Onboarding	Virtual
PICCOLO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webinar - How PICCOLO Can Help You Work More Effectively with Parents of Young Children: https://youtu.be/0mDIMAMLLAc • The PICCOLO Training DVD (all sites should have a copy of this for PEs to view after watching the webinar)
Reflective Supervision for Supervisors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webinar – Mary Claire Heffron – Reflective Supervision Interview: https://youtu.be/fqDEm-du9To • Optional: PATNC Reflective Supervision Community of Practice
Reflective Supervision for Parent Educators & Supervisors	Webinar – Reflective Supervision: Ideas for a Virtual World: https://youtu.be/JeMbVX45OUA
S.O.A.P. Notes – Documentation Trainings	Virtual
Tobacco Cessation/Substance Abuse & Addictive Behaviors	Virtual
Completed within 5-8 months of employment	
Attachment	Early Childhood Investigations Webinars: Nurturing Secure Attachments for Infants and Toddlers: The Key to Optimal Emotional Development
Breastfeeding	Virtual
Mental Health Issues	Virtual
Newborn Screening/Grief	Association for Addiction Professionals: https://www.naadac.org/webinars <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Journey Through Grief and Loss (Grief) • Baby's First Test (Newborn Screening)
Safe Sleep	Virtual
Completed within 9-12 months of employment	
Adoption	Virtual
Period of Purple Crying	http://training.dontshake.org/admin/users/invite
Special Needs	Virtual
Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening and Support	Virtual
Strengthening Families: Protective Factors	Webinar: https://ctfalliance.org/protective-factors/

Professional Development

Parent Educators and Supervisors obtain competency-based professional development and renew certification with the national office annually.	
First year of certification and beyond	20 clock hours
Core Competencies (optional)	Annual

National Family Support Network

The National Family Support Network (NFSN) was founded in 2011 and is comprised of a group of statewide networks. This group of networks represents more than 3,000 family support programs across the U.S. The mission of the NFSN is to promote positive outcomes for all children, families, and communities by leveraging the collective impact of statewide networks and championing quality family and support and family strengthening practices and policies.⁴

Oklahoma joined the network, and the Oklahoma Family Support Network (OFSN) was formed in 2018. The OFSN is currently emerging from the assessment phase to the development phase of the NFSN's Family Support and Strengthening Network Development Continuum. During this phase of the network development, the OFSN will plan to convene initial network meetings, develop a network vision, mission, and goals, develop operating guidelines, and determine leadership. The OFSN will also continue to participate in NFSN member meetings and convening's as well as connect with peer networks across the U.S. and in Canada. The OFSN will also continue to utilize the results of the community interest survey, conducted in December 2019 to inform the network planning and development process.

The OFSN hosted the inaugural Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening and Support training in July 2019, certifying 36 participants in the standards. Participants in attendance represented organizations statewide including Oklahoma City Public Schools PAT, the Oklahoma City Housing Authority, Positive Tomorrows, Parent Promise PAT, The Oklahoma State Department of Health Family Support and Prevention Service, The YMCA of the Greater Oklahoma City, Smart Start of Central Oklahoma, the Reach Out and Read Program, the Evolution Foundation, North Care, the Potts Family Foundation, the Oklahoma University of Health Science Center's Center of Child Abuse and Neglect, and Safe Families Oklahoma. Since this training, the OFSN has conducted a total of 3 Standards Trainings and certified 75 Family Support and Strengthening professionals, advocates, and funders across the state.

Throughout 2020, the OFSN has been partnering with DHS to help design and implement two pilot Family Resource Centers (FRCs) in Oklahoma. The two FRCs will be the first of their kind in Oklahoma to specifically follow the Oklahoma Hope Center framework. This is a combination of the National Family Support Network FRC framework which utilizes the Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework from the Center for the study of Social Policy and the Principals of Family Support Practice, along with Dr. Chan Hellman's study of Hope Science.

⁴ NFSN About Us: <https://www.nationalfamilysupportnetwork.org/about-us>

Child Abuse Prevention Month

Every year in April, the OSDH, Family Support and Prevention Service (FSPS) observes National Child Abuse Prevention Month (CAPM) with events and activities included in an elaborate and strategic statewide plan. This plan is developed in collaboration with key prevention partners over the course of monthly meetings in the preceding year.

National Child Abuse Prevention Month recognizes the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child abuse and neglect and promotes the social and emotional well-being of children and families. During the month of April and throughout the year, communities are encouraged to increase awareness and provide education and support to families through resources and strategies to prevent child abuse and neglect. Each year, the White House and many states issue proclamations to raise awareness and to encourage communities to take steps to improve the well-being of children.⁵

During SFY 2020 as in past years, the OCAP led CAPM planning meetings from 9/13/19 through 03/13/20. New partners were added with the YMCA of Greater Oklahoma City and the internal OSDH Office of Communications. What looked to be the biggest year ever for outreach and promotion all came to an abrupt halt with the looming onset of COVID-19. With the pandemic, all events and activities were put on an indefinite hold and/or cancelled.

While not completed, the 2020 campaign included the following components along with scheduled events and activities.

- ✂ **Introduction of new Oklahoma CAPM design highlighting Oklahoma’s traditional blue ribbon tree formatted to multiple media pieces**
Created by the OSDH Office of Communications
- ✂ **Creation of social media campaign for all activities and events**
Created by the OSDH Office of Communications
- ✂ **Social media promotion leading up to April via the Oklahoma Child Abuse Prevention Facebook page** (with over 1,200 followers)
- ✂ **Media Event: OKC Mayor Signing of OKC CAPM Proclamation-03/31/20**
In Collaboration with Parent Promise/PCA-OK
- ✂ **FSPS Co-hosting Annual Child Abuse and Neglect Conference, including prevention track with national and local speakers–03/31/20 – 04/02/20**
In partnership with the Oklahoma University of Health Sciences
- ✂ **SkyDance Bridge Lighting to turn blue kicking off CAPM**
(including prevention group photo at the bridge)–04/03/20
- ✂ **Annual Wear Blue Day (& Take a Selfie)–04/03/20**
- ✂ **Biannual State Prevention Plan Review with Stakeholders–04/03/20**
- ✂ **OKC Open Streets Event (including a CAPM Prevention Booth)–04/05/20**
- ✂ **Creation of Pledge to Protect Cards to be disseminated at OKC Open Streets – 04/05/20**
- ✂ **Annual Outstanding Child Abuse Prevention Award Ceremony (and received nominations received, reviewed and selected) along with Child Abuse Prevention Press Conference at the State Capitol–April 14, 2020**
- ✂ **Annual Build a Blue Ribbon Tree for Kids Campaign–duration of April**
- ✂ **Happy Day Coloring Challenge–duration of April**
- ✂ **Pinwheel Gardens–Led by Parent Promise/PCA-OK**

⁵ The [Children's Bureau](https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/about/), within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, funds the National Child Abuse Prevention Month initiative each April on the Child Welfare Information Gateway;
<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/about/>

- ⌘ **Dissemination of the Children’s Bureau National CAPM Resource Guides** ⁶
- ⌘ **Five Days of Action, a YMCA event designed to raise awareness and inspire adults to take action to protect children from sexual abuse**–(Originally scheduled for April 13-17, 2020 but moved to October 26-30, 2020)–*Collaboration with the YMCA of Oklahoma City – a national effort* ⁷
- ⌘ **Creation of Oklahoma CAPM logo and t-shirt**–*Design created by independent graphic artist; t-shirts made available for purchase through the YMCA of Greater Oklahoma City*



⁶ NCAPM Resource Guides; <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/>

⁷ Five Days of Action; <https://www.fivedaysofaction.org/>

Implementing Virtual Personal Visits

On March 17th, 2020, the OCAP notified the Contractors that in person home visits would cease due to COVID-19. Prior to implementation of a virtual home visits, Parent Educators were required to complete the *PAT Webinar – Virtual Personal Home Visits* on the PAT Workspace. A Skype meeting was scheduled to review information and answer questions from the Contractors. One concern among many was the families and their ability to access needed resources. The OCAP offered additional flexibility when purchasing concrete support for the families including \$25.00 gift cards, phone minutes and emergency funds to assist with rent and utilities. This allowed the families to complete their visits virtually, and reduce the stress brought on by COVID. Another concern was the increased risk of child abuse and neglect in times of extreme stress and uncertainty associated with COVID-19. The OCAP provided the Contractors with several resources, including tips for parents and children and ideas about how they can support the families to help prevent child abuse and neglect.⁸

Parents as Teachers National Center (PATNC) established practices that Contractors could put into place during closures and other preventative measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This included ways to minimize exposure by approving virtual and telecommunications personal visits. PATNC recommended social distancing strategies using the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as a primary resource. In addition to the guidance from PATNC, the OCAP required that the Contractors submit protocol describing their individual approach to virtual home visits.

Age of Client

Age of Client	Percent
Under 16 years	0.5%
16–19 years	4%
20-24 years	20%
25-29 years	30%
30-39 years	32%
40 years & Older	14%
Total	100%

Marital Status of Client

Marital Status of Client	Percent
Divorced	6%
Married	46%
Never Married	42%
Separated	6%
Widowed	0.4%
Total	100%

⁸ Prevent Child Abuse America (PCA): <https://preventchildabuse.org/coronavirus-resources/>

Age of Children Living in Household

Age of Children	Number
Under 1 year	19
1-2 years	40
3-4 years	118
5-9 years	79
10-14 years	18
15-18 years	19
Total	293

Household Composition of Families Served

Household	Percent
Father of the Child	42%
None	19%
Others	9%
Boyfriend – Not father	18%
Grandparent of the child	7%
Stepfather of the child	1%
Aunt of the client	2%
Uncle of the client	2%
Total	100%

Number of Families Accepted to Program & Average Length of Enrollment

Site	Number of Families	Average Time Enrolled (Months)
Great Plains	51	3.0
CREOKS	92	5.6
Latino Community Development Agency	59	9.3
Frontline Family Solutions	55	7.0
Northwest Family Services	35	3.8
Northern OK Youth Services	76	5.4
Parent Child Center of Tulsa	176	7.2
Parent Promise	81	7.9
Youth & Family Services for Hughes & Seminole Counties	23	4.7
Total	648	6.0

Number of Families Not Accepted to Program & Reason

Potential Enrollee	Number
Adoption	2
Child no longer in PCG's home	8
Child too old	4
Unable to locate	32
Moving/moved out of service area	28
Other	32
Total	106

Program Recommendations for SFY 2021:

Model Fidelity and COVID-19

As we enter SFY 2021, we unfortunately find ourselves in the continuing uncertainty of the pandemic health crisis; with that in mind, PAT has extended that adjustments made for SFY 2020 to the Essential Requirements and will continue to make allowances for SFY 2021. Contractors may continue to use virtual services to complete their home visits and Group Connections. Virtual service delivery refers to services both through interactive video conferencing technology and phone calls. Virtual visits through an interactive video conferencing platform allow there to be two-way, real-time, audio-visual communication between the home visitor and parent(s), guardians, or primary caregivers and their child(ren). These visits are delivered using a device, preferably a tablet or computer (laptop) and a secure video conferencing platform. Virtual visits through telecommunication are visits completed via audio phone calls.⁹

Virtual Training Plan

Due to the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis, Parents as Teachers suspended all on-ground training and transitioned Model Implementation, Foundational and Foundational 2 Core trainings to a virtual platform. Following suit, the OCAP has provided the Contractors with virtual training and webinars covering topics that are required in the Training Plan and relevant to home visiting.¹⁰

Supervisor Activities

Monthly

The OCAP schedules monthly supervisor calls on the last Friday of each month. In order to improve communication, each Contractor Site purchased Webcams so the Contractor and the OCAP can provide a more interactive meeting. This allows the OCAP to also give presentations such as PowerPoints, videos and Webinars.

Bi-Annual

During SFY 2020, bi-annual meetings were scheduled for PAT Supervisors. The first meeting in March was held in person, while the second meeting in October was held on virtually due to COVID-19 and social distancing. The objectives of these meetings are to create a platform to continue to dive deeper into topics that were discussed during the monthly supervisors call. Many of the Contractor Sites will be participating in the PAT Quality Endorsement and Improvement Process (QEIP) and require additional support and technical assistance.¹¹

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting for SFY 2020 was cancelled due to COVID. The Family Support and Prevention staff continue to combine efforts to offer this meeting on a virtual platform. The annual meeting includes staff from Child Guidance, Parents and Teachers, Children First and SafeCare. While still in the planning stages, the meeting will offer a robust selection of speakers, addressing the most up-to-date issues that families face today.

⁹ PAT Virtual Service Delivery: <https://parentsasteachers.org/virtual-service-delivery>

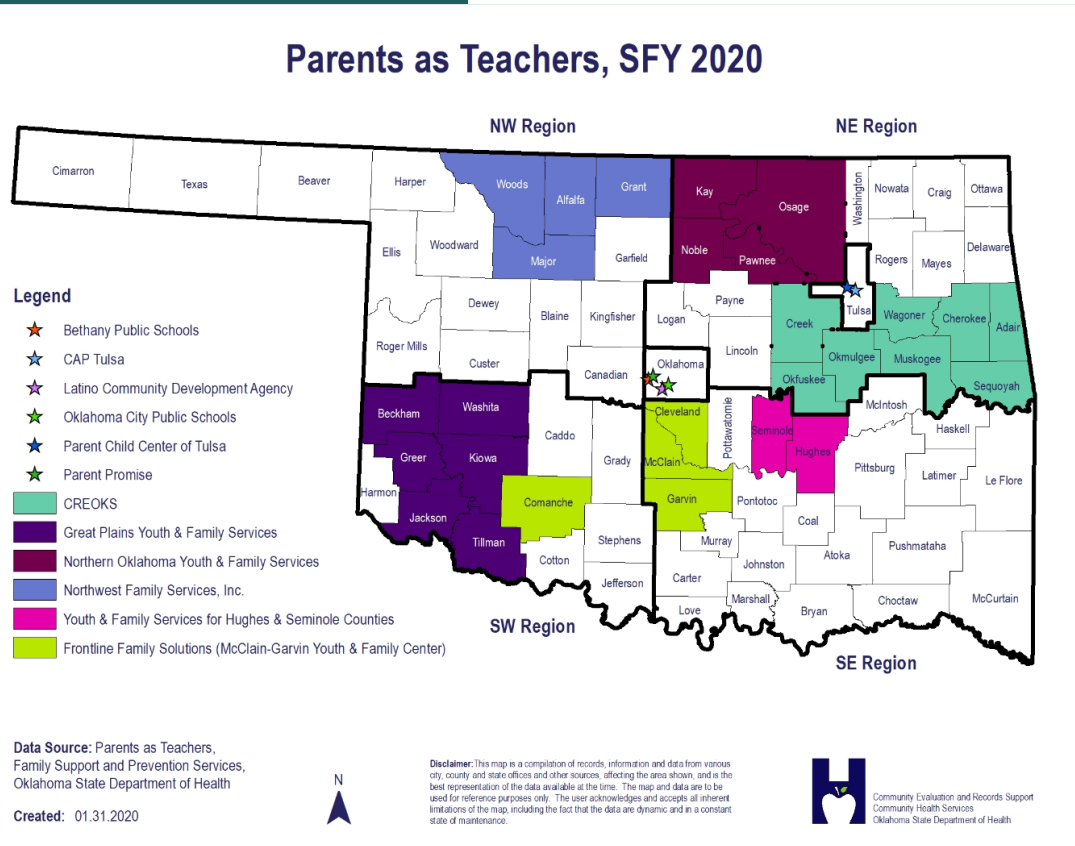
¹⁰ OSDH Training Calendar: https://www.ok.gov/triton/modules/calendar/calendar.php?calendar_seq=32

¹¹Quality Improvement: <https://parentsasteachers.org/research-and-quality-improvement-index#quality>

Blue Ribbons Sites

The PAT Essential Requirements and Quality Standards form the basis for the Quality Endorsement and improvement process (QEIP), which is the process that Contractors go through to demonstrate their commitment to high quality services and work to earn the Blue Ribbon designation¹². Currently, Oklahoma has four contractors that serve Oklahoma and Tulsa Counties that have achieved Blue Ribbon status. An additional two Contractors which serve Oklahoma, McClain, Garvin and Southern Cleveland counties are completing a comprehensive self-study that demonstrates they are meeting at least 75% of the Quality Standards to bring them one step closer to Blue Ribbon Status in SFY 2020.

Budget and Program Needs:

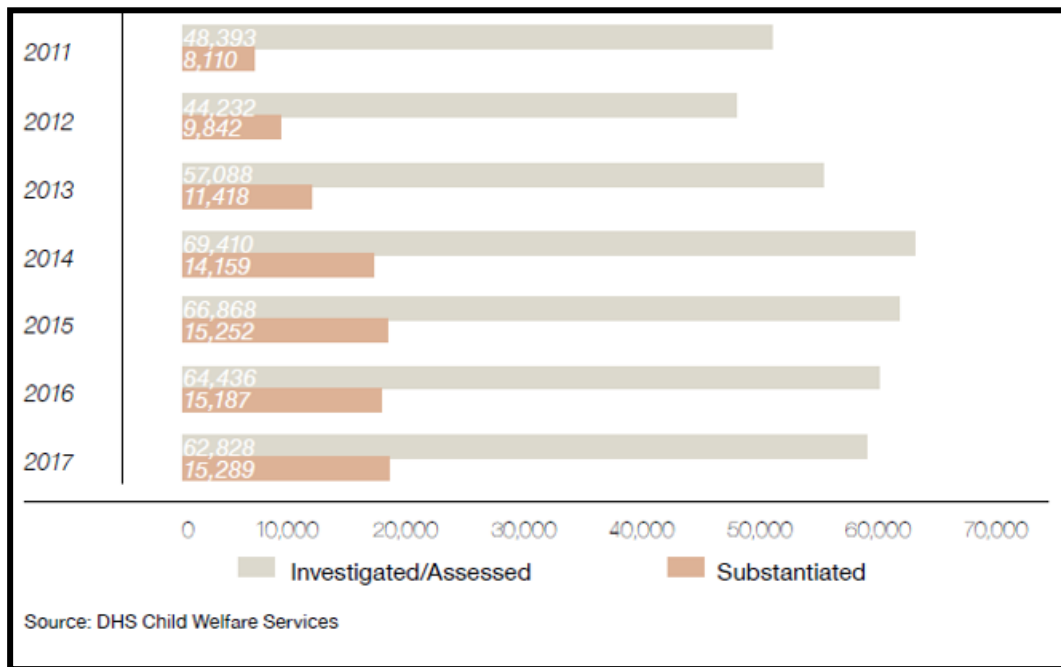


The Contractors that received federal funds only are Bethany Public Schools, CAP Tulsa, and Oklahoma City Public Schools

¹² QEIP: <https://parentsasteachers.org/research-and-quality-improvement-index#quality>

Over the course of the last 10 years, the child abuse prevention fund has steadily decreased and the number of substantiated cases of child abuse has increased. (See tables below). While a direct casual association has not been determined between the reductions in prevention funding and increases in substantiated child abuse cases, there does appear to be some correlation. In 2018, the contracts were cancelled and reinstated in 2019. Since then, the Child Abuse Prevention Fund has held steady, but with no increase.

State Fiscal Year	Total Expenditures	Number of Families Served	Average Cost per Family	Number of Contractors	Number of Counties Served
2011	\$2,964,476	1,085	\$2,732	21	39
2012	\$2,790,426	1,068	\$2,613	19	37
2013	\$2,711,578	786	\$3,450	14	30
2014	\$2,788,042	774	\$3,602	14	30
2015	\$2,613,823	738	\$3,542	13	28
2016	\$2,440,713	672	\$3,632	13	28
2017	\$2,246,365	608	\$3,695	11	26
Contracts Cancelled¹³					
2018	\$906,145	321	\$2,823	9	23
Contracts Reinstated¹⁴					
2019	\$2,014,668	386	\$5,479	9	28
2020	\$2,014,668	648	\$2,890	9	28



¹³ On October 16th, 2017 the Contractors were given a thirty-day notice of termination due to a budget shortfall at the Oklahoma State Department of Health. Despite the elimination of funding, Contractors were able to provide at least one home visit to three hundred and twenty-one families.

¹⁴ SFY 2019 was a rebuilding period for the state PAT program. Funds which were eliminated in SFY 2018 were reinstated at their previous levels. The OCAP repeated the process of developing an Invitation-To-Bid (ITB) to identify contractors to provide program services.

To build infrastructure and fill gaps in services the OCAP has the following needs:

- Increase state funding to expand home visitation services across the state. Continue identifying gaps in the continuum of home visiting services between PAT and Children First (Oklahoma's Nurse Family Partnership) by identifying underserved populations.
- Increase the state's investment dollars in child abuse prevention services such as PAT Home Visitation Services so federal MIECHV dollars will increase accordingly for Oklahoma.
- Identify partners through other state agencies, private non-partners and local communities to achieve a more cohesive robust home visiting footprint.
- Research other states with statewide home visitation models such as Florida to work toward a long-term goal of providing services to all 77 Oklahoma counties.
- Partner with DHS on the Family First Program to share professional child abuse and neglect strategies that help keep families from becoming involved in the child welfare system and also to prevent child abuse and neglect before it happens. The partnership should also identify duplications and gaps in services to Oklahoma families.

Parent Success Story

David & Zachary Walton
Kay County

After serving time incarcerated, David was finally released. During incarceration, David was notified that he had an infant son in OKDHS foster care, and would be able to start supervised visitation upon release. By then, Zachary would be 18 months old. Facing the outside world and the responsibilities of fatherhood, David sought help, starting with the PAT Program at Northern Oklahoma Youth Services. David met his Parent Educator Jeremy, and together they began to develop goals towards bonding with Zachary, parenting, learning about Zachary's development and providing a safe environment so Zachary could thrive.

David confided in Jeremy that he was overwhelmed. He had been dreaming about the first time he could hold Zachary, stating "I wasn't gonna let my past keep me from being a good dad." Jeremy reassured and encouraged David to continue working towards his goals. Jeremy pointed out that he had already cleared a major hurdle by obtaining his GED while incarcerated. This would give David the confidence to move towards other goals including weekly visitation with Zachary that eventually led to trail reunification with his son. With Jeremy's support David was able to gain TANF assistance, food stamps, WIC, housing and employment. Although these were huge accomplishments, Jeremy also knew that David longed for a network of friends and family who would support his new life with Zachary. With growing confidence, David was able to establish healthy relationships, surrounding himself with social connections.

After months of stability, David was reunified with Zachary and received accolades from the presiding judge for his diligent efforts. David now has full parental rights with Zachary and continued with bi-weekly visits until he felt confident on his parenting journey stating "You guys were here for me, and didn't judge me."

Jeremy shared when David enrolled it was also the beginning of COVID-19 and was only able to complete a few visits face-to-face. Using a virtual platform, Jeremy and David were able to continue visits. Jeremy shared "I was happy to see that David was very in-tune with Zachary's temperament and responsive to Zachary's needs, it warms my heart to see a dad so invested in his child."



“Without the help of Jeremy, I don’t know that I would have been able to have my son or understand what it takes to raise a kid.”

Acknowledgements:

Lance Frye, MD
Interim Commissioner of Health

Keith Reed, RN, MPH, CPH
Deputy Commissioner
Community Health Services

Tina R. Johnson, MPH, RN
Assistant Deputy Commissioner
Family Health Services

Beth Martin, MA, CCC
Director
Family Support and Prevention Services & Child Guidance

Suzy Gibson, MS
Parents as Teachers Program Manager and State Leader
Family Support and Prevention Service

John Delara, MPH, CPH
MIECHV Grants Manager
Family Support and Prevention Service

Aneera Sadiq, MBBS, MPH
Program Evaluator
Family Support and Prevention Service

This report is respectfully submitted in compliance with Title 63, O.S. Section 1-227.3.

This publication was issued by the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH), an equal opportunity employer and provider. A digital file has been deposited with the Publications Clearinghouse of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries in compliance with section 3-114 of Title 65 of the Oklahoma Statutes and is available for download at documents.ok.gov. | Issued December 2019.