



Office of Child Abuse Prevention

State Fiscal Year Annual Report

2021



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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 2021 was \$2,989. This amount was calculated by dividing the total contract expenditures of \$1,769,755 by the total number of unduplicated families participating in PAT. During SFY 2021, a total of 592 families received at least one home visit. Nine contracts serving 28 counties provided home visitation services to families during SFY 2021. 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 for a total cost of \$2,014,668 and \$150,378 administrative costs in SFY 2021.

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.

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

¹ parentPRO

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 2021 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
314	399	1,892

The Office of Child Abuse Prevention was unsuccessful 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

Contractor Site	Counties Served	Description of Project	Reason for Focus
CREOKS	Adair, Cherokee, Creek, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, Sequoyah, Wagoner	Parent Educators introduced fact sheets to families and distributed age-appropriate books during home visits.	To increase the frequency of how many times per week fathers are reading to their children.
Test & Check Results			
CREOKS experienced an increase in the frequency of fathers/father figures reading to their children by 21%			

CREOKS experienced an increase in the frequency of fathers/father figures reading to their children by 21%

"I had military family enrolled with a toddler named Logan who was struggling with low weight and iron, anemia, and not taking solid foods. In addition, Logan had a speech delay. Since enrolling in the PAT program, I provided education and resources to help Logan wean from his bottle and encouraged his mom to introduce solid foods. I provided Logan's parents with several resources to help with his speech delay including books, language centered activities and a referral for speech services. Logan is now a happy, healthy toddler on track for school readiness." – Robin, Parent Educator, serving Creek, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, Wagoner, Cherokee, Adair, and Sequoyah Counties

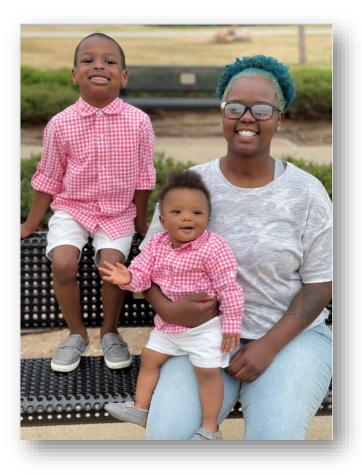
Contractor Site	Counties Served	Description of Project	Reason for Focus
Northwest Family Services (NWFS)	Alfalfa, Grant, Major, Woods	Increase home visit completion to reach 75%	NWFS falls below 75% in completion of monthly home visits in reaching requirements set for by the PAT model requirements
		Test & Check Results	
The NWFS CQI Project proved to be successful and they were able to achieve 75% home visitation completion rate.			



Update: Since having Carlos, mom, dad and big brother welcomed baby Victoria. Monica was able to successfully breastfed her, stating during pregnancy "I want to breastfeed this baby. I can't wait to find out if it is a boy or girl but I don't care, I just want the baby to be healthy."

"Monica, one of the moms that I visited, shared that she suffered from anxiety and had fears about not being able to breastfeed her newborn, Carlos. I reassured her that I was there to support her goals to breastfeed and control her anxiety. Monica said to me, 'I would not have breastfeed Carlos without your support, and always there for me if I needed help.' "– Jem, Parent Educator, serving 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 documentation of a new goal(s) for each family to meet Essential Requirement #10 as set by the PAT model requirements.	To increase goals set by families to 80% to deliver a higher quality of service to families
	Test & Check Results		
The GPYFS CQI Project proved to be successful and increased goal completion to 89%.			



"During the time that Brianna was enrolled in PAT, she overcame many challenges and faced obstacles head on. She transitioned to her own residence, built a loving home for her sons, Jaxon and Jamison, pursued a degree in higher education, advanced her career, and developed protective parenting factors. Above all, Brianna has recognized the confidence in herself to be a strong leader for Jaxon and Jamison. Her success story exemplifies the PAT motto that 'Parents are their child's first and most influential teachers.' Brianna's examples of resilience and knowledge of child development will positively impact her children and future generations." – Amy, Parent Educator, serving McClain, Garvin, and Cleveland Counties

Contractor Site	Counties Served	Description of Project	Reason for Focus
Frontline Family Solutions	Southern Cleveland, McClain, Garvin	Increase the participation with fathers/father figures in the home.	Increase father/father figures engagement within family routines.
Test & Check Results			
Among the existing families, the average number of routine engagement changed from 3.6% to 4.2% per week. For new			

families, the average number of routine engagement changed from 3.3% to 5.5%.

Counties Served Contractor Site Description of Project Reason for Focus Tulsa To strengthen the bond between fathers/father **Parent Child Center** Improve relationships with of Tulsa (PCCT) fathers/father figures and figures and their children. increase the number of PAT Activities that fathers/father figures complete with their children by 25% **Test & Check Results** PCCT experienced an increase, achieving 25% in the number of fathers/father figures who completed the PAT activities.

Contractor Site	Counties Served	Description of Project	Reason for Focus
Parent Promise	Oklahoma	Increase the number of father that read to their children by 10%	To improve relationships with fathers by encouraging them to read more to their children.
		Test & Check Results	

Parent Promise experienced an increase of the fathers/father figures who read to their children by 20%.



"This program has done amazing things for my family, we have been given books each home visit, diapers and wipes when needed, and other necessities from the Family Resource Center. It has helped so much being provided with the developmental milestones and other useful information that helps with my children's development. Not only has Parent Promise helped with those things but my Parent Educator, Kourtney has found clothing and shoes for each member of the family and that has been truly helpful." – Desiree, Amiyah, Enyrah, LaZarea, enrolled in Oklahoma County



"Upon completing screenings for depression and anxiety, I realized Laura was struggling, which was affecting her interactions with Debanhi and Victor. I provided Laura with a referral to HOPE Community Services, which she initially declined. After some time, Laura changed her mind and began to accept the idea of therapy. Jane said 'I recognize I need help, and I am doing this for my kids.' When I asked about her thoughts about therapy, Laura shared 'I am scared I will get judged.' I reassured Laura that there would be no judgment, stating, 'Therapy is judgment free zone.' Laura finally started accepting services and got started on medication and therapy. When I asked her how it was going, she stated 'I'm doing a lot better. I have to break the cycle of not addressing mental health issues in my family.'" – Stephanie, Parent Educator serving Oklahoma County

Contractor Site	Counties Served	Description of Project	Reason for Focus
Northern Oklahoma Youth Services (NOYS)	Kay, Osage, Noble & Pawnee	An initial gathering of data to compare clients ACE scores to number of missed visits to determine if stressors are affecting their ability to receive quality services.	To meet/exceed the number of completed visits per the PAT Essential Requirement #11.
		Test & Check Results	•
caregivers with an ACE	score of 5 or higher were	e less likely to meet program vis	meet program visit standards. Collectively, the sit requirements. NOYS will continue to connect oviders that address factors that can stem from

high ACE scores.

No changes were implemented due to additional time needed to gather data.

"When Josephina enrolled, one of the first things we did was to set goals. She said 'I never thought about the importance to set goals in my life until you explained it to me.' Josephina's first goal was to implement positive discipline techniques with her children, Cristian and Keily. When Josephina and I were talking, she said 'When I was a child, I experienced physical punishment. I don't want to repeat the same pattern with my children.' I provided information and education regarding positive discipline techniques that Josephina implemented with Cristian and Keily. When she reached her goal she said 'Thanks to the information you are providing me, I know I am making a difference in Cristian and Keily's life.' On home visits I have observed Josefina, Cristian and Keily and the shift to using positive discipline has really made an impact on the family!" *– Marina, Parent Educator serving Oklahoma 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 in the program from 10 to 15.	To increase each Parent Educator's caseload to 20 families meeting the PAT Essential Requirements.
		Test & Check Results	
The CQI project revealed that each Parent Educator increased the number of families enrolled but did not achieve 20 families on each caseload.			

"Our family enrolled in PAT during the pandemic last year. My daughter, Jayden was one and a half years old, and struggled with speaking. After just a few months of working with my Parent Educator, Emily, I began noticing huge improvements with Jayden's speech as well as behavior. Throughout the pandemic, Emily has offered handouts and new ideas on how to parent and teach Jayden. During the Monthly Group Connections Jayden is able interact with other children through a virtual platform, and she has a lot of fun with activities, listening to books being read, and music. Jayden and I have learned, and become stronger because of the guidance from Emily. The PAT program has strengthened my knowledge and gave me reassurance as Jayden's mother. – Melissa and Jayden, enrolled in Oklahoma County

Contractor Site	Counties Served	Description of Project	Reason for Focus
Latino Community Development Agency (LCDA)	Oklahoma	All families enrolled will demonstrate a 5% increase in father involvement.	To welcome and encourage the fathers of the identified child to participate in home visitation services.
Test & Check Results			
The frequency of father engagement appeared to be relatively stable despite the additional education materials used to engage fathers in home visits. LCDA will continue to provide fatherhood materials to new clients with a father figure present in the home.			



"When Tara enrolled in PAT, she had significant stressors in her life including incarceration, poverty, and substance abuse. She was doing her best as a single mom to Derrick but due to safety concerns OKDHS removed him and placed him in kinship care. I knew I had to act quickly and put supports in place to help Tara meet her number one goal, which was to get Derrick back. The first thing we did was to put resources in place to help Tara get substance abuse counseling, housing and career counseling. During the first three months that Tara was engaged with PAT, she was able to complete her service plan and Derrick was placed back in her care. She has since closed her court case with OKDHS and continued home visiting services with me where I provide information to the family regarding typical development, discipline topics and concrete supports including diapers, wipes, food, and clothing. I realized that Tara needed some emotional support so I encouraged her to participate in a support group at a local church. With my help, Tara was able to meet her number one goal, being a mom to Derrick. – Samantha, Parent Educator serving Kay, Noble, Pawnee and Osage Counties

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 35 member networks which support 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.²

Oklahoma joined the network, and the Oklahoma Family Support Network (OFSN) was formed in 2018. The OFSN is currently in the development and operational phases of the NFSN's Family Support and Strengthening Network Development Continuum. During the phases of the network development and operation, the OFSN will continue to plan to convene initial network meetings, develop a network vision, mission, and goals, and develop operating guidelines. The OFSN has begun to work into the operational phase through the continued offering of the Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening and Support Virtual Certification Training, the review and refinement of network processes and systems, and through the continued advancement of network goals. This also includes the funding of a full-time position to coordinate all OFSN development.

The role of the OFSN Coordinator is to plan and implement all efforts of the OFSN. Some of these efforts in 2021 have included building and maintaining partnerships at state and local levels, coordination of the Oklahoma Standards of Quality training team and the rolling out of the new virtual Standards certification training. This has also included the preparation and designing of a statewide Standards implement plan. One additional and notable effort that the OFSN coordinator was tasked with in 2021 was the development of a request for proposal that will soon be released to the public. This RFP will allow FRCs to be developed across the state. These FRCs will be the inaugural members of the OFSN and will help to form and guide the future goals and mission of the OFSN. The OFSN coordinator will work with the FRCs to provide technical assistance in the implementation of the Standards, development of a sustainability plan to be implemented beyond the funding provided by the award. This process was made available by the funds received from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 by the OCAP through the CBCAP grant.

The OFSN hosted the initial 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 four Standards trainings and certified 94 Family Support and Strengthening professionals, advocates, and funders across the state. The Oklahoma Standards training team has increased to four trainers and two training technical support assistants. The National Family Support Network provided a revised version of the Standards of Quality in January 2021 and a newly piloted virtual Standards of Quality training, which was launched in Oklahoma in August 2021 with two additional trainings offered in December 2021.

The OFSN has continued their partnership with OKDHS 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

² National Family Support Network

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.

One other notable partnership that has formed is with the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth (OCCY). This partnership combines the work of the OCCY's efforts toward the state level Parent Partnership Board with the OFSN's efforts of the development and sustainability of community level Parent Advisory Committees that will be implemented at each FRC across the state. The OFSN Coordinator at OSDH cochairs the Oklahoma Parent Advisory Committee (OK-PAC) work group along with representation from OCCY and OUHSC. Through this effort, the OFSN has worked to ensure more Oklahoma Family Strengthening and Support professionals as well as Parent Professionals have been certified in the National Family Support Network's Sustaining Effective Parent Advisory Committees certification training. This is in addition to ensuring that this group is also trained in the Circle of Parents training, which is offered by the OCAP at OSDH. The OK-PAC designed and launched the initial OK-PAC Community of Practice for organizations that are in all stages of implementing parent advisory committees in October 2021. This is the first official OFSN group to convene and will offer a quarterly professional development opportunity for the implementation and sustainability of parent advisory groups within any organization in Oklahoma.

Child Abuse Prevention Month

Every year in April, the OSDH, Family Support and Prevention Service (FSPS) observes National Child Abuse Prevention Month (NCAPM) with events and activities included in an elaborate and strategic statewide plan. This is made possible with the help, skills and ingenuity from countless prevention partners across the state who come together in what's called the Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Action Committee (led by FSPS). While 2020 looked to be an exciting year as the prevention landscape was in full steam with new collaborative prevention partners, record-breaking participant involvement and a hearty social media following, the COVID-19 pandemic abruptly derailed everything in the making. It wasn't until 2021 that enough was learned about how to adapt somewhat to the pandemic, where an effective campaign could be reimagined. The group began to meet virtually, campaigns were tweaked so only a limited number of individuals needed to be involved and in lieu of a large ceremony to present the Outstanding CAP Awards, separate surprise presentations for recipients were held, presenting each award individually in smaller gatherings.

National Child Abuse Prevention Month recognizes the importance of families and communities working together to strengthen families to prevent child abuse and neglect. Through this collaboration, prevention services and supports help protect children and produce thriving families. Each year, the White House and many states issue proclamations to raise awareness and to shine a light on the many ways we can all play a role in preventing children from being harmed.³

During SFY 2021 as in past years, the CAP Action Committee led NCAPM planning meetings from September through March. New partners were continuously joining the group and the Oklahoma Child Abuse Prevention Facebook Page continued to grow in followers and likes. Graphic designs were provided by various CAP Action committee members as well as the OSDH Office of Communications.

2021 Child Abuse Prevention Month Events and Activities:

- Promotion of 2021 April NCAPM Campaigns on OSDH website⁴
- Creation of social media campaign for all activities and events

³ <u>A Proclamation on National Child Abuse Prevention Month 2021</u>

⁴ Child Abuse Prevention Month Activities

- Created by CAP Action Committee member and the OSDH Office of Communications
- Social media promotion leading up to April via the Oklahoma Child Abuse Prevention Facebook page (with over 1,300 likes and over 1,500 followers)
- Media Event: OKC Mayor David Holt signs proclamation, declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention Month
- FSPS Co-hosting 27th Annual Child Abuse and Neglect Conference, including prevention track with national and localspeakers in partnership with the Oklahoma University of Health Sciences
- SkyDance Bridge Lighting to turn blue kicking off NCAPM
- Annual Wear Blue Day & Take a Selfie



- Biannual State Prevention Plan Review with Stakeholders
- The Super CAP Month Challenge



- Annual Outstanding Child Abuse Prevention Award Ceremony (separate ceremonies presented in six individual sessions)
- Mark Lawson was presented the Outstanding Elected Official Award at the State Capitol
- Senator Paul Rosino presented resolution recognizing April as Child Abuse Awareness Month at the State Capitol
- Annual Build a Blue Ribbon Tree for Kids Campaign
- Happy Day Coloring Challenge
- Pinwheel Gardens led by Parent Promise, Oklahoma's PCA Chapter
- Dissemination of the Children's Bureau National CAPM Resource Guides

Professional Education and Training Provided

Orientation

Complete Within Three	th families to familiarize them with the functions of the site. Boundaries
Months of Hire	Confidentiality
	Community Resources
	Provisional Onboarding
	Provisional PV Observation
	Provisional Child Abuse and Neglect Indicators
	Provisional Child Screenings: Hearing & Vision
	Provisional Efforts to Outcomes (ETO) Database Training
	Provisional HIPAA and Cyber Security
	Provisional HIPAA and Cyber Security
	Provisional Life Skills Progression (LSP)
	Provisional S.O.A.P. Notes
	Provisional Staff Safety
	Provisional Policies and Procedures
	Site and Role Specific Orientation

Parents as Teachers (PAT) Model Training

All Parent Educators and	
Supervisors are required to complete all PAT trainings.	Model Implementation
complete and AT trainings.	PAT Foundational II

Annual Training

Complete within 30 days of employment and every year thereafter.	Diversity Awareness Based on their current service population
	Child Abuse and Neglect Indicators Training
	Intimate Partner Violence Training
	Caregiver Health and Wellness
	Substance Use
	Policy and Procedure Review

Required Training

		ASQ 3, ASQ;SE 2
Months of Hire		Child Abuse Medical Examiners (CAME) Training including Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting
		Developmental Milestones
		Family/Domestic Violence
		Home Visitors Safety Training

	Maternal Depression/Reproductive Health		
	PICCOLO		
	Reflective Supervision for Supervisors		
	Reflective Supervision for Parent Educators & Supervisors		
	Reflective Supervision for Parent Educators		
	S.O.A.P. Notes – Documentation Trainings		
	Tobacco Cessation/Substance Abuse & Addictive Behaviors		
Complete Within Five to Eight Months of Hire	Attachment		
	Autism		
	Breastfeeding		
	Mental Health Issues		
	Newborn Screening/Grief		
	Safe Sleep		
Complete Within Nine to	Adoption		
Twelve Months of Hire	Period of Purple Crying		
	Special Needs		
	Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening and Support		
	Strengthening Families: Protective Factors		
	Child Passenger Safety		

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				

Family Characteristics

Age of Client

Age of Client	Percent
Under 16 years	1%
16–19 years	4%
20-24 years	19%
25-29 years	26%
30-39 years	38%
40 years & Older	12%
Total	100%

Marital Status of Client

Marital Status of Client	Percent
Divorced	6%
Married	44%
Not married but living with partner	18.5%
Single, Never Married	28%
Separated	3%
Widowed	0.5%
Total	100%

Age of Children Living in Household

Age of Children	Number
Under 1 year	26
1-2 years	133
3-4 years	106
5-9 years	81
10-14 years	2
15-18 years	0
Total	348

Household Composition of Families Served

Household	Percent
Father of the Child	44%
Others	42%
Boyfriend – Not father	1%
Grandparent of the child	26%
Stepfather of the child	2%
Sister of client	1%
Aunt of the client	6%

Uncle of the client	13%
Total***	135%

***Totals may be more than 100% due to "check all that apply" selection

Number of Families Accepted to Program & Average Length of Enrollment

Site	Number of New Families	Number of Total Families	Average Time Enrolled (Months)
Great Plains	21	53	7.5
CREOKS	41	75	7.0
Latino Community Development Agency	9	51	9.2
Frontline Family Solutions	24	49	6.3
Northwest Family Services	26	49	5.5
Northern OK Youth Services	41	69	5.6
Parent Child Center of Tulsa	33	105	6.0
Parent Promise	70	113	6.0
Youth & Family Services for Hughes & Seminole Counties	26	28	6.0
Total	291	592	6.3

Number of Families Not Accepted to Program & Reason

Potential Enrollee	Number
Adoption	2%
Transferred to another program in the same model	65%
Other	33%
Total	100%

Program Recommendations for SFY 2022:

Model Fidelity and COVID-19

As we enter SFY 2022, we continue to find ourselves in the pandemic health crisis; with that in mind, PAT has implemented adjustments that were made in SFY 2021 to the Essential Requirements and will continue implement a hybrid of service delivery going into SFY 2022. 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.⁵ Virtual services will remain an option for families, not just in times of health crisis, weather or other environmental situation, but based on family choice as well.⁶ Having a range of options for service delivery supports the Essential Requirements for model fidelity.

⁵ Parents as Teachers - Virtual Service Delivery

⁶ Parents as Teachers - Technical Assistance Brief Model Fidelity and COVID-19

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.⁷ As the number of COVID-19 cases decreased and the vaccinated persons increased, the OCAP has resumed some in-person trainings, following all recommended COVID-19 Safety Guidelines.⁸

Supervisor Activities

Monthly

The OCAP schedules monthly supervisor calls on the last Friday of each month. The OCAP has made it a standard to meet using video capabilities. This allows the OCAP to give presentations such as PowerPoints, videos and Webinars to enhance engagement from the Contractors. This is also a time we bring in additional trainers that provide up to date information to our Contractors and the communities, they serve. The OCAP partnered with a Kansas Affiliate who started an initiative to incorporate racial equity into service delivery. Some of the technical assistance provided in monthly supervisor's calls include policy updates, resources, model updates, database information, and training. Based upon a Satisfaction Survey of the OCAP the monthly supervisors call had a 65% satisfaction rate by the contractors in FY 21. The OCAP requests monthly staffing and capacity reports on the 5th of each month. In SFY 2022 the OCAP will continue to keep up to date with this information to provide technical assistance and support relevant to the individual Contractor.

Bi-Annual

During SFY 2021, bi-annual meetings were scheduled for PAT Supervisors. The meetings were held virtually due to COVID-19 and social distancing. These meetings occurred in February and September. The objectives of these meetings are to create a platform to continue to dive deeper into topics that were discussed during the monthly supervisor's call. One of the most noted topics included in the bi-annual meeting in were case presentations given by the Contractors. The Contractors were provided valuable feedback from a panelist of infant mental health specialists. As we enter into SFY 2022, the implementation of case presentation will continue to build to help Contractors implement reflective practice and provide feedback to the OCAP. The focus of the 2022 bi-annual meeting will included guidance, problem solving, and strategic planning for returning to home visiting after COVID–19. The Contractors and the OCAP will work inclusively on planning for barriers and stressors families experienced during the pandemic.

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 designation.⁹ Currently, Oklahoma has five 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 80% of the Quality Standards to bring them one step closer to Blue Ribbon Status in SFY 2022.

⁷ OSDH Training Calendar

⁸ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - How to Protect Yourself & Others

⁹ Quality Endorsement and Improvement Process

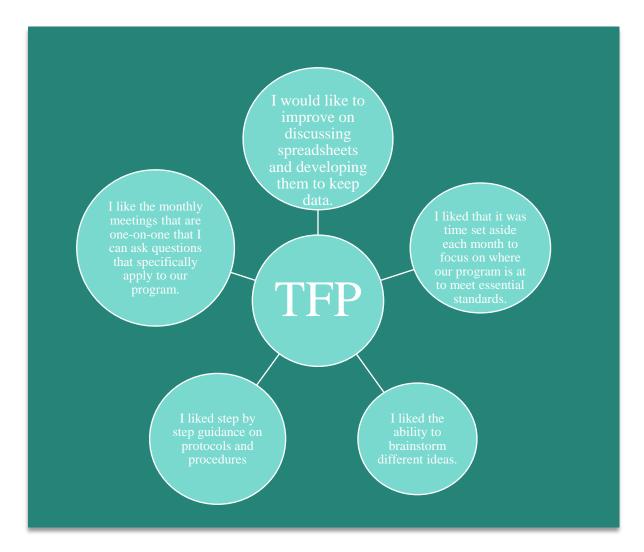
Quality Endorsement and Improvement Process

Contractors are invited to participate in the QEIP process for the first time in their fourth year of implementation and every five years after. QEIP helps ensure that Contractors are delivering high quality home visiting services while implementing the PAT model to fidelity. The QEIP process ensures that essential requirements and quality standards set by Parents as Teachers National Center are fulfilled. This indicates the highest quality of services are being provided to children and families. During SFY 2022, two sites serving Oklahoma, Kay, Noble, Osage and Pawnee counties have been designated to begin the QEIP process and ultimately achieve Blue Ribbon Status.

Target Fidelity Project

This initiative created by Parents as Teachers National Center was designed to increase support for Contractors who missed at least one Essential Requirement. Through this project, the OCAP provides intensive Technical Assistance to Contractors to review and execute a Success Plan utilizing the parallel process of reflection and support. The goal is to improve processes throughout the fiscal year to meet the Essential Requirements that were missed. The structure includes monthly calls to review progress and change. In SFY 2021 six of the twelve Contractors participated in the Target Fidelity Project (TFP), and in SFY 2022, 100% of the Contractors will be participating in TFP. Through the TFP process Contractors will receive guidance to formalize organizational structures.

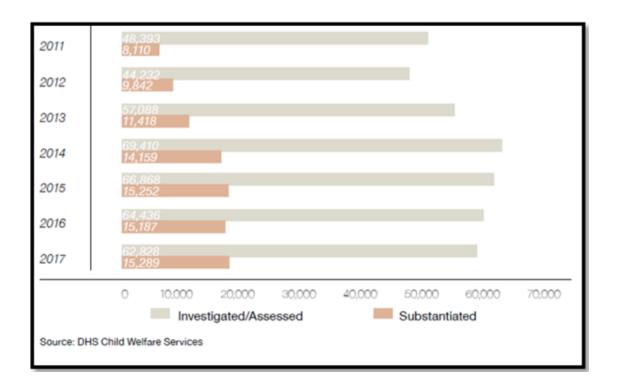
What our Supervisors are saying:



Budget and Program Needs:

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 Fund	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 Cancelled ¹				
2018	\$906,145	321	\$2,823	9	23
Contracts Reinstated ²					
2019	\$2,014,668	386	\$5479	9	28
2020	\$2,014,668	648	\$2,890	9	28
2021	\$2,014,668	592	\$2,989	9	28

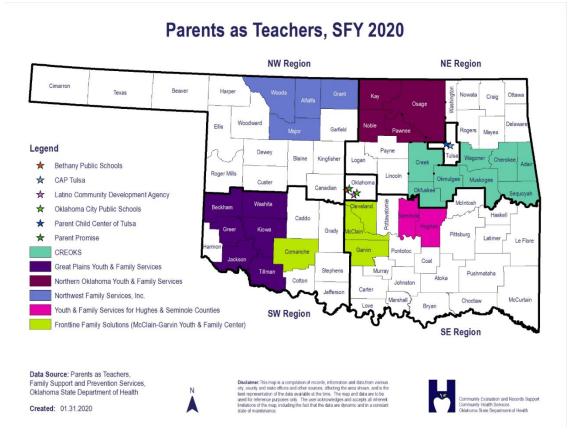


To build infrastructure and fill gaps in services the OCAP has the following needs:

- 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 to work toward a long-term goal of providing services to all 77 Oklahoma counties.
- Partner with OKDHS on the Family First Prevention Services Act¹⁰ 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.
- Partner with OKDHS on the Family Resource Center/ Oklahoma Hope Center initiative to increase accessibility to state agency services and personnel, improve the level customer service to Oklahoma families and the ease of doing business with the state in an effort to strengthen Oklahoma families.
- Play an active role in the Thriving Families Safer Children Initiative¹¹ led by the Children's Bureau at HHS' Administration for Children and Families, Casey Family Programs, the Annie E. Casey Foundation and Prevent Child Abuse America. This partnership is a nationwide initiative to prove it is possible to fundamentally rethink how child welfare systems function to prioritize strengthening families and building resiliency, rather than separating families.

¹⁰ National Conference of State Legislatures - <u>Family First Prevention Services Act</u>

¹¹ Annie E. Casey Foundation - <u>Thriving Families, Safer Children</u>



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

Parent Success Story

Great Plains Youth and Family Services, Parents as Teachers, Kiowa County Shamber Rodman Miklyn Rodman Matt Rodman

Fourteen year old Shamber and her mother walked through the doors at Great Plains Youth and Family Services (GPYFS) looking for help due to a pregnancy that was unplanned and loomed under unfortunate circumstances. Shamber wanted help with her pregnancy and also requested counseling. Mona, her Parent Educator, enrolled Shamber in Parents as Teachers (PAT) and referred her to counseling services at GPYFS.

Shamber was fortunate to have the necessary support from her family to complete high school and receive her diploma. Because Shamber lived with her parents, Mona recognized that it was not only Shamber who needed support, but her parents needed it too.



Miklyn was welcomed into the world on June 2^{nd} , 2019. As Miklyn grew, the doctor

expressed concern, stating something wasn't right. After examinations and an array of tests, Miklyn was diagnosed with a rare disorder, UNC80 Deficiency¹² that would impact her ability to walk, talk, or grow. Mona knew that Shamber would need intensive support during this time and worked closely with Shamber's parents, her counselor, and made sure Shamber had a way and means to attend Miklyn's doctor appointments and physical therapy sessions. Shamber stated "I'm so happy that my mom brought me to GPYFS and that I got involved with PAT. I would not have been able to make it without the support I received."

Shamber was determined not to give up on Miklyn, and with Mona's support they worked tirelessly to help Miklyn experience quality of life. Little by little, Miklyn responded, and the more she responded, the harder Shamber and Mona worked with her. Today, Miklyn has developed from a lethargic, unresponsive infant to an interactive three year old able to sit up with minimal assistance and pick up toys with control. Shamber stated "Mona and PAT have helped me to get through some issues that I would not have known where to go for help." Miklyn will never be at her developmental age but has made substantial progress in three short years. Shamber said "She laughs, recognizes voices and faces, even when it's Mona on the phone!" Shamber celebrates each victory Miklyn achieves documenting her journey through photos and videos that she shares with Mona.



Through Shamber's unexpected pregnancy and becoming a young mom faced with the responsibility of a special needs child, Mona watched her mature into a very attentive and loving mother, and now, a wife. Shamber's counselor has helped her process the unfortunate circumstances that led to her pregnancy and now Shamber is able to look forward to a life with Miklyn and her new husband Matt. Mona stated "Shamber and I have formed a bond and even though they have been stationed by the military in another state, we still exchange phone calls

and pictures, I look forward to seeing Miklyn's progress and her sweet smile!" When it came time to say goodbye to Mona, a tearful Shamber said "I am so thankful to have met you and that I got into PAT. We have come a long way and I don't think I could have done it without you."

¹² UNC80 Deficiency

Acknowledgements:

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