



OKLAHOMA
Rehabilitation Services

Commission for Rehabilitation Services



Commissioners
Janet Barresi, Theresa Flannery,
Kelsey Lee and Kevin Wallace

Regular Meeting

There is no video conferencing for this meeting

Oklahoma School for the Blind
3300 Gibson Street, Gymnasium
Muskogee, OK 74403

October 8, 2025

Empowering Oklahomans with Disabilities

**State of Oklahoma
Commission for Rehabilitation Services
Regular Commission Meeting
October 8, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.**

Oklahoma School for the Blind
3300 Gibson Street in the New Gym
Muskogee, OK 74403

There will be no virtual option for this meeting.

Commissioners: Theresa Flannery, Chair; Dr. Janet Barresi, Vice Chair; Kelsey Lee, Member, and Kevin Wallace, Member

Sign Language Interpreters are provided for public accessibility.

Public Comment: Please arrive before the start of the meeting and sign the "Public Comment" sheet. Public comments will be limited to three minutes per person.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Theresa Flannery, Chair

2. Statement of Compliance with the Open Meeting Act

Kathleen Arrieta, Commission Assistant

3. Public Comments

Public Audience - Under Oklahoma Open Meeting Laws, the Oklahoma Commission for Rehabilitation Services cannot respond to or discuss any matter not on today's agenda.

4. Hope Bench Ribbon Cutting

Hope Navigators and the Muskogee Chamber of Commerce

- a) Presentation and Ribbon Cutting
- b) Possible Discussion

5. Presentation of Longevity Certificates

Theresa Flannery, Chair

6. Executive Director's Report

Melinda Fruendt, Executive Director

- a) Certificates of Appreciation
- b) Report includes meeting attendance, the Statewide Needs Assessment, and Process Improvement.
- c) Possible discussion

7. Chief Financial Officer's Report

Kevin Statham, Chief Financial Officer

- a) Financial Status Report for FY 25
- b) Financial Status Report for FY 26
- c) Possible discussion

8. Vocational Rehabilitation Report

Mark Kinnison, Division Administrator

- a) Priority Group / Portal Referral Updates
- b) Report includes meetings and events attended and upcoming events..
- c) Possible discussion

9. Human Resources Report

Tom Patt, HR Director

- a) Personnel Activity report & current FTE Status.
- b) Introductions of new staff
- c) Possible discussion

10. Notice of Rulemaking Intent –Administrative Rules Amended Overview

Tina Calloway, Administrative Programs Officer; Policy, Administration and Development Section

- a) 2026 Administrative Rules Amended
- b) 2026 Administrative Rule Index
- c) 2026 Administrative Rule Summary
- d) Possible discussion

11. Oklahoma School for the Blind (OSB) Report

Brent Pearce, Superintendent

- a) Report includes meeting attendance, student activities, and new hires.
- b) Possible discussion

12. Acceptance of Donations to the Oklahoma School for the Blind (OSB)

Brent Pearce, Superintendent

- a) Donation Report for September 2025
- b) Discussion and possible action to accept the donations.

13. Acceptance of Donations to the Oklahoma School for the Deaf (OSD)

Dr. Heather Laine, Superintendent

- a) Donation Report for September 2025
- b) Discussion and possible action to accept the donations.

14. Acceptance of Donations to the Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (OLBPH)

Tracy Brigham, Division Administrator,
Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

- a) Donation Report for September 2025
- b) Discussion and possible action to accept the donations.

15. New Business

Theresa Flannery, Chair

Any matter not known about, or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting 25 O.S. § 311.

16. Adjourn

Theresa Flannery, Chair

- a) Possible action to adjourn

There will be a tour of the school at 9:00 AM, and
a lunch immediately following the meeting.
No business will be discussed at either event.

**Next Commission meeting:
Wednesday, November 12, 2025**



Science of Hope Overview

DRS Commission Report: Science of Hope Initiative

October 8, 2025

A Brief History

In 2022, the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services initiated its engagement with the Science of Hope, following Governor Stitt's designation of Hope as one of four key benchmarks in the state's Top Ten vision. Since that time, DRS has worked with intention to integrate the principles of Hope into the fabric of its organizational culture and service delivery. This effort reflects a long-term commitment to cultivating a future-focused, strengths-based approach across all divisions.

The initiative began with *Leading with Hope* training in 2022 for the DRS Executive Team and upper-tier supervisors. In early 2023, six individuals from Executive and Professional Development completed formal Hope Navigator Training, positioning them to guide DRS-specific implementation.

Between 2023 and 2024, more than 600 DRS employees participated in training focused on the Science of Hope. These sessions introduced core concepts—including goal setting, pathways thinking, and agency (willpower)—and helped establish a shared language and framework across divisions.

Beyond Hope Academy

In early 2024, DRS launched its first Beyond Hope Academy (BHA)—a four-month immersive experience for employees ready to deepen their understanding and application of Hope Science.

This interactive learning experience included visits with Dr. Angela Pharris (a lead developer of Hope Science training), DHS staff implementing Hope in their system, and the Workforce Hope Community Center.

All six graduates completed formal Hope Navigator Training in April 2025, joining the original six to form a 12-member cross-divisional Navigator team.

Vision in Progress

Twelve Hope Navigators now serve across Executive, Professional Development, SBVI, VR, and OSB. Representing a range of roles and perspectives, this team plays a key role in advancing DRS's Hope-centered vision. Their efforts are intentionally focused on increasing visibility, strengthening staff engagement, and embedding the principles of Hope into everyday practices. Current initiatives include:

- **Hope Benches** are being installed at DRS offices and schools statewide. Each bench features a plaque with the five Science of Hope questions—plus a matching braille version for accessibility. Visitors are invited to pause, reflect, and—if inspired—record a short video sharing their goals, stories, or Hope moments using #okdrshopebench. The first bench celebration will be held in October 2025 during the Commission meeting at the Oklahoma School for the Blind. Other locations will roll out on their own schedules.
- **Opportunities for Hope** is a monthly video series launching in January 2026, designed to help DRS supervisors integrate Hope Science into their everyday leadership. Each episode explores practical ways to nurture hope in teams, featuring guest voices, success stories, and real-world strategies. The series supports ongoing development and counts toward supervisor credit requirements.
- **DHS Hope Summit** DRS Hope Navigators have been invited to attend the upcoming DHS Hope Summit, hosted by the Oklahoma Department of Human Services. This event brings together agencies, partners, and community leaders who are advancing the Science of Hope across Oklahoma. It will feature cross-agency collaboration, shared learning, and inspirational sessions aimed at deepening impact and spreading hope-centered practices statewide.
- **Hope Nuggets in Breaking Barriers:** Beginning in 2026, *Hope Nuggets* will transition into a regular feature within the *Breaking Barriers* newsletter. This shift builds on our 2024–2025 email initiative, where we shared brief quotes and hope-centered catchphrases as gentle reminders that hope is alive and within reach. Moving forward, incorporating these messages into the newsletter allows for broader reach and continuity. We also plan to expand *Breaking Barriers* as a platform for uplifting stories, staff spotlights, and agency-wide encouragement.

- **Hope-Centered Language and Goal Tools:** DRS continues to integrate Hope Science into daily practice by using hope-centered language across trainings, emails, and meetings. This intentional shift reinforces a shared vocabulary grounded in goals, pathways thinking, and willpower. *Hope Goal Worksheets* have naturally become a helpful tool within Professional Development trainings, they've been embraced as a meaningful way to support personal and professional growth—encouraging staff to reflect, plan, and connect through various training topics.
- **Hope Navigator Engagement and Local Implementation:** Hope Navigators are actively leading local efforts such as bulletin boards, classroom messaging, “Hope Moments” in unit meetings, and other creative engagement in their home offices. These activities are supported through quarterly Hope Navigator Think Tank meetings, where the group collaborates on internal strategies and culture-building ideas to amplify Hope throughout the agency

Future-Focused Visioning

The Hope Navigator team continues to serve as a creative engine for agency-wide culture-building. Through quarterly Think Tank meetings and informal collaboration, Navigators have generated a wide range of forward-thinking ideas aimed at deepening engagement, increasing visibility, and expanding the reach of the Science of Hope across Oklahoma DRS. While not all concepts are actively in development, each reflects the team's continued belief in our agency's capacity to lead through innovation and shared purpose.

- **Hope tri-fold brochure and logo** – In development materials will help clearly explain the Hope framework and visually align DRS's public image with Hope-centered values.
- **Client welcome video** – Early concept designed to introduce DRS services using language rooted in goals, support, and future-building.
- **School involvement** – Includes potential outreach events at OSB and OSD, as well as a student-led effort at OSB where uplifting “Hope messages” are being shared daily. Future plans may include a Jr. Navigator's program.

- **Second Beyond Hope Academy cohort** – Under consideration to grow leadership and deepen internal expertise.
- **Formal recognition as a Hope-Centered Organization** – Long-term goal through the University of Oklahoma's Hope Research Center.

The Point...

What began as training has grown into a cultural framework that's shaping how DRS staff communicate, support one another, and serve clients. With twelve Navigators now active and creative ideas moving forward across the agency, the Science of Hope continues to evolve into something meaningful, actionable, and uniquely DRS. We appreciate your continued support.

"Hope is the belief that tomorrow can be better than today, and that you have the power to make it so."

— Dr. Chan Hellman



Executive Director's Report

Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT
October 8, 2025

Executive
September

12 – Oklahoma Independent Living Network and State Plan for Independent Living meeting with Administration on Community Living.
19 – Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth meeting.
24 – Oklahoma School for the Blind Western Heritage Day.
26 – Red River Higher Education Alliance Summit hosted by Oklahoma. Presented a welcome along with Texas Vocational Rehabilitation Director, Tammy Ames.

October

1-3 – Oklahoma Works Conference, Oklahoma City.
7 – Oklahoma School for the Blind Spaghetti Fundraiser dinner.
8 – Oklahoma School for the Blind Tour; Commission for Rehabilitation Services meeting; DRS Executive Team meeting.

Process Improvement (PI) – Lyuda Polyun
AWARE Case Management Software

Attended Alliance Enterprise's getAwareLive! virtual conference.

Continue to use Quality Assurance Advisor to regularly identify and address errors on the RSA-911 to prepare for Q1 submission.

Adapted AWARE budgets for use in preparation for the new FFY October 1.

Testing a new version of AWARE, 2025.1.2, to be installed in Production soon.

Working with Alliance on open tickets for issues with Aware.

Program Standards, Statistical Research, Data Dashboards

The Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment has been distributed to the Recommendations Team, and meeting planning is in process.

The legislative map, Oklahoma Library Blind Physically Handicapped map, Oklahoma School Blind map, Oklahoma School Deaf Parent Satisfaction survey, and Visually Impaired summer camp reports are complete.

The Needs Assessment statewide plan update has been provided to Stephanie Roe.

Staff attended the ORC Strategic Planning Meeting.

Staff built the Commission Award form.

Power Business Intelligence (BI)

Removing the Pipeline with OMES staff to have the workspaces better work for us.

Setting up new workspaces for other departments to use.

Continuing to create new reports for the DRS staff.

Cleaning up SharePoint to work better for staff to be able to access the reports.

Continuing to work on reports still in Tableau we are needing to move to Power BI.

***Respectfully submitted by
Melinda Fruendt, Executive Director***



Chief Financial Officer's Report

Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 25

As of August 31, 2025

Agency Summary							
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	2025 Expenditures in FY 26	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	97,919,808.00	48.3%	84,811,733.30	603,184.88	87.2%	155,464.86	87.4%
Travel	1,778,060.00	0.9%	1,561,628.17	159,883.84	96.8%	19,208.59	97.9%
General Operating	32,742,683.69	16.2%	17,435,172.16	2,639,945.52	61.3%	6,739,822.76	81.9%
Office Furniture & Equipment	2,120,654.00	1.0%	749,017.47	438,842.53	56.0%	346,688.43	72.4%
Client / General Assistance	57,656,079.00	28.5%	34,104,465.66	2,331,625.62	63.2%	12,369,170.30	84.6%
Indirect Cost	10,407,272.31	5.1%	10,407,272.31	0.00	100.0%	0.00	100.0%
Total	202,624,557.00	100.0%	149,069,289.07	6,173,482.39	76.6%	19,630,354.94	86.3%

Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 25

As of August 31, 2025

All Programs							
Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind & Visually Impaired							
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	2025 Expenditures in FY 26	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	31,331,077.00	31.8%	26,408,911.68	152,359.73	84.8%	97,324.91	85.1%
Travel	1,305,400.00	1.3%	1,207,259.46	123,615.93	102.0%	165.00	102.0%
General Operating	12,143,842.70	12.3%	7,519,970.04	1,410,918.54	73.5%	2,259,111.12	92.1%
Office Furniture & Equipment	972,614.00	1.0%	450,127.14	235,275.39	70.5%	62,352.79	76.9%
Client / General Assistance	48,471,079.00	49.2%	27,167,154.43	1,990,086.24	60.2%	10,189,683.63	81.2%
Indirect Cost	4,309,513.30	4.4%	4,309,513.30	0.00	100.0%	0.00	100.0%
Total	98,533,526.00	100.0%	67,062,936.05	3,912,255.83	72.0%	12,608,637.45	84.8%
Vocational Rehabilitation Grant							
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	2025 Expenditures in FY 26	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	28,555,136.00	30.9%	23,876,647.86	119,241.05	84.0%	30,943.51	84.1%
Travel	1,279,400.00	1.4%	1,173,197.29	121,581.65	101.2%	165.00	101.2%
General Operating	10,085,304.11	10.9%	6,790,791.35	573,264.40	73.0%	1,897,854.53	91.8%
Office Furniture & Equipment	734,708.00	0.8%	310,407.15	230,775.47	73.7%	62,352.79	82.1%
Client / General Assistance	47,709,667.00	51.7%	26,650,545.31	1,930,849.99	59.9%	10,635,998.13	82.2%
Indirect Cost	4,003,286.89	4.3%	4,003,286.89	0.00	100.0%	0.00	100.0%
Total	92,367,502.00	100.0%	62,804,875.85	2,975,712.56	71.2%	12,627,313.96	84.9%

Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 25

As of August 31, 2025

All Programs							
Oklahoma School for the Blind							
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	2025 Expenditures in FY 26	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	7,516,825.00	71.6%	7,083,468.25	48,635.49	94.9%	4,602.69	94.9%
Travel	68,200.00	0.6%	50,754.62	11,109.30	90.7%	0.00	90.7%
General Operating	1,704,001.70	16.2%	1,075,670.85	44,513.90	65.7%	429,567.01	90.9%
Office Furniture & Equipment	396,861.00	3.8%	127,218.81	6,532.84	33.7%	161,289.34	74.3%
Client / General Assistance	53,000.00	0.5%	27,286.41	0.00	51.5%	0.00	51.5%
Indirect Cost	757,210.30	7.2%	757,210.30	0.00	100.0%	0.00	100.0%
Total	10,496,098.00	100.0%	9,121,609.24	110,791.53	88.0%	595,459.04	93.6%

Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 25

As of August 31, 2025

All Programs							
Oklahoma School for the Deaf							
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	2025 Expenditures in FY 26	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	9,421,685.00	40.8%	7,728,142.77	77,361.56	82.8%	10,015.51	83.0%
Travel	220,700.00	1.0%	194,376.40	8,932.10	92.1%	224.09	92.2%
General Operating	11,360,570.79	49.2%	3,764,101.20	748,084.31	39.7%	3,017,029.40	66.3%
Office Furniture & Equipment	628,419.00	2.7%	145,540.62	194,817.77	54.2%	123,046.30	73.7%
Client / General Assistance	581,000.00	2.5%	213,460.46	11,070.00	38.6%	117,978.50	59.0%
Indirect Cost	875,517.21	3.8%	875,517.21	0.00	100.0%	0.00	100.0%
Total	23,087,892.00	100.0%	12,921,138.66	1,040,265.74	60.5%	3,268,293.80	74.6%

Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 25

As of August 31, 2025

All Programs							
Disability Determination Services							
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	2025 Expenditures in FY 26	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	40,421,259.00	69.5%	35,695,302.10	281,579.60	89.0%	21,258.50	89.1%
Travel	69,500.00	0.1%	26,824.67	2,756.74	42.6%	18,819.50	69.6%
General Operating	4,636,067.04	8.0%	3,073,999.93	192,359.76	70.5%	689,908.47	85.3%
Office Furniture & Equipment	43,059.00	0.1%	7,625.20	185.65	18.1%	0.00	18.1%
Client / General Assistance	8,551,000.00	14.7%	6,696,564.36	330,192.50	82.2%	1,524,243.14	100.0%
Indirect Cost	4,459,114.96	7.7%	4,459,114.96	0.00	100.0%	0.00	100.0%
Total	58,180,000.00	100.0%	49,959,431.22	807,074.25	87.3%	2,254,229.61	91.1%

Department of Rehabilitation Services **Financial Status Report FY 25**

As of August 31, 2025

All Programs							
DRS Support Services							
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	2025 Expenditures in FY 26	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	9,228,962.00	74.9%	7,895,908.50	43,248.50	86.0%	22,263.25	86.3%
Travel	114,260.00	0.9%	82,413.02	13,469.77	83.9%	0.00	83.9%
General Operating	2,898,201.46	23.5%	2,001,430.14	244,069.01	77.5%	344,206.76	89.4%
Office Furniture & Equipment	79,701.00	0.6%	18,505.70	2,030.88	25.8%	0.00	25.8%
Client / General Assistance	0.00	0.0%	0.00	276.88	0.0%	0.00	0.0%
Indirect Cost	5,916.54	0.0%	5,916.53	0.00	100.0%	0.01	100.0%
Total	12,327,041.00	100.0%	10,004,173.89	303,095.04	83.6%	366,470.02	86.6%

Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 25

As of August 31, 2025

Personnel

Salary Expense

Insurance Premium -Health-Life, etc

FICA-Retirement Contributions

Travel

Travel - Agency Direct

Travel - Reimbursements

General Operating

AFP Encumbrances

Bond Indebtness and Expenses

Buildings-Purchase, Construction and Renovation

General Operating

Inter/Intre Agency Payment for Personal Services

Maintenance & Repair

Miscellaneous Administration Fee

Professional Services

Production, Safety, Security

Refunds, Indemnities, Restitution

Rent Expense

Scholarships, Tuition and Other Incentive-Type Payments

Shop Expense

Specialized Supplies & Materials

Office Furniture & Equipment

Library Equipment & Resources

Office Furniture & Equipment

Client / General Assistance

Social Service and Assistance Payments

Indirect Cost

Department of Rehabilitation Services

Financial Status Report FY 26

As of August 31, 2025

Agency Summary						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	94,941,599.00	50.7%	13,712,947.35	14.4%	81,125,305.82	99.9%
Travel	1,767,991.00	0.9%	110,220.60	6.2%	34,562.50	8.2%
General Operating	25,940,615.00	13.9%	1,746,394.53	6.7%	17,279,570.65	73.3%
Office Furniture & Equipment	2,103,673.00	1.1%	10,741.60	0.5%	217,774.02	10.9%
Client / General Assistance	52,319,857.00	28.0%	3,577,110.13	6.8%	36,613,615.78	76.8%
Indirect Cost	10,100,358.00	5.4%	1,576,184.88	15.6%	8,524,173.12	100.0%
Total	187,174,093.00	100.0%	20,733,599.09	11.1%	143,795,001.89	87.9%

Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 26

As of August 31, 2025

All Programs						
Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind & Visually Impaired						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	30,745,704.00	34.1%	4,388,272.43	14.3%	26,341,054.79	99.9%
Travel	1,280,300.00	1.4%	79,473.01	6.2%	9,408.00	6.9%
General Operating	10,001,538.00	11.1%	983,347.80	9.8%	7,241,771.86	82.2%
Office Furniture & Equipment	918,763.00	1.0%	7,255.76	0.8%	216,145.00	24.3%
Client / General Assistance	43,190,857.00	47.8%	2,377,851.64	5.5%	29,123,899.07	72.9%
Indirect Cost	4,141,700.00	4.6%	652,517.49	15.8%	3,489,182.51	100.0%
Total	90,278,862.00	100.0%	8,488,718.13	9.4%	66,421,461.23	83.0%
Vocational Rehabilitation Grant						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	27,947,251.00	32.7%	3,990,472.05	14.3%	23,917,632.65	99.9%
Travel	1,245,300.00	1.5%	77,571.94	6.2%	8,908.00	6.9%
General Operating	9,316,581.00	10.9%	944,206.51	10.1%	6,622,351.10	81.2%
Office Furniture & Equipment	688,193.00	0.8%	6,669.54	1.0%	209,005.00	31.3%
Client / General Assistance	42,444,667.00	49.7%	2,347,098.30	5.5%	28,693,623.88	73.1%
Indirect Cost	3,813,836.00	4.5%	597,090.00	15.7%	3,216,746.00	100.0%
Total	85,455,828.00	100.0%	7,963,108.34	9.3%	62,668,266.63	82.7%

Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 26

As of August 31, 2025

All Programs Oklahoma School for the Blind						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	7,565,178.00	65.3%	1,195,168.36	15.8%	6,350,009.64	99.7%
Travel	92,200.00	0.8%	6,488.40	7.0%	420.00	7.5%
General Operating	2,821,413.00	24.4%	57,823.00	2.0%	1,465,664.26	54.0%
Office Furniture & Equipment	184,142.00	1.6%	2,649.84	1.4%	1,629.02	2.3%
Client / General Assistance	42,000.00	0.4%	1,511.66	3.6%	0.00	3.6%
Indirect Cost	873,770.00	7.5%	134,969.68	15.4%	738,800.32	100.0%
Total	11,578,703.00	100.0%	1,398,610.94	12.1%	8,556,523.24	86.0%

Department of Rehabilitation Services

Financial Status Report FY 26

As of August 31, 2025

All Programs						
Oklahoma School for the Deaf						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	9,578,719.00	54.1%	1,287,345.86	13.4%	8,263,545.31	99.7%
Travel	248,540.00	1.4%	15,847.05	6.4%	300.00	6.5%
General Operating	5,709,119.00	32.2%	119,411.30	2.1%	3,960,908.10	71.5%
Office Furniture & Equipment	584,505.00	3.3%	836.00	0.1%	0.00	0.1%
Client / General Assistance	522,000.00	2.9%	4,197.10	0.8%	115,100.00	22.9%
Indirect Cost	1,076,688.00	6.1%	164,614.58	15.3%	912,073.42	100.0%
Total	17,719,571.00	100.0%	1,592,251.89	9.0%	13,251,926.83	83.8%

Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 26

As of August 31, 2025

All Programs						
Disability Determination Services						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	38,154,742.00	68.5%	5,484,175.30	14.4%	32,652,212.62	100.0%
Travel	52,001.00	0.1%	2,440.02	4.7%	24,434.50	51.7%
General Operating	4,523,017.00	8.1%	346,208.10	7.7%	2,506,666.58	63.1%
Office Furniture & Equipment	381,164.00	0.7%	0.00	0.0%	0.00	0.0%
Client / General Assistance	8,565,000.00	15.4%	1,190,383.29	13.9%	7,374,616.71	100.0%
Indirect Cost	4,000,991.00	7.2%	623,048.44	15.6%	3,377,942.56	100.0%
Total	55,676,915.00	100.0%	7,646,255.15	13.7%	45,935,872.97	96.2%

Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 26

As of August 31, 2025

All Programs DRS Support Services						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	8,897,256.00	74.6%	1,357,985.40	15.3%	7,518,483.46	99.8%
Travel	94,950.00	0.8%	5,972.12	6.3%	0.00	6.3%
General Operating	2,885,528.00	24.2%	239,604.33	8.3%	2,104,559.85	81.2%
Office Furniture & Equipment	35,099.00	0.3%	0.00	0.0%	0.00	0.0%
Client / General Assistance	0.00	0.0%	3,166.44	0.0%	0.00	0.0%
Indirect Cost	7,209.00	0.1%	1,034.70	14.4%	6,174.30	100.0%
Total	11,920,042.00	100.0%	1,607,762.99	13.5%	9,629,217.61	94.3%

Department of Rehabilitation Services

Financial Status Report FY 26

As of August 31, 2025

Personnel

Salary Expense

Insurance Premium -Health-Life, etc

FICA-Retirement Contributions

Travel

Travel - Agency Direct

Travel - Reimbursements

General Operating

AFP Encumbrances

Bond Indebtness and Expenses

Buildings-Purchase, Construction and Renovation

General Operating

Inter/Intre Agency Payment for Personal Services

Maintenance & Repair

Miscellaneous Administration Fee

Professional Services

Production, Safety, Security

Refunds, Indemnities, Restitution

Rent Expense

Scholarships, Tuition and Other Incentive-Type Payments

Shop Expense

Specialized Supplies & Materials

Office Furniture & Equipment

Library Equipment & Resources

Office Furniture & Equipment

Client / General Assistance

Social Service and Assistance Payments

Indirect Cost



Vocational Rehabilitation Services Report

Commission Report

October 2025

The 2025 federal production year comes to an end on September 30, 2025. As of September 28th, the VR program has exceeded application and closure outcomes compared to 2024.

The Division Administrator (DA) recently attended the Oklahoma Rehabilitation Association's annual conference. A lot of work was done by VR employees to make the conference a success.

There will be a VR all employee virtual meeting in October to address our RSA performance measures as well as our ongoing production goals.

The DA recently attended the Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council's strategic planning meeting, to discuss upcoming goals.

The DA attended the Red River Higher Education Alliance Inclusive Postsecondary Education Summit.

The announcement for the Consortia of Administrators for Native American Rehabilitation annual conference recently came out. The conference will be held in Chandler, Arizona on December 2-4. The state vocational rehabilitation program has a great relationship with the Oklahoma Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Programs and looks forward to participating in this event. This was recently talked about during the last Oklahoma Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation meeting which was held at the Chickasaw Nation Community Center. Several staff represented DRS.

The DA recently met with key staff to discuss enhanced services with the Office of Juvenile Affairs.

As always, I'm proud to work with our employees who are working very hard to help Oklahomans with disabilities achieve their dreams of employment. I'm already looking forward to seeing great things that occur in 2026.
Respectfully submitted,

Mark Kinnison, M.Ed., CRC, LPC-S
VR Administrator, Oklahoma Rehabilitation Services



Human Resources Report

PERSONNEL ACTIVITY REPORT AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

FILLED AND VACANT POSITIONS

Personnel Activity = 14 vacant positions filled / 47 positions in Announcement or Selection Process

Division	Title/PIN	Date Vacated	Location	Begin date	End date	Ann. #	Action/Incumbent	Date Filled
EXEC	Public Information Officer / 1079	07/01/2025	EXEC	07/28/2025	08/14/2025	26-005	Currently Open	
MSD	Business Analyst / 1083	07/12/2024	MSD	05/22/2025	06/11/2025	25-106	Currently Open	
MSD	Administrative Assistant / 1068	03/31/2025	MSD	05/22/2025	06/11/2025	25-108	Currently Open	
OSB	LPN / 0017	07/09/2025	OSB	08/04/2025	Continuous	26-006	Harlee McBride	09/14/2025
OSB	Direct Care Specialist / 0237, 0298, 0795, 0586	06/12/2025	OSD	07/08/2025	Continuous	26-002	Beth Moore	09/14/2025
		08/12/2025					Loren Denton	09/07/2025
		07/31/2025					Renee Spence	09/22/2025
		07/31/2025					Heaven Lax	09/22/2025
OSB	Teacher / 0546	07/31/2025	OSB	05/15/2025	Continuous	25-100	Currently Open	
OSD	Teacher / 0423	06/01/2024	OSD	09/19/2025	Continuous	26-016	Currently Open	
OSD	Sign Language Interpreter / 0186	07/31/2025	OSD	08/18/2025	Continuous	26-007	Currently Open	
OSD	Construction/Maintenance Technician / 0102	07/31/2025	OSD	08/20/2025	Continuous	26-009	Currently Open	
OSD	Speech Language Pathologist / P107653	NEW PIN	OSD	07/17/2025	Continuous	26-003	Currently Open	
OSD	Housekeeping/Custodial Worker / 0712	07/01/2025	OSD	05/07/2025	Continuous	25-097	Kelsie Quayle	09/08/2025
OSD	Construction/Maintenance Technician / 0245	05/12/2025	OSD	05/15/2025	Continuous	25-104	Currently Open	
OSD	Sign Language Specialist / 0261	08/01/2024	OSD	02/24/2025	Continuous	25-071	Tara Simms	09/08/2025
OSD	Counselor / 1028	11/13/2024	OSD	01/24/2025	Continuous	25-062	Currently Open	
OSD	Direct Care Specialist (Classroom) / P103831	09/30/2025	OSD	12/02/2024	Continuous	25-055		
OSD	Early Development Specialist / 1496	07/31/2024	OSD	09/19/2024	Continuous	25-036	Currently Open	
OSD	School Counselor / 1488	10/06/2022	OSD	07/15/2024	Continuous	25-007	Currently Open	
OSD	Dir of Family and Early Childhood Services / 1494	05/10/2024	OSD	05/08/2024	Continuous	24-084	Currently Open	
OSD	Teacher / 0635	07/31/2024	OSD – Chickasha	04/15/2024	Continuous	24-083	Currently Open	
OSD	Sign Language Specialist, 2308 / 1090	07/20/2023	OSD	08/17/2023	Continuous	24-023	Currently Open	
OSD	Direct Care Specialist (Dorm) / 0824, 0028, 0375, 0115	10/01/2024	OSD	10/24/2023	Continuous	23-032	Damon Stump	09/08/2025
		05/28/2025					Fritts Mosshart	09/21/2025
		07/30/2025						

		08/20/2025						
OSD	Teacher, 2083 / 0890	08/01/2021	OSD	10/04/2023	Continuous	23-079	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0066	08/08/2025	VR81 – Chickasha	09/02/2025	Continuous	26-010	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0516	10/01/2025	VR80 – Tulsa	09/09/2025	Continuous	26-013	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 1040	09/17/2025	VR11 – Idabel	09/17/2025	Continuous	26-014	Currently Open	
VR	Job Placement Specialist / 0372	07/01/2025	VR47 – OKC	09/19/2025	Continuous	26-015	Currently Open	
VR	Rehabilitation Technician / 0769	07/07/2025	VR26 – Claremore	07/14/2025	Continuous	26-001	Kathy Powell	09/15/2025
VR	Programs Manager / 0674	07/09/2025	VR – TBD	07/21/2025	Continuous	26-004	Currently Open	
VR	Programs Field Representative / 0786	08/31/2024	VR – TBD	05/01/2025	Continuous	25-093	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0703	06/06/2022	VR23 – OKC	05/05/2025	Continuous	25-094	Currently Open	
VR	Job Placement Specialist / 0925	05/31/2023	VR86 – Ada	05/09/2025	Continuous	25-098	Currently Open	
VR	Job Placement Specialist / 0270	11/30/2013	VR12 – Lawton	05/12/2025	Continuous	25-099	Currently Open	
VR	Behavioral Health Clinician / 0165	03/01/2011	VR13 – McAlester	05/15/2025	Continuous	25-101	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0056	06/12/2025	VR08 – Enid	05/14/2025	Continuous	25-102	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0671	05/12/2025	VR77 – Miami	05/22/2025	Continuous	25-111	Matthew Budder	09/22/2025
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0646	08/01/2022	VR41 – Ponca City	04/25/2025	Continuous	25-090	Currently Open	
VR	Assistive Technology Specialist / 0263	02/01/2025	VR36 – OKC	04/22/2025	Continuous	25-089	Currently Open	
VR	Assistive Technology Specialist / 0085	05/01/2024	VR36 – OKC	04/18/2025	Continuous	25-085	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0659	11/30/2024	VR38 – Okmulgee	01/27/2025	Continuous	25-065	Currently Open	
VR	Rehabilitation Technician / 0087	12/20/2024	VR45 – Tulsa	12/12/2024	Continuous	25-058	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0169	10/01/2024	VR45 – Tulsa	11/19/2024	Continuous	25-052	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0366	09/05/2024	VR31 – OKC	09/16/2024	Continuous	25-032	Currently Open	
VR	Behavioral Health Clinician / 0034	04/30/2023	VR23 – OKC	06/02/2025	Continuous	25-109	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 1190	06/09/2023	VR08 – Enid	06/05/2023	Continuous	23-096	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0646	08/01/2022	VR41 – Ponca City	01/24/2024	Continuous	23-038	Currently Open	

VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0557	02/28/2025	VR80 – Tulsa	11/03/2022	Continuous	23-037	Currently Open		
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0567	09/01/2020	VR67 – Tulsa	11/01/2023	Continuous	21-028.1	Currently Open		
SBVI	Rehabilitation of the Blind Specialist / 0679	08/22/2025	SBVI90 – OKC	09/05/2025	Continuous	26-011	Currently Open		
SBVI	Public Information Officer / 0198	08/24/2025	SBVI72 – OKC	09/09/2025	Continuous	26-012	Currently Open		
SBVI	Rehabilitation Technician / 0817	08/31/2025	SBVI91 – Tulsa	08/14/2025	Continuous	26-008	Currently Open		
SBVI	Mechanical Systems Technician / 0560	08/11/2017	SBVI33 – OKC	06/03/2025	Continuous	25-114	Currently Open		
SBVI	Rehabilitation Technician / 0038	05/12/2011	SBVI90 – OKC	05/19/2025	Continuous	25-105	Bridgett Bills	09/08/2025	
SBVI	Rehabilitation of the Blind Specialist / 0754	10/01/2018	SBVI – TBD	05/23/2025	Continuous	25-107	Currently Open		
SBVI	Vending Machine Technician / 1075	07/11/2020	SBVI33 – OKC	05/23/2025	Continuous	25-110	Ben Ryckman	09/08/2025	
SBVI	Rehabilitation of the Blind Specialist / 0582	06/28/2024	SBVI91 – Tulsa	05/28/2025	Continuous	25-017	Mindy Ranney	09/22/2025	

DISCHARGES/RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS = 10
<i>As of September 30, 2025</i>

SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION (Executive/MSD/FSD)

Discharge = 1

1 = 27 years 4 months

Retirement = 1

1 = 52 years 5 months

DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

Resignation = 3

1 = 10 months

1 = 1 year

1 = 1 year 4 months

Retirement = 1

1 = 23 years, 10 months

SERVICES FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED DIVISION

OKLAHOMA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

Resignation = 1

1 = 5 months

OKLAHOMA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

Resignation = 1

1 = 2 years 5 months

Death = 1

1 = 8 years 6 months

Discharge = 1

1 = 11 months

DISABILITY DETERMINATION SERVICES

CURRENT FTE STATUS FY 2026

FTE as of September 30, 2025

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>BUDGETED FTE</u>	<u>FILLED</u>	<u>PENDING</u>	<u>EXEMPT FTE</u>	<u>TOTAL FILLED PLUS PENDING MINUS EXEMPT FTE</u>
Support Services (Executive/MSD/FSD)	82.3	79.00	3.00	(1.00)	81.00
Vocational Rehabilitation	230.0	212.00	23.00	0.00	235.00
Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired	113.0	104.00	5.00	0.00	109.00
VR/SBVI-DP	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	4.00
Oklahoma School for the Blind	100.0	98.00	1.00	0.00	99.00
Oklahoma School for the Deaf	131.5	114.00	15.00	0.00	129.00
Total (NON-EXEMPT)	660.80	611.00	47.00	(1.00)	657.00
Disability Determination Services (EXEMPT)	327.20	304.00	0.00	(304.00)	305.00
TOTAL NON-EXEMPT & EXEMPT	988.00	915.00	47.00	(305.00)	962.00

FY 26 Budgetary Limit = 1255

*** Authorized agency FTE limit does not include Executive Fellow and SWIP appointments**

ROUTING TO: Melinda Fruendt, Director
 Kevin Statham, Chief Financial Officer
 Randy Weaver, Chief of Operations
 Tom Patt, Human Resources Program Director
 Mark Beutler, Director of Communications
 Kathleen Arrieta, Executive Assistant
 Brett Jones, Public Information Officer III



Oklahoma School for the Blind Report

Oklahoma School for the Blind

Event Highlights Report

Spring 2025 – Fall 2025

The Oklahoma School for the Blind (OSB) celebrated a busy and productive season filled with student activities, professional development opportunities, and community engagement events. The following is a summary of key highlights:

Late April 2025

- **Retirement Celebration:** A special event was held honoring **Sherry Holder** and **Robert Miller** for their years of dedication and service.
- **Field Trips:** Elementary, middle school, and high school students participated in end-of-year field trips, providing hands-on learning and enrichment experiences.
- **Stephanie Story:** Winner of District FCCLA Office

April 30 – May 1, 2025

- **Junior/Senior Trip:** Juniors and seniors traveled to **Okana Resort in Oklahoma City**, enjoying team-building and celebratory activities.

May 6, 2025

- **Spring Concert & Activity Banquet:** Students showcased their musical talents, followed by a banquet recognizing student involvement and achievements.

May 12, 2025

- **Professional Development Day:** Staff participated in training and growth opportunities.
- **Senior Cookout:** Seniors celebrated their final days on campus with a cookout hosted by staff.

May 13–15, 2025

- **Graduation Week Activities:**
 - May 13: Graduation Party
 - May 14: Baccalaureate Service
 - May 15: Elementary & Middle School Awards, High School Awards, Senior Breakfast & Lunch, and the **Graduation Ceremony**

June 2025

- **June 3:** Senator **Frix** visited OSB, touring the campus and learning more about the school's mission and programs.
 - **June 3–12: Summer and Transition Camps** were held, offering extended learning, independent living, and career readiness opportunities for students.
-

July 2025

- **New hires:** Brian Womack – High School Principal/Transportation Director and Tim Stevens – Coach/Dean of Students/Assistant Principal
- **July 14–15:** OSB's **E-Team Retreat** was held, including a tour of the Oklahoma School for the Deaf (OSD).

August 2025

- **New hire:** Lauren Ritchie – Special Education Teacher
- **August 5–7:** Professional Development sessions prepared staff for the new school year.
- **August 11: First Day of School** welcomed students back for the fall semester.
- **August 28:** Juniors and seniors attended the **Connors State College Fair**, exploring future educational opportunities.
- **Work Study:** OSB has 30 students participating in the Work Study Program.


September 2025

- **September 24:** Students experienced **Western Heritage Day** at Silver Spur Ranch, engaging in cultural and historical learning activities.

October 2025

- **October 2:** OSB students participated in the **Future Shock Resource Fair**, connecting with community partners and resources for life after high school.
 - **Sports Extravaganza 2025:** Twenty students will travel to Dallas for goalball.
 - **Council of Schools for the Blind/American Printing House:** Some of our administrators and other staff will be traveling to Louisville, Kentucky.
 - **White Cane Day:** Event will be held on Wednesday, October 15.
-

Respectfully submitted by
Brent Pearce, Superintendent, OSB



Oklahoma School for the Blind Donation Report

OSB DONATION REPORT

September 2025 Donations

Donations under \$500

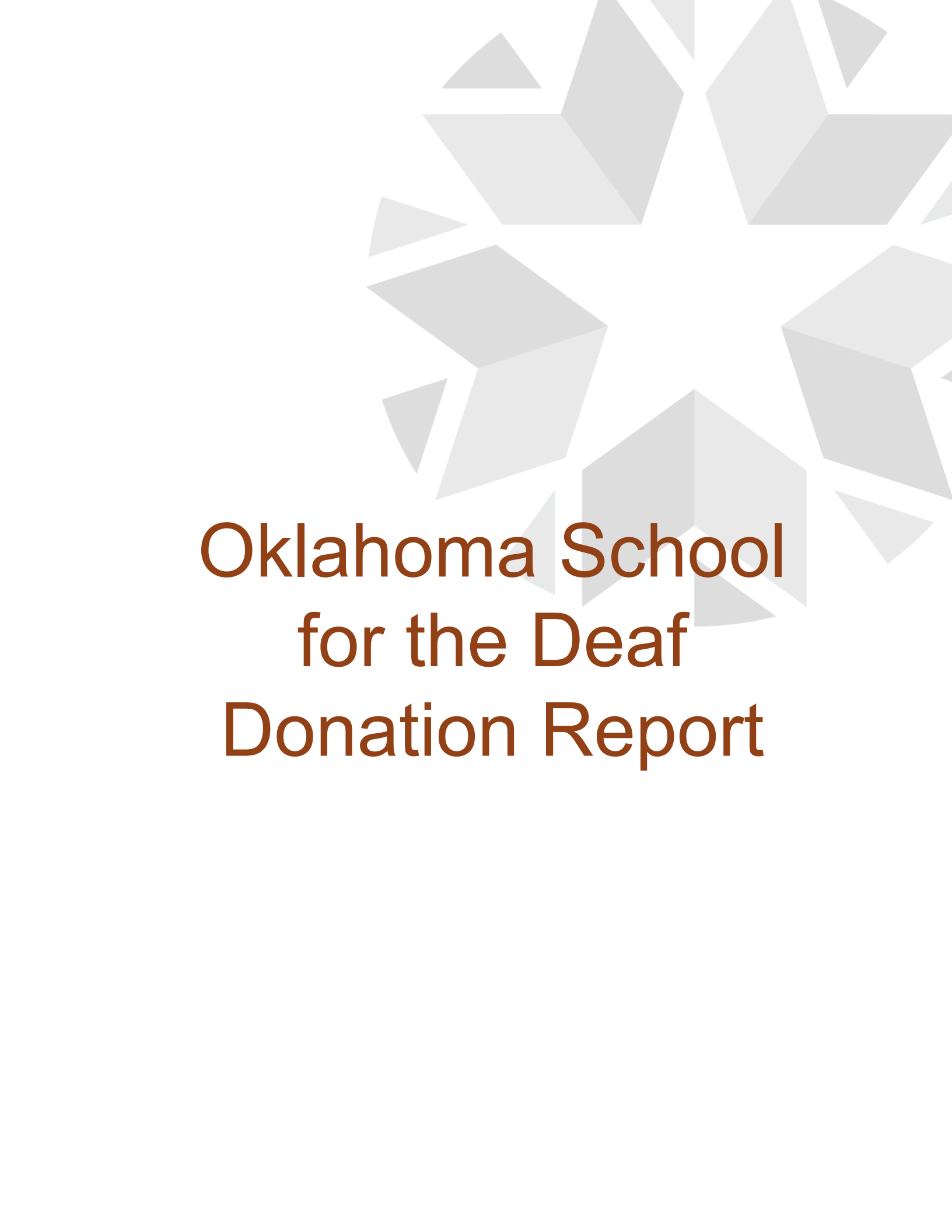
Date	Name	Cash	Fund	Property	Value
9/8/2025	Jeri's House/ donation for Spaghetti Dinner silent auctoin			2 t-shirts	\$ 25.00
9/16/2025	Transcribing Mariners/Cane Quest & Braille Challenge	\$ 250.00	701		
9/23/2025	Ernie's Pharmacy/Recreation	\$ 100.00	701		
9/29/2025	A&A Insulation/Wrestling	\$250.00	701		

Subtotal of Cash (under \$500) donated in September 2025	\$ 600.00	Subtotal prop.	\$ 25.00
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Donations \$500 and over	\$ -	
9/3/2025 Oklahomans for Special Library Services / CQ & BC	\$ 500.00	701
9/3/2025 NanoPac / Cane Quest & Braille Challenge	\$1,500.00	701
9/23/2025 Transcribing Mariners/Cane Quest & Braille Challenge	\$ 5,000.00	701
9/23/2025 Okla. Council of the Blind/Cane Quest & Braille Challenge	\$ 500.00	701

Subtotal of Cash (\$500 and over) donated in September 2025	\$ 7,500.00	Subtotal prop.	\$ -
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TOTAL DONATION AMOUNTS September - 2025	\$8,125.00
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Oklahoma School for the Deaf Donation Report

OSD Donation Report

September 2025

Donations Under \$500.00

Date	Name	Cash	Fund	Explanation	Property Value
9/9/2025	Rachelle Richardson	\$ 100.00	70100/20077	Cheerleading	
9/10/2025	Restored Hearts & Soles		Clothes Closet	Shoes for students	\$ 49.99
9/18/2025	Jamie-Lynn Robinson	\$ 478.40	70100/10004-01	National Basketball Championship Rings	
Subtotal Cash Under \$500.00		\$ 578.40		Subtotal Property Under \$500.00	\$ 49.99

Donations Over \$500.00

Date	Name	Cash	Fund	Explanation	Property Value
9/10/2025	OSD Foundation	\$ 4,065.00	70100/20085	Teacher Grants	
	Subtotal Cash Over \$500.00	\$ 4,065.00		Subtotal Property Over \$500.00	
Subtotal Cash Combined		\$ 4,643.00		Subtotal Property Combined	\$ 49.99

Total donations for September 2025

\$4,692.99



Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped Donation Report

OLBPH September 2025 Donation Report

Donations under \$500				
DATE	NAME	CASH	PROPERTY	VALUE
09/26/2025	Women of the Moose (Enid Chapter)	\$50		
Subtotal of Donations Under \$500	\$50			

Total Donation Amount	\$50
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