



COMMISSION MEETING – SPECIAL MEETING

This public meeting is being held consistent with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, 25 O.S. § 301-314.

**OKLAHOMA COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH
CAMERON BUILDING
2915 N. CLASSEN SUITE 300
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73106**

**Friday, February 6, 2026
9:30 a.m.**

Join Virtually Via ZoomGov (Zoom) Meeting:

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1605309543?pwd=RfjJfGJ03xozEjzZVsBz3jqPYspetB.1>

Meeting ID: 160 530 9543
Passcode: 658500

Public Comment: To sign up to speak, please contact Lakesha Mackie, Executive Assistant, **no later than 8 p.m. on Thursday, February 5, 2026, at (405) 606-4913** or Lakesha.Mackie@occy.ok.gov if you plan to speak virtually. Those who are speaking in person at the meeting must sign up on the public comment sheet prior to the initiation of the meeting. Please provide your name (and spelling of your name if attending virtually by telephone call), the organization you represent (if applicable), and the subject matter of your remarks. Public comments will be limited to three minutes per person. Should you wish to provide documents to the Commissioners, please send them to their individual emails listed on the OCCY website.

AGENDA

**February 6, 2026
9:30 a.m.**

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| I. Welcome, Introductions, and Determination of Quorum | <i>Chairperson John Schneider</i> |
| • <i>Introduction of Commissioners</i> | |
| • <i>Introduction of Assistant Attorney General</i> | |
| • <i>Determination of Quorum</i> | |
| II. Public Comment | |
| III. Discussion and Possible Vote Regarding the Minutes from November 21, 2025, Commission Meeting | <i>Chairperson John Schneider</i> |
| IV. Discussion and Possible Vote Regarding the Finance Report | <i>Mark James
OCCY Assistant Director</i> |
| V. Report from the OCCY Parent Partnership Board | <i>James Ray
OCCY Parent Partnership Board Member</i> |

- VI. Recognition of Outgoing OCCY Parent Partnership Board Members *Chairperson John Schneider*
Annette Wisk Jacobi
OCCY Executive Director
- VII. Presentation of the Oklahoma Youth Advisory Council (OYAC) *Amoreena Killough*
OCCY Community Planner
Yareli Sanchez-Ceballos
OYAC Planning Committee Member
- VIII. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Reappointment of the Executive Director, Annette Wisk Jacobi, Pursuant to 10 O.S. § 601.5(A), Including Discussion of Any Other Matter Related to the Employment of the Executive Director. *Chairperson John Schneider*
- The Commission may vote to enter Executive Session to discuss the employment, hiring, appointment, promotion, demotion, disciplining or resignation of the Executive Director, pursuant to 25 O.S., § 307(B)(1).
- Vote to enter Executive Session
 - Exit Executive Session and vote to re-enter open session
 - Discussion and possible action on matters discussed in Executive Session
- IX. Legislative Update *Marcia Johnson*
OCCY Legislative Liaison
a. House Bill 3849: Children of Incarcerated Parents
b. House Bill 4302: Office of Juvenile System Oversight
- X. Discussion and Possible Vote Regarding House Bill 3637: Removal of Freestanding Multidisciplinary Teams from OCCY *Marcia Johnson*
OCCY Legislative Liaison
- XI. Discussion and Possible Vote Regarding Medical Marijuana Dosing and Packaging Changes *Jeffrey Cartmell, Executive Director*
Oklahoma Human Services
a. Senate Bill: 1591 Medical Marijuana Dosing and Packaging Changes
b. House Bill: 4454 Medical Marijuana Dosing and Packaging Changes
- XII. Executive Director's Report *Annette Wisk Jacobi*
OCCY Executive Director
a. State Fiscal Year 2027 Agency Budget
b. Discussion relating to revamping written director's report
c. Discussion relating to annual recommendations from the Child Death Review Board, Postadjudication Review Board, Office of Juvenile System Oversight, and the Homeless Children and Youth Steering Committee

XIII. Chairperson Remarks

Chairperson John Schneider

XIV. Adjournment

Chairperson John Schneider

Note: The Commission may, at its discretion, discuss, vote to approve, vote to disapprove, vote to table, change the sequence of any agenda item, or choose not to take up any item on the agenda.

Meeting Etiquette:

The following expectations apply to all meeting participants to ensure a respectful and productive environment. Commissioners attending virtually are expected to have their video on throughout the meeting. Presenters, guest speakers, and individuals providing public comments may enable their video to be used while speaking. All other virtual attendees should join using audio only and keep their video turned off unless they are actively participating. Attendees are invited to speak during public comment while presenting or when called upon by the commissioners. Microphones should remain muted when not in use to reduce background noise. All participants are expected to conduct themselves with professionalism, courtesy, and respect toward others.

These guidelines are designed to promote a smooth and orderly meeting, allowing for meaningful engagement from both virtual and in-person attendees. Disruptive behavior, including offensive language or personal attacks, will not be tolerated and may result in forfeiting speaking time or removal from the meeting if necessary.

***Next Meetings: Friday, March 27, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.
Friday, May 1, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.
Friday, June 19, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.
Friday, September 18, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.
Friday, November 20, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.***

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
November 21, 2025
9:30 a.m.

Commissioners Present in Person: Jackie Aaron, Clay Bullard, Melinda Fruendt, Jason Hicks, Kalie Kerth, Bryan Larison, Timothy Michaels-Johnson, Sharon Millington, Keith Reed, Hannah Whipp

Commissioners Attending Virtually: Jeffrey Cartmell

Guests Present In-person and Virtually: Dena Drabek (OCCY Parent Partnership Board), Ty Mowdy (Assistant Attorney General)

Staff Present: Annette Wisk Jacobi, Lakesha Mackie, Rob Agnew, Ellen Hardy, Cherra Taylor, Mahboob ul Haq, Richard Yahola, Mark James, Marcia Johnson, Jasmyne Mackie, Keith Pirtle, Joseph McGrath, Isabel Rodriguez-Castaneda, Elizabeth Kaup, Elly Kohs

Welcome, Introductions, and Determination of Quorum

– Vice Chairperson Kalie Kerth

- Vice Chairperson Kalie Kerth called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. with a quorum present.
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Public Comment

– Vice Chairperson Kalie Kerth

- No public comment.
-

Discussion and Possible Vote Regarding the Minutes of September 19, 2025, Commission Meeting

– Vice Chairperson Kalie Kerth

Director Cartmell moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Whipp seconded the motion. Commissioners Aaron, Kerth, Larison, Michaels-Johnson, Whipp, CEO Bullard, Director Cartmell, Director Fruendt, District Attorney Hicks all voted in the affirmative. Commissioner Millington and Commissioner Reed abstained. The motion passed.

- Copies of the minutes were provided.
-

Presentation of the OCCY Parent Partnership Board Report

– Dena Drabek, OCCY Parent Partnership Board (PPB) Member

Ms. Drabek provided a presentation in recognition of Family Caregiver Month. She shared personal experiences as a caregiver for medically-complex and adopted children and discussed the broader caregiver crisis affecting families across Oklahoma. Her remarks highlighted systemic barriers faced by caregivers, including access to services, insurance challenges, and caregiver burnout. She emphasized the importance of public policy that supports families equitably and predictably.

Discussion and Possible Vote Regarding the Finance Report

– Mahboob ul Haq, OCCY Business Manager

Mr. ul Haq presented the OCCY financial report ending on Oct. 31, 2025. He reviewed the State Fiscal Year 2026 budget, current expenditures and departmental utilization. He reported that overall spending was aligned with planned activities and noted that several major disbursements were scheduled for later in the fiscal year. Cash balances were described as stable, with no compliance issues identified.

Additional discussion addressed travel restrictions, personnel costs, and anticipated budget pressures as the fiscal year progresses.

Director Fruendt moved to approve the finance report. Commissioner Whipp seconded the motion. All members present voted in the affirmative. The motion passed.

- A PowerPoint presentation was shown.
-

Discussion and Possible Vote Approving Fully Credentialed Candidate Dr. Paulette Pitt

– Richard Yahola, OCCY Juvenile Competency Coordinator

Mr. Yahola presented the recommendation of the OCCY Juvenile Competency Professional Committee to approve Dr. Paulette Pitt as a fully credentialed juvenile competency evaluator. He presented the committee's vetting process and noted that Dr. Pitt had successfully completed the provisional evaluation period.

Commissioner Millington moved to approve Dr. Paulette Pitt to be a fully credentialed juvenile competency evaluator. Director Fruendt seconded the motion. All members present voted in the affirmative. The motion passed.

- A PowerPoint presentation was shown.
-

Recommendation and Possible Vote Approving Candidate for the Child Abuse Training and Coordination Council

– *Annette Wisk Jacobi, OCCY Executive Director*

Director Jacobi presented the nomination of Brooke Christian to represent the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training on the Child Abuse Training and Coordination Council.

Commissioner Whipp moved to approve the nomination of Brooke Christian. Commissioner Aaron seconded the motion. All members present voted in the affirmative. The motion passed.

Discussion and Possible Vote Regarding the 2026 OCCY Commission Meeting Dates

– *Vice Chairperson Kalie Kerth*

The proposed commission meeting dates of January 23rd; March 27th; May 1st; June 19th; September 18th; and November 20th for calendar year 2026 were reviewed. The schedule reflects statutory deadlines related to budget and policy submissions.

Commissioner Whipp moved to approve the 2026 meeting dates. Director Millington seconded the motion. All members present voted in the affirmative. The motion passed.

Presentation and Discussion of the Child Death Review Board Overview and Recommendations

– *Elizabeth Kaup, OCCY Child Death Review Board Program Manager*

Ms. Kaup provided an overview of the Child Death Review Board and presented its 2025 annual recommendations. She discussed trends identified through cohort-based data analysis, including firearm-related deaths, unsafe sleep, motor vehicle fatalities and THC ingestion cases involving children and youth. Ms. Kaup outlined four policy recommendations addressing firearm safety, prenatal safe-sleep education, child passenger safety laws and marijuana product warning labels.

Commissioners asked questions and discussed data trends, terminology, and implementation challenges.

- *A Powerpoint presentation was shown.*
-

Discussion and Possible Vote Regarding the OCCY Legislative Agenda

– *Marcia Johnson, OCCY Legislative Liaison*

Ms. Johnson presented two bills for the OCCY legislative agenda. The first bill would impact the Office of Juvenile Systems Oversight and there are two components. The first change would authorize OCCY to subpoena records from facilities within the children and youth serving system. Currently, OCCY may subpoena witnesses and hold hearings but cannot subpoena records. This gap was highlighted when the Office of Juvenile Systems Oversight (OJSO) attempted to obtain records from a facility and the facility refused without a subpoena. This bill would allow OJSO to subpoena records when needed.

Commissioner Michaels-Johnson moved to approve the legislative bill authorizing the Office of Juvenile Systems Oversight to subpoena records from Facilities within the child serving systems. District Attorney Hicks seconded the motion. All members present voted in the affirmative. The motion passed.

Ms. Johnson presented the second bill which would impact the Children of Incarcerated Parent Program. The bill proposes the following changes:

- Aligns language to match real-world operations
 - Updates outdated wording
 - Removes the Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA) from the process (with OJA's agreement)
- Expands Mentoring Options
 - Allows group and peer mentoring, not just those providing one-to-one mentoring, to be eligible for funding
- Changes Nonprofit Eligibility
 - Allows nonprofits with regional (not just statewide) presence to be eligible for funding
 - Reduces required experience in mentoring from five years to three years
- Removes Reimbursement Cap
 - Eliminates the \$1,500 per child cap for potential efficiencies

Commissioner Reed moved to approve the legislative bill to modernize the Children of Incarcerated Parents Program. Commissioner Millington seconded the motion. All members present voted in the affirmative. The motion passed.

- *A Powerpoint presentation was shown.*
-

Updates Regarding the Programmatic Impacts of the Federal Shutdown on Oklahoma's Children and Families

– *Jeffrey Cartmell, Executive Director of Oklahoma Human Services*

Melinda Fruendt, Executive Director of Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services

Clay Bullard, CEO of Oklahoma Health Care Authority

Director Cartmell provided an overview of the Oklahoma Human Services response to the federal shutdown. He noted this shutdown was atypical because it occurred at the start of the fiscal year when federal awards were unknown and communication from federal

partners was limited.

Projected impacts included an estimated \$8.9 million reduction in October and \$35 million in November, affecting 26 programs and approximately 855 employees if the shutdown continued. High-risk programs included SNAP, childcare subsidies, senior nutrition, APS/CPS, and SNAP administration.

The agency considered several options and chose to make targeted reductions to minimize harm to clients and frontline staff. Actions included part-time furloughs, protections for lower-wage employees, a hiring freeze for non-critical positions, travel and overtime restrictions, contract suspensions, and temporary childcare funding changes prioritizing younger children.

Although the federal government has reopened, funding has been slow to resume. All administrative actions were lifted on November 16 and contracts are being reinstated based on priority. Ongoing uncertainty remains, particularly regarding CCDF discretionary funding, pending further federal guidance.

Director Fruendt provided an overview of the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation (DRS) by stating her agency is fully federally funded and provides disability benefits. The program serves over 52,000 Oklahomans and employs 305 staff. During the shutdown, DRS used state loan authority to continue operations and avoid furloughs. After reopening, DRS received delayed federal funding and resumed normal operations.

Vocational Rehabilitation avoided furloughs due to available federal carryover funds. The program continues to operate as usual, though there is ongoing uncertainty about future federal oversight.

Commissioner Bullard provided an update, noting his agency Oklahoma Health Care Authority is in a good position. SNAP issues did not affect their division. They are preparing for the legislative session, onboarding new commissioners and directors, and focusing on rural health transformation efforts with Commissioner Reed to ensure dollars are used effectively across short-and long-term needs.

Presentation of the Director's Report Regarding Agency Activities and Personnel Changes

– *Annette Wisk Jacobi, OCCY Executive Director*

Director Jacobi highlighted key items from her report. She noted significant progress in the Child Death Review Board (CDRB), with case years 2020–2023 nearly complete and work underway for 2024–2025, made possible by increased staffing.

Near-death case reporting was added and will be reported regularly, supporting prior commission recommendations. Director Jacobi also noted an increase in child welfare cases involving THC ingestion, resulting in serious medical interventions and high costs to the state.

The update on juvenile competency evaluations shows that although evaluator capacity has

increased, court referrals have declined for unknown reasons. This decrease in cases has helped reduce the average report completion time to 36 days, approaching the 30-day requirement. However, Director Jacobi will be discussing the decreased court orders with the Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee.

Director Jacobi clarified that the agency currently conducts annual oversight inspections for all six required state facilities, including the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics, and has been in compliance since SFY 2023. She also noted ongoing work to determine what oversight and complaint information can legally be shared with commissioners, given confidentiality and conflict-of-interest concerns. Commissioner Larison emphasized the importance of independent oversight, data quality, and adequate funding to support informed decision-making. Director Jacobi responded that additional staffing is needed to keep pace with investigations and provide timely, meaningful reports.

- *Copies of the report were provided.*
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Vice Chairperson's Remarks

– *Vice Chairperson Kalie Kerth*

Vice Chairperson Kerth thanked Director Jacobi for her leadership and the team's work.

Announcements: An Opportunity for Commissioners to Provide Brief Information about Events/Happenings

– Vice Chairperson Kalie Kerth

- There were no announcements.
-

Adjournment

– *Vice Chairperson Kalie Kerth*

The meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

Comm on Children and Youth
 Business Unit - 12700 - Sub-Major
 FY-2026 Operating Budget Comparison Summary by Account/Division
 as of February 03, 2026

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Division - 01 - Administration
 Department: 0100001 - 0100681

Account Description	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
511 Salary Expense	2,022,006	2,022,006	1,089,026.79	0.00	0.00	1,089,026.79	932,979.21	932,979.21	53.86	53.86
512 Insur.Prem-Hlth-Life,etc	398,114	398,114	212,766.47	1,993.11	0.00	214,759.58	183,354.42	183,354.42	53.94	53.94
513 FICA-Retirement Contributions	483,247	483,247	258,837.75	0.00	0.00	258,837.75	224,409.25	224,409.25	53.56	53.56
515 Professional Services	876,758	876,758	377,076.81	502,884.95	0.00	879,961.76	-3,203.76	-3,203.76	100.37	100.37
519 Inter/Intra Agy Pmt-Pers Svcs	10,700	10,700	1,652.13	1,947.87	0.00	3,600.00	7,100.00	7,100.00	33.64	33.64
521 Travel - Reimbursements	33,826	33,826	7,064.71	27,648.92	0.00	34,713.63	-887.63	-887.63	102.62	102.62
522 Travel - Agency Direct Pmts	97,696	97,696	21,533.87	10,589.26	0.00	32,123.13	65,572.87	65,572.87	32.88	32.88
531 Misc. Administrative Expenses	27,949	27,949	5,631.37	26,645.69	0.00	32,277.06	-4,328.06	-4,328.06	115.49	115.49
532 Rent Expense	110,396	110,396	54,612.84	43,665.76	0.00	98,278.60	12,117.40	12,117.40	89.02	89.02
534 Specialized Sup & Mat.Expense	13,224	13,224	1,963.71	1,136.48	0.00	3,100.19	10,123.81	10,123.81	23.44	23.44
536 General Operating Expenses	40,182	40,182	12,183.76	2,598.56	0.00	14,782.32	25,399.68	25,399.68	36.79	36.79
541 Office Furniture & Equipment	6,575	6,575	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	6,475.00	6,475.00	1.52	1.52
542 Library Equipment-Resources	3,000	3,000	4,775.51	0.00	0.00	4,775.51	-1,775.51	-1,775.51	159.18	159.18
552 Scholar.,Tuition,Incentive Pmt	300	300	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	300.00	0.00	0.00
554 Program Reimb,Litigation Costs	1,422,486	1,422,486	0.00	1,172,545.47	0.00	1,172,545.47	249,940.53	249,940.53	82.43	82.43
601 AFP Encumbrances	0	0	0.00	86,137.40	0.00	86,137.40	-86,137.40	-86,137.40	~	~
810 Req Only	0	0	0.00	180,112.95	0.00	180,112.95	-180,112.95	-180,112.95	~	~
Totals	5,546,459	5,546,459	2,047,225.72	2,057,906.42	0.00	4,105,132.14	1,441,326.86	1,441,326.86	74.01	74.01
Class Funding	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
19601 GRF-Duties	3,027,088	3,027,088	1,448,557.37	174,769.06	0.00	1,623,326.43	1,403,761.57	1,403,761.57	53.63	53.63
20000 Okla. Comm On Children & Youth	1,219,371	1,219,371	598,668.35	428,988.58	0.00	1,027,656.93	191,714.07	191,714.07	84.28	84.28
21000 CAMTA Revolving Fund	1,300,000	1,300,000	0.00	1,454,148.78	0.00	1,454,148.78	-154,148.78	-154,148.78	111.86	111.86
Totals	5,546,459	5,546,459	2,047,225.72	2,057,906.42	0.00	4,105,132.14	1,441,326.86	1,441,326.86	74.01	74.01

Comm on Children and Youth
 Business Unit - 12700 - Sub-Major
 FY-2026 Operating Budget Comparison Summary by Account/Division
 as of February 03, 2026

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Division - 30 - Juvenile Personnel Training
 Department: Juvenile Personnel Training

Account Description	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
810 Req Only	0	0	0.00	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	-15,000.00	-15,000.00	~	~
Totals	0	0	0.00	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	-15,000.00	-15,000.00	~	~
Class Funding	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
19601 GRF-Duties	0	0	0.00	10,000.50	0.00	10,000.50	-10,000.50	-10,000.50	~	~
20000 Okla. Comm On Children & Youth	0	0	0.00	4,999.50	0.00	4,999.50	-4,999.50	-4,999.50	~	~
Totals	0	0	0.00	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	-15,000.00	-15,000.00	~	~

Comm on Children and Youth
 Business Unit - 12700 - Sub-Major
 FY-2026 Operating Budget Comparison Summary by Account/Division
 as of February 03, 2026

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 03-FEB-2026
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Division - 88 - ISD Data Processing
 Department: ISD DP - Admin

Account Description	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
515 Professional Services	235,307	235,307	123,199.71	50,116.41	0.00	173,316.12	61,990.88	61,990.88	73.66	73.66
531 Misc. Administrative Expenses	38,908	38,908	17,173.36	19,357.47	0.00	36,530.83	2,377.17	2,377.17	93.89	93.89
532 Rent Expense	26,416	26,416	16,363.10	14,552.84	0.00	30,915.94	-4,499.94	-4,499.94	117.03	117.03
533 Maintenance & Repair Expense	1,200	1,200	1,255.06	4,737.23	0.00	5,992.29	-4,792.29	-4,792.29	499.36	499.36
536 General Operating Expenses	4,396	4,396	907.78	385.98	0.00	1,293.76	3,102.24	3,102.24	29.43	29.43
541 Office Furniture & Equipment	3,142	3,142	0.00	247.54	0.00	247.54	2,894.46	2,894.46	7.88	7.88
601 AFP Encumbrances	0	0	0.00	4,336.83	0.00	4,336.83	-4,336.83	-4,336.83	~	~
Totals	309,369	309,369	158,899.01	93,734.30	0.00	252,633.31	56,735.69	56,735.69	81.66	81.66

Class Funding	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
19601 GRF-Duties	75,999	75,999	29,701.33	37,382.99	0.00	67,084.32	8,914.68	8,914.68	88.27	88.27
20000 Okla. Comm On Children & Youth	233,370	233,370	129,197.68	56,351.31	0.00	185,548.99	47,821.01	47,821.01	79.51	79.51
Totals	309,369	309,369	158,899.01	93,734.30	0.00	252,633.31	56,735.69	56,735.69	81.66	81.66

Totals for Bus Unit 12700	5,855,828	5,855,828	2,206,124.73	2,166,640.72	0.00	4,372,765.45	1,483,062.55	1,483,062.55	74.67	74.67
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Comm on Children and Youth
 Business Unit - 12700
 FY 2026 Operating Budget Comparison by Department and Account
 as of February 03, 2026

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Department: 0100002 Administration

Account	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
511 Salary Expense	506,842	506,842	245,760.81	0.00	0.00	245,760.81	261,081.19	261,081.19	48.49	48.49
512 Insur.Prem-Hlth-Life,etc	114,472	114,472	50,462.26	1,993.11	0.00	52,455.37	62,016.63	62,016.63	45.82	45.82
513 FICA-Retirement Contributi	124,952	124,952	59,532.52	0.00	0.00	59,532.52	65,419.48	65,419.48	47.64	47.64
515 Professional Services	99,138	99,138	33,963.52	43,910.21	0.00	77,873.73	21,264.27	21,264.27	78.55	78.55
519 Inter/Intra Agy Pmt-Pers S	3,600	3,600	1,652.13	1,947.87	0.00	3,600.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
521 Travel - Reimbursements	6,108	6,108	1,464.03	0.00	0.00	1,464.03	4,643.97	4,643.97	23.97	23.97
522 Travel - Agency Direct Pmt	8,688	8,688	1,056.74	1,364.26	0.00	2,421.00	6,267.00	6,267.00	27.87	27.87
531 Misc. Administrative Expen	12,187	12,187	5,351.37	11,352.99	0.00	16,704.36	-4,517.36	-4,517.36	137.07	137.07
532 Rent Expense	96,246	96,246	52,245.84	43,590.76	0.00	95,836.60	409.40	409.40	99.57	99.57
534 Specialized Sup & Mat.Expe	13,040	13,040	1,063.52	1,136.48	0.00	2,200.00	10,840.00	10,840.00	16.87	16.87
536 General Operating Expenses	9,000	9,000	1,995.78	1,556.84	0.00	3,552.62	5,447.38	5,447.38	39.47	39.47
541 Office Furniture & Equipme	2,500	2,500	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00	0.00
542 Library Equipment-Resource	2,500	2,500	19.48	0.00	0.00	19.48	2,480.52	2,480.52	0.78	0.78
552 Scholar.,Tuition,Incentive	300	300	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	300.00	0.00	0.00
601 AFP Encumbrances	0	0	0.00	86,137.40	0.00	86,137.40	-86,137.40	-86,137.40	~	~
	999,573	999,573	454,568.00	192,989.92	0.00	647,557.92	352,015.08	352,015.08	64.78	64.78
Class Funding	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
19601 GRF-Duties	921,869	921,869	384,674.49	51,086.85	0.00	435,761.34	486,107.66	486,107.66	47.27	47.27
20000 Okla. Comm On Children & Y	77,704	77,704	69,893.51	141,903.07	0.00	211,796.58	-134,092.58	-134,092.58	272.57	272.57
	999,573	999,573	454,568.00	192,989.92	0.00	647,557.92	352,015.08	352,015.08	64.78	64.78

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Department: 0100032 Juvenile System Oversight

Account	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
511 Salary Expense	543,656	543,656	299,282.97	0.00	0.00	299,282.97	244,373.03	244,373.03	55.05	55.05
512 Insur.Prem-Hlth-Life,etc	131,976	131,976	67,071.00	0.00	0.00	67,071.00	64,905.00	64,905.00	50.82	50.82
513 FICA-Retirement Contributi	127,794	127,794	72,296.17	0.00	0.00	72,296.17	55,497.83	55,497.83	56.57	56.57
515 Professional Services	24,540	24,540	7,600.00	19,400.00	0.00	27,000.00	-2,460.00	-2,460.00	110.02	110.02
519 Inter/Intra Agy Pmt-Pers S	2,300	2,300	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,300.00	2,300.00	0.00	0.00
521 Travel - Reimbursements	1,272	1,272	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,272.00	1,272.00	0.00	0.00
522 Travel - Agency Direct Pmt	5,952	5,952	0.00	125.00	0.00	125.00	5,827.00	5,827.00	2.10	2.10
536 General Operating Expenses	300	300	123.44	126.56	0.00	250.00	50.00	50.00	83.33	83.33
541 Office Furniture & Equipme	300	300	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	300.00	0.00	0.00
	838,090	838,090	446,373.58	19,651.56	0.00	466,025.14	372,064.86	372,064.86	55.61	55.61
Class Funding	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
19601 GRF-Duties	803,426	803,426	438,773.58	126.56	0.00	438,900.14	364,525.86	364,525.86	54.63	54.63
20000 Okla. Comm On Children & Y	34,664	34,664	7,600.00	19,525.00	0.00	27,125.00	7,539.00	7,539.00	78.25	78.25
	838,090	838,090	446,373.58	19,651.56	0.00	466,025.14	372,064.86	372,064.86	55.61	55.61

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Department: 0100040 Children's Endowment Fund

Account	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
511 Salary Expense	0	0	36,219.76	0.00	0.00	36,219.76	-36,219.76	-36,219.76	~	~
512 Insur.Prem-Hlth-Life,etc	0	0	4,979.91	0.00	0.00	4,979.91	-4,979.91	-4,979.91	~	~
513 FICA-Retirement Contributi	0	0	8,689.82	0.00	0.00	8,689.82	-8,689.82	-8,689.82	~	~
515 Professional Services	0	0	195.00	1,370.00	0.00	1,565.00	-1,565.00	-1,565.00	~	~
521 Travel - Reimbursements	0	0	302.63	6,820.00	0.00	7,122.63	-7,122.63	-7,122.63	~	~
522 Travel - Agency Direct Pmt	0	0	0.00	2,200.00	0.00	2,200.00	-2,200.00	-2,200.00	~	~
531 Misc. Administrative Expen	0	0	0.00	4,820.00	0.00	4,820.00	-4,820.00	-4,820.00	~	~
536 General Operating Expenses	0	0	5.26	94.74	0.00	100.00	-100.00	-100.00	~	~
	0	0	50,392.38	15,304.74	0.00	65,697.12	-65,697.12	-65,697.12	~	~
Class Funding	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
19601 GRF-Duties	0	0	5.26	94.74	0.00	100.00	-100.00	-100.00	~	~
20000 Okla. Comm On Children & Y	0	0	50,387.12	15,210.00	0.00	65,597.12	-65,597.12	-65,597.12	~	~
	0	0	50,392.38	15,304.74	0.00	65,697.12	-65,697.12	-65,697.12	~	~

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Department: 0100042 Office Planning & Coordination

Account	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
511 Salary Expense	330,666	330,666	168,552.97	0.00	0.00	168,552.97	162,113.03	162,113.03	50.97	50.97
512 Insur.Prem-Hlth-Life,etc	55,734	55,734	26,271.21	0.00	0.00	26,271.21	29,462.79	29,462.79	47.14	47.14
513 FICA-Retirement Contributi	81,681	81,681	40,451.35	0.00	0.00	40,451.35	41,229.65	41,229.65	49.52	49.52
515 Professional Services	551,820	551,820	259,685.65	101,572.02	0.00	361,257.67	190,562.33	190,562.33	65.47	65.47
519 Inter/Intra Agy Pmt-Pers S	1,500	1,500	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	0.00
521 Travel - Reimbursements	17,000	17,000	3,915.45	20,828.92	0.00	24,744.37	-7,744.37	-7,744.37	145.56	145.56
522 Travel - Agency Direct Pmt	46,600	46,600	20,302.13	6,900.00	0.00	27,202.13	19,397.87	19,397.87	58.37	58.37
531 Misc. Administrative Expen	11,016	11,016	280.00	10,472.70	0.00	10,752.70	263.30	263.30	97.61	97.61
532 Rent Expense	12,000	12,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	0.00	0.00
534 Specialized Sup & Mat.Expe	0	0	487.40	0.00	0.00	487.40	-487.40	-487.40	~	~
536 General Operating Expenses	27,444	27,444	9,650.86	536.20	0.00	10,187.06	17,256.94	17,256.94	37.12	37.12
541 Office Furniture & Equipme	1,000	1,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
542 Library Equipment-Resource	0	0	4,756.03	0.00	0.00	4,756.03	-4,756.03	-4,756.03	~	~
810 Req Only	0	0	0.00	7,000.00	0.00	7,000.00	-7,000.00	-7,000.00	~	~
	1,136,461	1,136,461	534,353.05	147,309.84	0.00	681,662.89	454,798.11	454,798.11	59.98	59.98
Class Funding	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
19601 GRF-Duties	355,180	355,180	134,950.95	51.66	0.00	135,002.61	220,177.39	220,177.39	38.01	38.01
20000 Okla. Comm On Children & Y	781,281	781,281	399,402.10	147,258.18	0.00	546,660.28	234,620.72	234,620.72	69.97	69.97
	1,136,461	1,136,461	534,353.05	147,309.84	0.00	681,662.89	454,798.11	454,798.11	59.98	59.98

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Department: 0100043 Post Adj Rev Brd Admin

Account	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
511 Salary Expense	129,004	129,004	73,821.44	0.00	0.00	73,821.44	55,182.56	55,182.56	57.22	57.22
512 Insur.Prem-Hlth-Life,etc	19,280	19,280	9,870.58	0.00	0.00	9,870.58	9,409.42	9,409.42	51.20	51.20
513 FICA-Retirement Contributi	31,878	31,878	17,770.77	0.00	0.00	17,770.77	14,107.23	14,107.23	55.75	55.75
515 Professional Services	960	960	391.64	308.36	0.00	700.00	260.00	260.00	72.92	72.92
519 Inter/Intra Agy Pmt-Pers S	1,500	1,500	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	0.00
521 Travel - Reimbursements	4,030	4,030	1,063.48	0.00	0.00	1,063.48	2,966.52	2,966.52	26.39	26.39
522 Travel - Agency Direct Pmt	24,600	24,600	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24,600.00	24,600.00	0.00	0.00
531 Misc. Administrative Expen	150	150	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.00
532 Rent Expense	150	150	942.00	0.00	0.00	942.00	-792.00	-792.00	628.00	628.00
534 Specialized Sup & Mat.Expe	184	184	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	184.00	184.00	0.00	0.00
536 General Operating Expenses	300	300	173.08	94.74	0.00	267.82	32.18	32.18	89.27	89.27
541 Office Furniture & Equipme	200	200	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	200.00	0.00	0.00
542 Library Equipment-Resource	500	500	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	500.00	0.00	0.00
554 Program Reimb,Litigation C	30,000	30,000	0.00	30,000.00	0.00	30,000.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
	242,736	242,736	104,032.99	30,403.10	0.00	134,436.09	108,299.91	108,299.91	55.38	55.38
Class Funding	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
19601 GRF-Duties	180,162	180,162	101,756.65	94.74	0.00	101,851.39	78,310.61	78,310.61	56.53	56.53
20000 Okla. Comm On Children & Y	62,574	62,574	2,276.34	30,308.36	0.00	32,584.70	29,989.30	29,989.30	52.07	52.07
	242,736	242,736	104,032.99	30,403.10	0.00	134,436.09	108,299.91	108,299.91	55.38	55.38

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Department: 0100044 MDTs

Account	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
511 Salary Expense	126,516	126,516	61,424.75	0.00	0.00	61,424.75	65,091.25	65,091.25	48.55	48.55
512 Insur.Prem-Hlth-Life,etc	19,088	19,088	10,686.31	0.00	0.00	10,686.31	8,401.69	8,401.69	55.98	55.98
513 FICA-Retirement Contributi	31,275	31,275	14,374.66	0.00	0.00	14,374.66	16,900.34	16,900.34	45.96	45.96
515 Professional Services	44,000	44,000	11,316.00	139,574.36	0.00	150,890.36	-106,890.36	-106,890.36	342.93	342.93
519 Inter/Intra Agy Pmt-Pers S	1,000	1,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
521 Travel - Reimbursements	1,263	1,263	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,263.00	1,263.00	0.00	0.00
522 Travel - Agency Direct Pmt	1,940	1,940	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,940.00	1,940.00	0.00	0.00
531 Misc. Administrative Expen	2,500	2,500	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00	0.00
532 Rent Expense	2,000	2,000	1,425.00	75.00	0.00	1,500.00	500.00	500.00	75.00	75.00
534 Specialized Sup & Mat.Expe	0	0	412.79	0.00	0.00	412.79	-412.79	-412.79	~	~
536 General Operating Expenses	1,538	1,538	173.58	94.74	0.00	268.32	1,269.68	1,269.68	17.45	17.45
541 Office Furniture & Equipme	300	300	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	200.00	200.00	33.33	33.33
554 Program Reimb,Litigation C	1,300,000	1,300,000	0.00	1,142,545.47	0.00	1,142,545.47	157,454.53	157,454.53	87.89	87.89
810 Req Only	0	0	0.00	173,112.95	0.00	173,112.95	-173,112.95	-173,112.95	~	~
	1,531,420	1,531,420	99,913.09	1,455,402.52	0.00	1,555,315.61	-23,895.61	-23,895.61	101.56	101.56
Class Funding	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
19601 GRF-Duties	176,879	176,879	86,490.98	94.74	0.00	86,585.72	90,293.28	90,293.28	48.95	48.95
20000 Okla. Comm On Children & Y	54,541	54,541	13,422.11	1,159.00	0.00	14,581.11	39,959.89	39,959.89	26.73	26.73
21000 CAMTA Revolving Fund	1,300,000	1,300,000	0.00	1,454,148.78	0.00	1,454,148.78	-154,148.78	-154,148.78	111.86	111.86
	1,531,420	1,531,420	99,913.09	1,455,402.52	0.00	1,555,315.61	-23,895.61	-23,895.61	101.56	101.56

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Department: 0100045 CASA Contract

Account	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
554 Program Reimb,Litigation C	28,486	28,486	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	28,486.00	28,486.00	0.00	0.00
	28,486	28,486	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	28,486.00	28,486.00	0.00	0.00
Class Funding	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
20000 Okla. Comm On Children & Y	28,486	28,486	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	28,486.00	28,486.00	0.00	0.00
	28,486	28,486	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	28,486.00	28,486.00	0.00	0.00

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Department: 0100090 Children of Incarcerated Paren

Account	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc,Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
515 Professional Services	17,500	17,500	28,925.00	58,000.00	0.00	86,925.00	-69,425.00	-69,425.00	496.71	496.71
522 Travel - Agency Direct Pmt	6,000	6,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00	0.00
531 Misc. Administrative Expen	2,000	2,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00
554 Program Reimb,Litigation C	64,000	64,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	64,000.00	64,000.00	0.00	0.00
	89,500	89,500	28,925.00	58,000.00	0.00	86,925.00	2,575.00	2,575.00	97.12	97.12
Class Funding	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc,Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
20000 Okla. Comm On Children & Y	89,500	89,500	28,925.00	58,000.00	0.00	86,925.00	2,575.00	2,575.00	97.12	97.12
	89,500	89,500	28,925.00	58,000.00	0.00	86,925.00	2,575.00	2,575.00	97.12	97.12

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Department: 0100301 Juvenile Competency

Account	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
511 Salary Expense	63,000	63,000	36,960.52	0.00	0.00	36,960.52	26,039.48	26,039.48	58.67	58.67
512 Insur.Prem-Hlth-Life,etc	9,910	9,910	10,644.40	0.00	0.00	10,644.40	-734.40	-734.40	107.41	107.41
513 FICA-Retirement Contributi	15,578	15,578	8,975.06	0.00	0.00	8,975.06	6,602.94	6,602.94	57.61	57.61
515 Professional Services	88,800	88,800	35,000.00	38,750.00	0.00	73,750.00	15,050.00	15,050.00	83.05	83.05
521 Travel - Reimbursements	1,044	1,044	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,044.00	1,044.00	0.00	0.00
522 Travel - Agency Direct Pmt	156	156	175.00	0.00	0.00	175.00	-19.00	-19.00	112.18	112.18
536 General Operating Expenses	600	600	20.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	580.00	580.00	3.33	3.33
541 Office Furniture & Equipme	1,000	1,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
	180,088	180,088	91,774.98	38,750.00	0.00	130,524.98	49,563.02	49,563.02	72.48	72.48
Class Funding	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
19601 GRF-Duties	148,488	148,488	83,454.95	23,125.03	0.00	106,579.98	41,908.02	41,908.02	71.78	71.78
20000 Okla. Comm On Children & Y	31,600	31,600	8,320.03	15,624.97	0.00	23,945.00	7,655.00	7,655.00	75.78	75.78
	180,088	180,088	91,774.98	38,750.00	0.00	130,524.98	49,563.02	49,563.02	72.48	72.48

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Department: 0100401 Board of Child Abuse Exam

Account	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
515 Professional Services	50,000	50,000	0.00	100,000.00	0.00	100,000.00	-50,000.00	-50,000.00	200.00	200.00
	50,000	50,000	0.00	100,000.00	0.00	100,000.00	-50,000.00	-50,000.00	200.00	200.00
Class Funding	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
19601 GRF-Duties	50,000	50,000	0.00	100,000.00	0.00	100,000.00	-50,000.00	-50,000.00	200.00	200.00
	50,000	50,000	0.00	100,000.00	0.00	100,000.00	-50,000.00	-50,000.00	200.00	200.00

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Department: 0100681 Child Death Review Board

Account	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
511 Salary Expense	322,322	322,322	167,003.57	0.00	0.00	167,003.57	155,318.43	155,318.43	51.81	51.81
512 Insur.Prem-Hlth-Life,etc	47,654	47,654	32,780.80	0.00	0.00	32,780.80	14,873.20	14,873.20	68.79	68.79
513 FICA-Retirement Contributi	70,089	70,089	36,747.40	0.00	0.00	36,747.40	33,341.60	33,341.60	52.43	52.43
519 Inter/Intra Agy Pmt-Pers S	800	800	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	800.00	800.00	0.00	0.00
521 Travel - Reimbursements	3,109	3,109	319.12	0.00	0.00	319.12	2,789.88	2,789.88	10.26	10.26
522 Travel - Agency Direct Pmt	3,760	3,760	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,760.00	3,760.00	0.00	0.00
531 Misc. Administrative Expen	96	96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	96.00	96.00	0.00	0.00
536 General Operating Expenses	1,000	1,000	41.76	94.74	0.00	136.50	863.50	863.50	13.65	13.65
541 Office Furniture & Equipme	1,275	1,275	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,275.00	1,275.00	0.00	0.00
	450,105	450,105	236,892.65	94.74	0.00	236,987.39	213,117.61	213,117.61	52.65	52.65
Class Funding	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
19601 GRF-Duties	391,084	391,084	218,450.51	94.74	0.00	218,545.25	172,538.75	172,538.75	55.88	55.88
20000 Okla. Comm On Children & Y	59,021	59,021	18,442.14	0.00	0.00	18,442.14	40,578.86	40,578.86	31.25	31.25
	450,105	450,105	236,892.65	94.74	0.00	236,987.39	213,117.61	213,117.61	52.65	52.65
Totals for Division 01	5,546,459	5,546,459	2,047,225.72	2,057,906.42	0.00	4,105,132.14	1,441,326.86	1,441,326.86	74.01	74.01

Comm on Children and Youth
 Business Unit - 12700
 FY 2026 Operating Budget Comparison by Department and Account
 as of February 03, 2026

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Department: 3000001 Juvenile Personnel Training

Account	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre- Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc,Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
810 Req Only	0	0	0.00	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	-15,000.00	-15,000.00	~	~
	0	0	0.00	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	-15,000.00	-15,000.00	~	~
Class Funding	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre- Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc,Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
19601 GRF-Duties	0	0	0.00	10,000.50	0.00	10,000.50	-10,000.50	-10,000.50	~	~
20000 Okla. Comm On Children & Y	0	0	0.00	4,999.50	0.00	4,999.50	-4,999.50	-4,999.50	~	~
	0	0	0.00	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	-15,000.00	-15,000.00	~	~
Totals for Division 30	0	0	0.00	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	-15,000.00	-15,000.00	~	~

Comm on Children and Youth
 Business Unit - 12700
 FY 2026 Operating Budget Comparison by Department and Account
 as of February 03, 2026

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Department: 8800001 ISD DP - Admin

Account	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
515 Professional Services	235,307	235,307	123,199.71	50,116.41	0.00	173,316.12	61,990.88	61,990.88	73.66	73.66
531 Misc. Administrative Expen	38,908	38,908	17,173.36	19,357.47	0.00	36,530.83	2,377.17	2,377.17	93.89	93.89
532 Rent Expense	26,416	26,416	16,363.10	14,552.84	0.00	30,915.94	-4,499.94	-4,499.94	117.03	117.03
533 Maintenance & Repair Expen	1,200	1,200	1,255.06	4,737.23	0.00	5,992.29	-4,792.29	-4,792.29	499.36	499.36
536 General Operating Expenses	4,396	4,396	907.78	385.98	0.00	1,293.76	3,102.24	3,102.24	29.43	29.43
541 Office Furniture & Equipme	3,142	3,142	0.00	247.54	0.00	247.54	2,894.46	2,894.46	7.88	7.88
601 AFP Encumbrances	0	0	0.00	4,336.83	0.00	4,336.83	-4,336.83	-4,336.83	~	~
	309,369	309,369	158,899.01	93,734.30	0.00	252,633.31	56,735.69	56,735.69	81.66	81.66
Class Funding	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	Expenses	Encumbrance	Pre-Encumbrance	Total Exp, Enc, Pre-Enc	Annual Variance	YTD Variance	Annual %	YTD %
19601 GRF-Duties	75,999	75,999	29,701.33	37,382.99	0.00	67,084.32	8,914.68	8,914.68	88.27	88.27
20000 Okla. Comm On Children & Y	233,370	233,370	129,197.68	56,351.31	0.00	185,548.99	47,821.01	47,821.01	79.51	79.51
	309,369	309,369	158,899.01	93,734.30	0.00	252,633.31	56,735.69	56,735.69	81.66	81.66
Totals for Division 88	309,369	309,369	158,899.01	93,734.30	0.00	252,633.31	56,735.69	56,735.69	81.66	81.66
Totals for Bus Unit 12700	5,855,828	5,855,828	2,206,124.73	2,166,640.72	0.00	4,372,765.45	1,483,062.55	1,483,062.55	74.67	74.67



Parent Partnership Board

Quarter: Q2 FY2026 (October – December 2025)

Subject: OCCY Parent Partnership Board Activity Report

To: OCCY Commissioners

Prepared by: Danielle Dill, Program Manager & Isabel Rodriguez, Community Planner

Date: January 5, 2026

Overview

The Parent Partnership Board (PPB), convened by the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth (OCCY), advances family voice in decision-making across state systems that impact children and families. Guided by the [2025–2026 PPB Vision and Action Plan](#), the Board centers lived experience as a critical driver of effective, responsive, and family-centered systems change.

This report documents PPB activities and accomplishments during Q2 FY2026 and highlights how member engagement aligns with the Board’s four Strategic Priority Areas: Advise, Educate, Collaborate, and Lead. This report is provided to inform Commissioners of PPB’s progress, ensure alignment with OCCY priorities, and demonstrate how parent engagement is contributing to system improvement efforts.

I. Advise

Impact: Serve as a trusted advisory resource to guide decision-making across child-serving systems.

During Q2 FY2026, Parent Partnership Board members provided parent-informed guidance to policymakers, commissioners, and system leaders by sharing lived experience and offering concrete recommendations to strengthen policies, practices, and family-facing resources.

- **October 8, 2025:** During the PPB meeting, members reviewed and provided feedback on the Foster Parent and Foster Child Grievance System website. Recommendations focused on improving clarity, accessibility, and usability to ensure the resource is understandable and navigable for parents, caregivers, and community members.
 - **October 8, 2025:** PPB member Colleen Howe participated in Legislative Interim Study 25-028 on Paid Family and Medical Leave, presented by OPSR and Senator Jo Anna Dossett. Colleen shared her lived experience as a working mother, highlighting the challenges families face without access to paid leave and the real-world implications for family stability and child well-being.
 - **October 22, 2025:** PPB member Alice Jeffrey served as a panelist at the Oklahoma Human Services (OHS) Child Welfare Quarterly Leadership Meeting. She shared lived expertise related to reunification, substance use disorder, and homelessness, emphasizing the importance of strengthening relationships between biological and foster parents to improve outcomes for children.
 - **November 21, 2025:** PPB member Dena Drabek shared her lived experience at the OCCY Commissioners Meeting, speaking as a single, working adoptive parent raising a child with complex health needs. Her testimony supported commissioner understanding of the practical impacts of policy and service decisions on families.
-

II. Educate

Impact: Advance family-centered policies and practices by educating partners through lived-experience-driven insights, storytelling, and engagement.

During Q2 FY2026, Parent Partnership Board members participated in training, conferences, and public education efforts that strengthened individual leadership capacity while informing systems and partners through authentic parent and caregiver perspectives.

- **October 1–2, 2025:** PPB member Colleen Howe attended the Hunger Free Oklahoma Conference, engaging in learning focused on addressing food insecurity and strengthening community-based resources that support family stability and child well-being.
- **October 14–16, 2025:** PPB member Delena Sullivan completed the Children’s Trust Fund Alliance (CTFA) *Bringing the Protective Factors to Life at Work* Training of Trainers

(TOT) certification, building capacity to support prevention-focused, family-strengthening practices across systems.

- **October 17, 2025:** PPB member Betty Hawkins-Emery attended the CTFA Protective Factors TOT Refresher Course, reinforcing best practices related to prevention, parent engagement, and family-centered approaches.
- **October 21–22, 2025:** PPB members Heather Monroe and Betty Hawkins-Emery attended the Enhanced Parent Voice Leadership Conference hosted by the Potts Family Foundation and the Oklahoma Family Network. The conference focused on strengthening parent leadership skills, advocacy, and systems engagement.
- **October 28, 2025:** Following her participation in a legislative interim study, Colleen Howe was interviewed by the University of Oklahoma Gaylord College of Journalism, sharing parent perspectives on paid family and medical leave and contributing to broader public understanding of the issue.
- **December 1, 2025:** PPB member Alice Jeffrey completed Parent Leader Onboarding through Safe Babies (ZERO TO THREE), strengthening her capacity to engage in early childhood systems work and contribute informed parent leadership at the state level.
- **December 9–11, 2025:** PPB members Demetrius Mayhue, Sunnie Jamerson, Delena Sullivan, and Heather Monroe attended the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS) Momentum Conference. The conference focused on prevention, behavioral health, and family-centered practices, supporting member leadership development and cross-system learning.

III. Collaborate

Impact: Cultivate collaborative relationships to strengthen systems and elevate family-centered practice.

During Q2 FY2026, Parent Partnership Board members actively collaborated with state agencies, community organizations, and system partners to strengthen coordination, build relationships, and elevate parent voice across multiple settings.

- **October 9 and October 20, 2025:** PPB members co-facilitated two informational meetings for prospective Parent Partnership Board applicants. These sessions provided an overview of the Board’s purpose, expectations, and opportunities for engagement,

supporting transparent recruitment and strengthening the pipeline of parent leaders statewide.

- **November 4, 2025:** PPB member Alice Jeffrey attended the Strengthening Families Together Convening, hosted collaboratively by the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH), Oklahoma Human Services (OHS) and OCCY. Participation supported cross-agency dialogue focused on strengthening family-support systems and aligning prevention and engagement efforts.

- **November 15, 2025:** PPB member Alice Jeffrey served as a table host at an event convened by the Foster Care and Adoptive Association of Oklahoma, engaging directly with foster and adoptive families and sharing lived experience to support peer connection and systems understanding.

- **December 2, 2025:** PPB members Demetrius Mayhue, Colleen Howe, Heather Monroe, and Dena Drabek attended the Positive Tomorrows Gold Star Annual Luncheon, demonstrating support for community partners serving families experiencing homelessness and reinforcing the importance of lived experience in shaping community-based responses.

IV. Lead

Impact: Champion family-centered change by leading efforts that elevate parent voice and improve child-serving systems.

During Q2 FY2026, Parent Partnership Board members demonstrated leadership through public representation, panel participation, recruitment support, and capacity-building activities that advance the Board's statutory mission and long-term sustainability.

- **November 8, 2025:** PPB member Mitch Sutter served as a panelist at the 2025 Oklahoma Fatherhood Summit in Broken Arrow, participating in the *Voices of Lived Experience* session. His contributions elevated father's voice and highlighted the importance of engaging fathers as critical partners in child- and family-serving systems.

- **November 2025:** PPB members supported the recruitment and interview process for prospective Board members, assisting with interviews of 17 applicants alongside OCCY staff and partner organizations, including the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH), Potts Family Foundation, and Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness

(OPSR). This collaborative process strengthened Board sustainability and ensured diverse parent representation.

- **2026 Term Appointments:** Five new members were selected to serve on the Parent Partnership Board, including Darryl Stovell (Oklahoma City), Gina Powell (Wetumka), Juan Rizzo (Oklahoma City), Nancy Charbonneau (Weatherford), and Krashelle Cuffy (Broken Arrow). These appointments reflect continued investment in building a geographically and experientially diverse parent leadership body.

V. Impact Summary

Collectively, Q2 FY2026 activities demonstrate the continued value of the Parent Partnership Board as a trusted partner in Oklahoma’s child-serving systems. Through advising, educating, collaborating, and leading, PPB members:

- Elevated lived experience to inform policy and practice decisions
 - Strengthened cross-agency collaboration and shared learning
 - Built leadership capacity among parent leaders statewide
 - Advanced family-centered approaches across multiple systems
-

VI. Looking Ahead (Q3 FY2026)

As the Parent Partnership Board moves into Q3 FY2026, members will focus on sustaining momentum from recent recruitment and leadership efforts while continuing to advance the goals outlined in the 2025–2026 Vision and Action Plan.

Planned priorities include:

- Supporting the orientation and onboarding of newly appointed Parent Partnership Board members, including introduction to OCCY, PPB roles and expectations, and opportunities for engagement across systems.
- Continuing to advise child-serving agencies and policymakers through participation in meetings, workgroups, and advisory forums where parent and caregiver perspectives can inform decision-making.
- Expanding cross-system collaboration by engaging PPB members in ongoing and emerging partnerships aligned with family-centered practice.

- Supporting leadership development and peer connection among both new and returning PPB members to strengthen Board capacity and continuity.
- Tracking and documenting progress toward strategic actions and outcomes identified in the 2025–2026 PPB Vision and Action Plan, consistent with MOU reporting requirements.

OCCY Parent Partnership Board

FY26 Vision & Action Plan Crosswalk & Dashboard

Cumulative Q1–Q2 (July–December 2025)

ACTION AREA 1: ADVISE (FY26)

Key Activity	Annual Target	Q1 Actual	Q2 Actual	% Achieved	Evidence
Provide recommendations & advisory input	1	5	4	900%	Legislative Interim Study; OCCY Commissioners; Foster Parent & Foster Child Grievance website review
Share lived experience insights	10	5	4	90%	Paid leave testimony; reunification, adoption, substance use disorder, homelessness
Review proposals / materials	100%	100%	Ongoing	100%	Website and policy material review
Monthly coordination with staff	12	3	3	50%	Standing coordination meetings
Participate in strategic planning	2	1	Ongoing	50%	Vision & Action Plan implementation
Publish summaries	4	1	1	50%	Q1 and Q2 Parent Partnership Board Commissioner reports

ACTION AREA 2: EDUCATE (FY26)

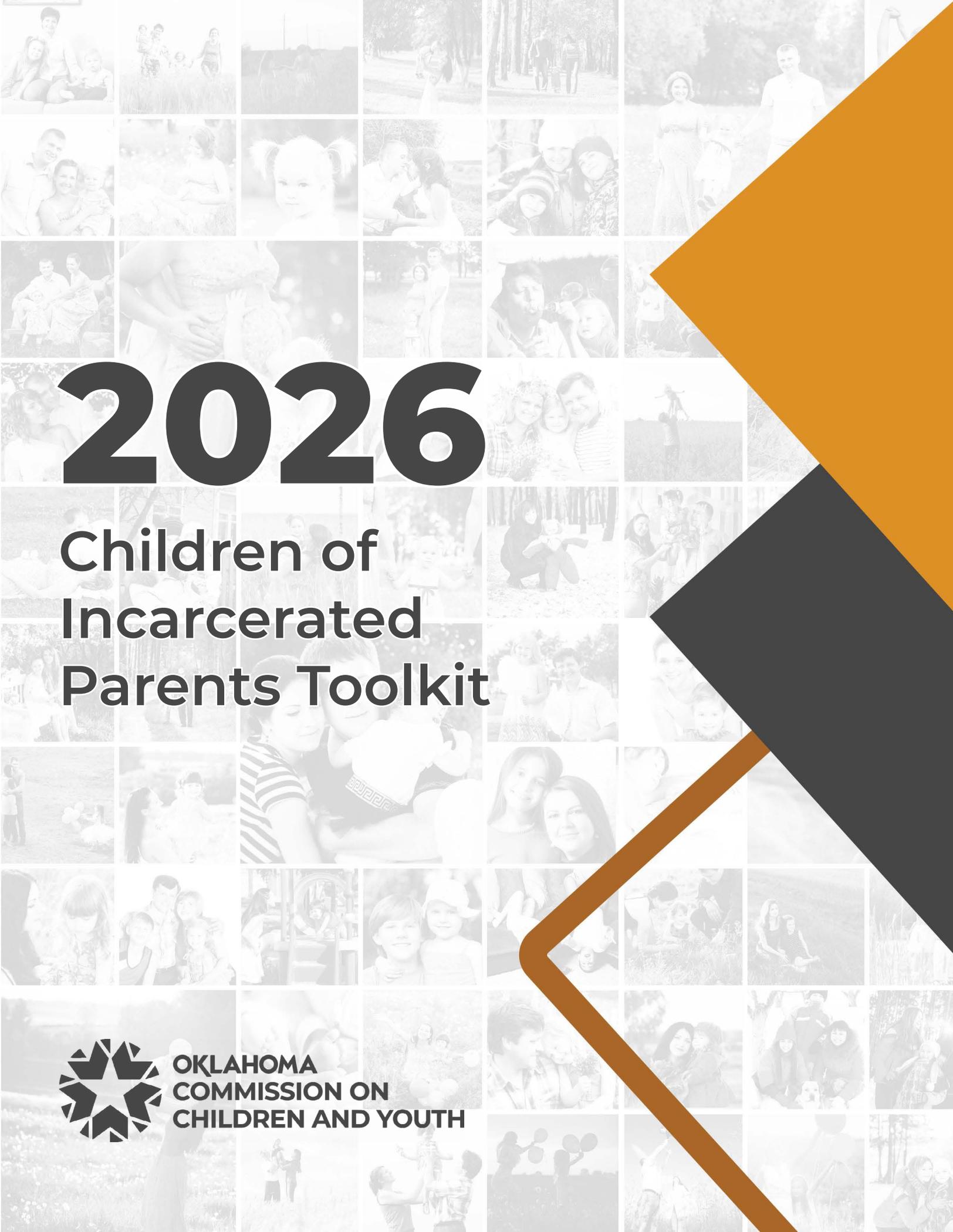
Key Activity	Annual Target	Q1 Actual	Q2 Actual	% Achieved	Evidence
Policy engagement	75% of members	High	High	On Track	Legislative interim study and leadership forums
Attend / host trainings	2	6	7	650%	Momentum Conference; CTFA Training of Trainers; Hunger Free Oklahoma Conference
Lived experience in education	3	5	2	233%	Panels, conferences, and media interview
Document policy influence	2	0	1	50%	University of Oklahoma Gaylord College media interview
Collaborative policy forums	6	3	4	117%	Behavioral health, prevention, and early childhood learning spaces

ACTION AREA 3: COLLABORATE (FY26)

Key Activity	Annual Target	Q1 Actual	Q2 Actual	% Achieved	Evidence
Sustain partnerships	1	7	5	1200%	Oklahoma State Department of Health; Oklahoma Human Services; Potts Family Foundation; community partners
Collaborative projects / events	3	7	4	367%	Statewide convenings and community engagement events
Meetings / forums	2	3	4	350%	Leadership, partner, and coalition meetings
Family engagement events	1	3	2	500%	Recruitment sessions and foster/adoptive family engagement
Resource referrals	25	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not formally tracked

ACTION AREA 4: LEAD (FY26)

Key Activity	Annual Target	Q1 Actual	Q2 Actual	% Achieved	Evidence
Lead initiatives / representation	1	1	1	200%	Community-led event and Fatherhood Summit panel
Leadership development	2	2	Ongoing	100%	Leadership training and recognition
Decision-making participation	3	3	3	200%	Commissioner, legislative, and agency leadership forums
Innovation projects	1	0	0	0%	Planned for later in FY



2026

Children of Incarcerated Parents Toolkit



**OKLAHOMA
COMMISSION ON
CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

WHAT IS 988?

988 is a direct, three-digit lifeline that connects you with trained behavioral health professionals that can get all Oklahomans the help they need.

GETTING HELP CAN BE HARD. SO WE MADE IT EASIER.

The mental health professionals on the other end of the line are here to help guide you.

1



CALL THE LIFELINE

It all starts when you call 988. You'll be connected to a mental health professional to talk you through what's going on and get the resources you need for either yourself or your loved one. About 80% of the time, things can get sorted out with just a phone call. But if you need more help, we got you.

2



IF NEEDED

CONNECT WITH A MOBILE CRISIS TEAM

If you or your loved one need more help after your initial phone call, the 988 call center will send a mobile crisis team to assess things and intervene if necessary. About 7 in 10 crises can be resolved at this touchpoint.

3



IF EVEN MORE HELP IS NEEDED

GET TRANSPORTATION

Some people need more in-depth care. If this is the case, transportation will be provided to help Oklahomans in need safely arrive at an Urgent Care and Crisis Center.

4



CHECK IN AT AN URGENT CARE AND CRISIS CENTER

For those of us that need higher touch help, an Urgent Care and Crisis Center has your back. These centers are staffed 24/7/365 with licensed local medical professionals, nurses, and peers who have been through it themselves. Every center accepts both drop-offs from first responders and walk-ins.

To learn more about how 988 works, visit

[988oklahoma.com](https://www.988oklahoma.com)

@988OKLA



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Click this button if you would like to return to the Table of Contents page.

** If any of the links or phone numbers in the digital version of this toolkit do not work, please let us know by contacting Danielle Dill at danielle.dill@occy.ok.gov. Thank you.*



Introduction

This toolkit is for you... IF

- You are a caregiver of a child whose parent is in jail or prison
- Law enforcement came to your home and arrested your husband, wife, boyfriend, or girlfriend in front of the children
- You are a teacher or a school counselor whose student has a parent in prison or jail
- You are a teacher, and a child is asking difficult questions related to the criminal justice system
- You are a social worker looking for resources to help a foster parent with a child whose mother or father was arrested
- You operate a childcare center, and your client had a run in with the legal system and needs some help to figure out options for their kids
- You are a caregiver, educator or service provider who has – or knows of – family members in the criminal justice system for a few days, months, a year, a decade or maybe for life
- You are incarcerated and are looking for resources for the children



How to use this toolkit

The toolkit is designed for you, the caregiver, service provider or educator, to find answers to questions that may apply to you, a child, a client, or a student. The resource list provides a wealth of free information available on the Internet.

We have divided this toolkit into various sections from family support programs to tips for caregivers and educators, to finding answers to questions a child

or a student may ask about their parent's arrest or incarceration.

This toolkit was written and edited by the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth (OCCY) Children of Incarcerated Parents Advisory Committee, with the help of stakeholders, ranging from caregivers, parents, faith-based community members, counselors, educators, social workers, community leaders, child specialists, etc.

Families • Caregivers • Educators • Service Providers

When a child's parent goes to prison or jail, with rare exception, the child mourns. They may miss the parent who played with them, cooked for them, or watched TV with them, and doing these things may increase their sadness. If their incarcerated parent was not available before imprisonment, the child may mourn the loss of the hope of what might have been if only Mom or Dad had not gone away.

Either way, the time when a parent is imprisoned is a time when children wait and often hope. They wait for Mom or Dad to come back to take care of them, the way they did before, or they wait for the return of a parent who has been changed and "made better" by their time in prison. They also hope that this time Mom or Dad will stay.

The caregivers of children with incarcerated parents may have many things in common. They cope with the criminal justice system, deal with the impact on the children, must find ways to make ends meet, deal with their own feelings toward the child's parents, and struggle with how to answer children's questions. Each family and each caregiving circumstance are also unique.

Caregivers could be the incarcerated parent's parent, another grandparent, an aunt, or older sibling. A caregiver might be a family friend, foster parent, or group home staff member.

Some caregivers took on the responsibility by default because there was no one else, while others were already the guardians of the children before the parent became incarcerated.

Some caregivers are unrelated to the child by blood but are the friends, girlfriends, boyfriends, or partners of one of the child's parents. Some children are in foster care with adults they did not know before their parent went to prison. In some cases, children move far away from the homes they were living in prior to their parent's arrest and incarceration and find themselves in new and unfamiliar environments.

Meanwhile, most caregivers are expected to raise the children, keep them connected in some way to their imprisoned parent, earn a living, and care for other members of the family. It may be difficult for caregivers to respond consistently to the feelings and behaviors of the children.

Other caring adults in the child's life such as teachers, health care providers, social workers, clergy, coaches, or librarians may or may not be trained to help children or their caregivers cope with this crisis. It may be helpful to share this resource with them as well if they are a trusted family support.

Influences on the caregiver's ability to cope:

- The degree of familiarity they have with the child
- The intensity of change and upheaval in the child's life
- Economic stress/instability, or the oppression of poverty
- Degree of isolation, whether in urban, suburban, or rural settings
- Caregiver's health and emotional well-being
- Quality of the child's school
- Caregiver's job satisfaction
- Community resources
- Support of family and friends
- Family spirituality and faith
- The impact of racial and ethnic prejudices
- Presence of knowledgeable professionals

What do children of incarcerated parents and their caregivers need?



Every child, family and circumstance are different. Children will need different things from caregivers depending on their age, temperament and personality, the family circumstances, the facts and details of the crime, and the availability of outside resources.¹

Some examples of circumstances faced by children of incarcerated parents are:

- Parents who were not around much before their incarceration
- Parents who were unpredictable because of mental health or substance abuse
- Parents who were actively involved before jail or prison
- Trauma from witnessing a violent arrest or a history of traumatizing experiences
- Moving to a new city or state
- Changing schools or childcare arrangements
- Difficulty staying in contact with an incarcerated parent

1. (From interviews with Caregivers - Adalist-Estrin, Family and Corrections Network-FCN).





Most caregivers need:

- Support and understanding from friends, family, clergy, and the community
- Emotional support, such as counseling or group activities
- Information about children of incarcerated parents and services in the community
- Guidance on what is generally best for children and how to answer their questions
- Rules, boundaries, and space in the home for the children, the family, and the caregiver
- Opportunities for respite care and relief from the duties of caregiving
- Help with managing the needs and services that are all too often fragmented, unavailable, or costly

Most children of incarcerated parents need:

- Consistent, caring adults who understand that, in general, children love their parents, even when they have committed a crime
- People who will not condemn the incarcerated parents as worthless
- People who will understand that children of prisoners feel angry, sad, confused, and worried
- A chance to express these feelings and learn to cope with them
- A chance to learn and practice skills and keep busy with activities
- Faith or affiliation with a community that can provide meaning for the child beyond their own crisis
- People who can help them to maintain contact with their incarcerated parent or parents or explain to them why they cannot maintain contact



Feelings and emotions:

When a family member, such as a mom or dad, goes to prison, it can be very difficult for everyone involved. For some children, the experience could be emotionally devastating or even traumatic. For others, it may be less serious, and sometimes even a relief. The overall experience and impact of the child depends on the child's age, understanding of the situation, and reactions of others – particularly their family members.

Children may experience different feelings, multiple feelings at once, or one after the other in sequence. Sometimes these are feelings of sadness, guilt, fear, disbelief, anxiety, anger and/or powerlessness. It is important to help children understand and work through their feelings.

School difficulties:

The stress of having a parent in jail or prison may affect a child's school performance. Strong emotions and the actions that go along with them can result in classroom challenges, social isolation, and other acting-out behaviors.

It is important to work closely with trusted adults at school to help the child have more success. Many times, teachers do not know about a difficult family situation.

Having information about the home life of a student can help teachers be more understanding about difficult behaviors and can help them plan for what a child needs to help them learn. It is important to be aware of risk factors and to know that these do not define the child.



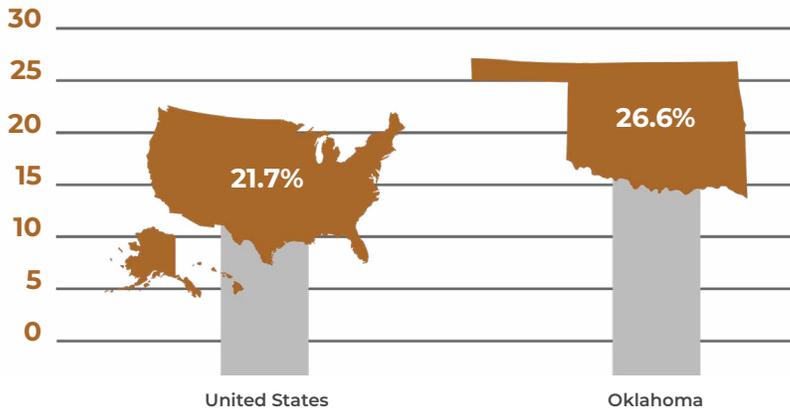
“All children benefit from strong families and safe communities where their needs are met. Surrounding families with supportive neighborhoods, communities, businesses, schools, services and systems is a critical way to support the well-being of children and families.” – *Children's Trust Fund Alliance*

Learn more about the Alliance at: <https://ctfalliance.org/>



Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), Protective Factors, and Positive Youth Development

Prevalence of 2 or more ACEs Among Children

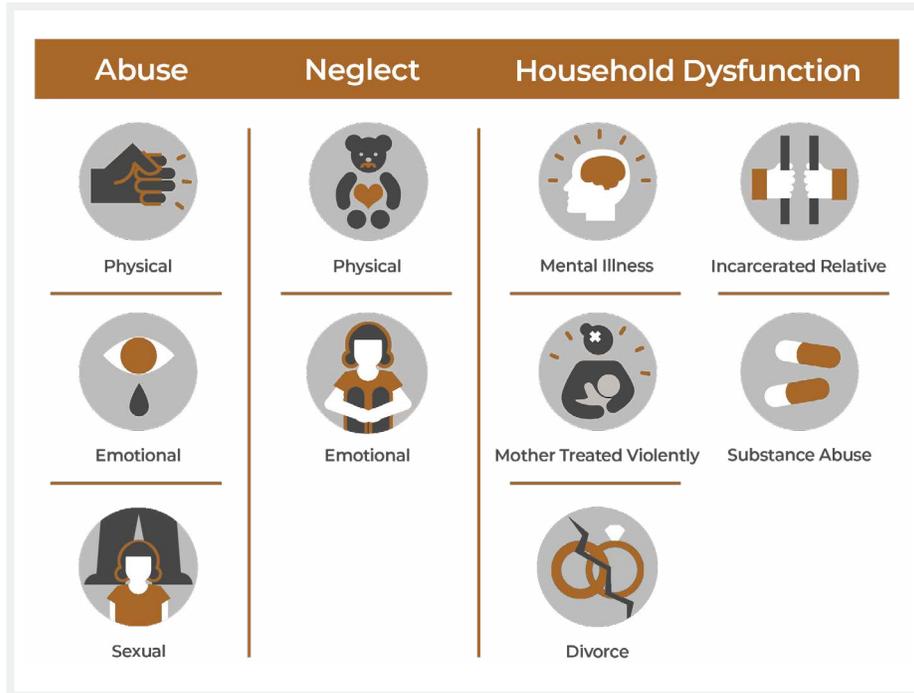


Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are potentially traumatic events that may have lasting negative impacts. ACEs affect people at all income and social levels, and can have serious, costly impact across the lifespan by contributing to high levels of toxic stress that derail healthy physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development. Forty-six percent of children in the United States have experienced at least one ACE (Sacks, 2014). The more ACEs a child experiences, the more likely they are to experience health problems, poor academic achievement, and substance abuse later in life. Oklahoma ranks number one (highest) in percentage of children with an ACE score of 2 or more. (Overall, 2020)

(Starcheski, 2015)



ACEs are categorized into three groups and are further divided into subgroups as follows:



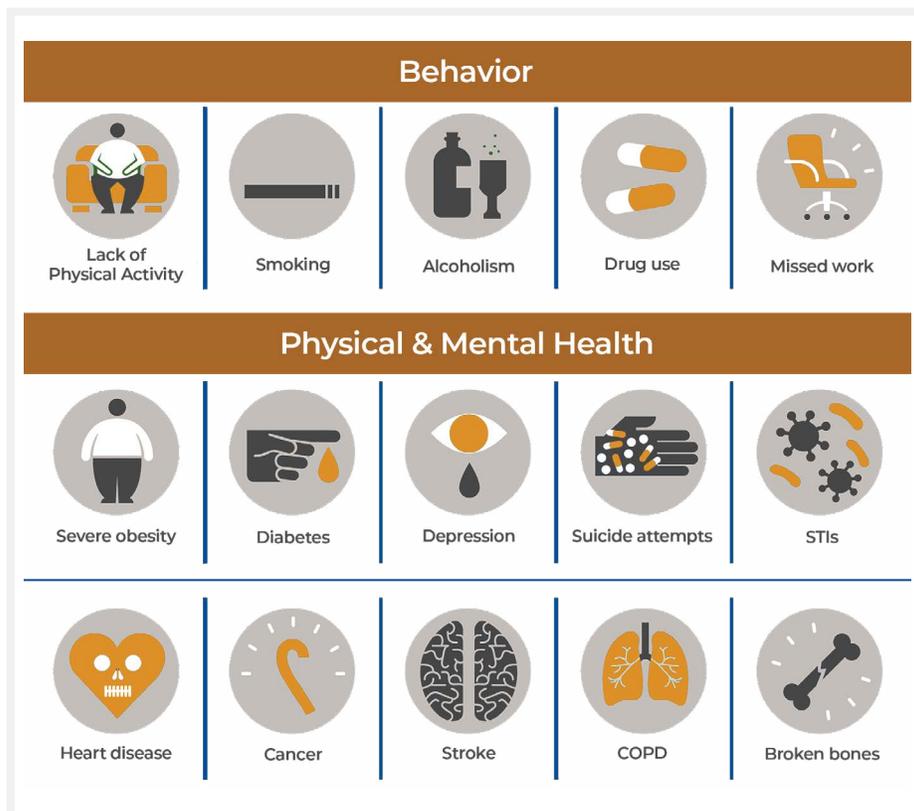
ACE's have been linked to risky health behaviors, chronic health conditions, low potential for the future, and early death (National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Division of Violence Prevention, 2016). Below-average teacher-reported academic and literacy skills along with behavior problems in kindergarten have been found in children under five years old with ACE exposure (Jimenez, 2016).

Children ages 3 to 5 who have had two or more ACEs are over four times more likely to have trouble calming themselves down, be easily distracted, and have a hard time making and keeping friends.

The good news is, individual, community, and familial strengths facilitate recovery and build resilience (APA, 2008). Despite their enduring influence, ACEs can be offset by the presence of PACEs, Protective and Compensatory Experiences (protective factors), which give children the opportunity to build resilience.

Existing protective factors can insulate children from traumatic experiences. Protective factors that are especially helpful in this demographic include, safety, stability, ability to regulate emotion, and a secure attachment to a caregiver (Buss, 2015). Families should know that maintaining at least one positive, healthy relationship with an encouraging adult is important for developing resilience.

By reducing families' sources of stress, providing children and adults with responsive relationships, and strengthening the core life skills we all need to adapt and thrive, we can prevent and counteract any lasting harm of adverse experiences.



(Starecheski, 2015)

Positive Youth Development:

Positive Youth Development (PYD) allows for a variety of objectives that affect risk factors, protective factors, and youth trajectory toward positive adult outcomes. PYD objectives include:

Bonding

- the emotional attachment between a child and various groups
- allows children to develop social connections

Resilience

- a person's ability to face and overcome adverse situations
- promotes flexibility in times of change and stress

Social/Emotional/Cognitive/Behavioral/Moral Competence

- promotes integration of feelings, thoughts, and actions to move toward goals
- provides skills in processing change

Self Determination

- allows children to enhance confidence in thinking on their own
- promotes advocating for oneself and living according to internal standards (Catalano, 1998)

Spirituality

- traditionally centered on moral and social behavior, now viewed more holistically
- an understanding between one's inward and outward journey (Positive Youth Development and Spirituality: From Theory to Research, 2008)

Self-Efficacy

- youth belief they can achieve goals with learned skills such as goal setting and coping
- promotes a clear and positive identity (Erik Erikson's Stages of Psychosocial Development, 2015)

Clear & Positive Identity

- may include ethnicity, gender, family, culture, and community
- fosters a positive identification with a sub-group or culture (Catalano, 1998)

Belief in the Future

- having hope in long term goals (attending college, finding employment, having choices)
- provides protective factors for youth by seeing a future

Recognition for Positive Behavior

- reacting to desired actions from youth
- rooted in reinforcement theory

Opportunities for Prosocial Involvement

- allowing children to participate in positive social interactions
- creating an environment for this behavior

Prosocial Norms

- embracing healthy beliefs and clear standards
- identifying expectations

It is never too late to build the protective habits and environments that promote resilience and recovery. To learn more about ACE's and PYD please search for the following web pages:

Centers for
Disease Control
and Prevention CDC
– Kaiser ACE Study



National Council
of Juvenile and
Family Court Judges
Finding Your ACE Score



The National
Child Traumatic Stress
Network About Child
Trauma



Youth.gov
Positive Youth
Development





Tips for caregivers:

1. Talk about feelings with children.

"You look sad. Are you missing Daddy?" Or, "When you get that angry at little things I wonder if you are also angry at your mom for going to jail?" or, "I wish your dad could have seen you play ball tonight, and I bet you do too."

2. Using age-appropriate language, be as honest with children as possible.

"Mommy won't be coming home for a very long time. It will be four more birthdays (or two more summer vacations)."

3. Remember to keep your feelings separate from each child's.

"We feel different things about this. I am angry at your dad and don't really want to see him, but I want you to go because he's your dad and you love him."

4. Set up family discussion times.

Tuesday night is the family "meeting." Or Wednesday night is "Let's wait for dad's call tonight and talk about how we are all doing with this." Or Saturday morning's breakfast, "Prison and jail talk is off limits." This can be a moment of relief to those who need a break from the subject.

5. Talk about the family's choice to tell others or keep it a secret from certain people.

Let children know why the choice is necessary. Provide plenty of opportunity to talk about it at home.

6. Encourage children to write or talk to their parents whenever possible.

7. Help children start a picture or story that their parent adds to, and then the child adds on, and so on by mailing it back and forth.

8. Read with the children. Encourage your library to include books and pamphlets about children of incarcerated parents in its collection.

9. Get support and help for the children and yourself through friends, clergy or counselors.

By Ann Adalist-Estrin, Children of Prisoners Library, Family and Connections Network. Copyright 2003.



Questions a child might ask when a family member goes to prison

There are no answers that fit all difficult questions that a child may ask. Each circumstance is unique. This toolkit is designed for you to go through the information and pick out what may apply to you.

In most cases, a prison sentence will be another immediate family crisis, the worst-case scenario. Until now, adults and children in the family could hope for a better outcome such as a suspended sentence, deferred imposition of sentence, or a prison alternative. At this point in the process, it is certain that the family member won't be coming home any time soon. On the other hand, if the family member committed crimes against the children or other adults in the family, a prison sentence guarantees a respite from the hurt, perhaps permanently, and might be a relief. Prisons and jails are similar in appearance, but they have different purposes.

Jails are temporary holding facilities operated by cities, counties, and tribal governments. Suspects go to jail after arrest and before a court hearing or trial if they are not granted bond (or bail). Offenders convicted of misdemeanors in Oklahoma may also serve their sentences in local jails, often in the community in which they committed their crimes. Offenders sometimes remain in county jails for months after sentencing.

Prisons in Oklahoma are large, secure facilities designed for felony offenders serving longer sentences. Prisons have more treatment, education, and exercise options than jails. Prisons and jails are a place where people who have been accused or convicted of crimes are confined or incarcerated. Generally, people stay in jail if they are sentenced for less than a year or if they are waiting for their trial. If they receive a sentence for more than a year, they go to prison. People who are incarcerated are often called inmates.

What are jails?

Jails are temporary holding facilities operated by cities, counties, and tribal governments.

What are prisons?

Prisons in Oklahoma are large, secure facilities designed for felony offenders serving longer sentences.

Who goes to jails and prisons?

Prisons and jails are a place where people who have been accused or convicted of crimes are confined or incarcerated.

How long will they stay?

Generally, people stay in jail if they are sentenced for less than a year or if they are waiting for their trial. If they receive a sentence for more than a year, they go to prison.

10 questions a young child might ask

1. When can I see or talk to my family member?



"I will find out what the visiting rules are and help you see him." If you have a family member held in a jail, contact the jail for more information on how to arrange contact.

Each jail has different visitation procedures. Some information can be found on each local jail's website. For prison visiting rules, visit <https://oklahoma.gov/doc.html> and click on "Facilities" at the top of the web page.

2. When is my family member coming home?

"We believe (s)he might come home after two summers," or "after three birthdays," or "when you are 12 years old." Be careful not to give a child a firm date because prison release dates can change for many reasons, including parole (early release) or new criminal charges (extended stay). If you are reasonably certain when the sentence will end, try using a reference date that is important to the child.

3. Will my family member be safe?

"People who work at the prison are called correctional officers. They are much like police officers. They work very hard to make sure that your family member and the others who are incarcerated are safe. You will be safe when you visit."

4. Where will my family member sleep?

"Your family member will sleep in a bed sort of like a camp cot in a small room with a door, called a cell. (S)he will probably share a cell with at least one other person."

5. What will (s)he wear?

"People who are incarcerated wear identical uniforms that look like doctor or nurse 'scrubs.' They also have socks and shoes, provided by the prison."

6. What will (s)he eat?

"The prison serves three meals a day on trays in a cafeteria similar to the one you have at school. Some people in prison eat meals in their cells. They can also buy snacks from a prison shop called a commissary."

7. How will my family member spend his/her time in prison?

"People read books, write letters, and go outside or to a gym for exercise. They attend classes that help them learn how to obey rules, be better parents, stop drinking alcohol or taking drugs, and be less angry. Most prisons have classes for incarcerated parents who want to earn their high school diploma, GED or study for college."

8. What will it be like to visit prison?

Every prison is different. You will be informed about the rules in advance. This is a general answer to help children envision the visit and perhaps lessen their fear: "You will be with me (or other adult caregiver) the entire time. Before we go, the prison will tell us what we can wear and what we can and cannot bring into the prison. Going into the prison will be sort of like going through airport security (if the child has been to an airport). We will be checked to be sure we don't have cell phones or other things that are not allowed in prison. We will visit in a special room with tables and chairs. Most prison visiting areas have books and toys for children to enjoy. Your family member will meet us there."

9. Will anyone hurt us?

"The people who work at the prison will keep us safe. You will not be left alone at any time in the prison. It might be scary at first to be in a prison, but no one will hurt us." Public safety is the top priority at ODOC correctional facilities. Staff will take any action necessary to protect visitors, other staff and those who are incarcerated. Visits include some risks, which staff members will explain to visitors. Young children probably do not need to be told that a prison visit involves risk. However, it might be a good idea to explain that a stranger (security staff) will be touching them during the search.

10. What if I do something wrong? Will I have to go to prison?

"If you do something wrong, you will have a consequence like 'time out' or not riding your bike for three days. You will not go to prison."



Family / Caregivers: Should I apply for this?

If you are taking care of a child whose parent is in jail or prison, you may need assistance. Getting answers to questions and finding services, programs and support can be confusing and overwhelming.

You may be eligible to receive help if you're dealing with the following situations: eviction, lack of food, homelessness, pregnancy, medical issues, utility shut-off, domestic violence, medical emergency, non-receipt of benefits, dental, mental health services, childcare needed due to work, or circumstances which present harm to the client or others.



Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

LIHEAP provides seasonal assistance to low-income households to assist with winter heating and summer cooling costs, and to provide emergency help for some families who have received utility cut-off notices. Apply at your local Oklahoma Human Services (OKDHS) office in December and July for heating and cooling assistance. Check with your local utility company and ask if there are other assistance programs. (<https://oklahoma.gov/okdhs/services/liheap/utilityservicesliheapmain.html>)



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

SNAP (formerly Food Stamps) enables low-income families to buy nutritious food with Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) cards. Children may be eligible for SNAP assistance even if their parents are not. If parents are ineligible for SNAP because they are incarcerated, their children may still be eligible for benefits. The child(ren)'s guardian(s) or caregiver(s) may apply on behalf of the child(ren) or may include them as a part of their own SNAP household if they are also participating in the program. Apply at your local OKDHS office (<https://oklahoma.gov/okdhs/services/snap.html>)

Or apply over the phone through Hunger Free Oklahoma's SNAP Hotline. Call toll-free at 1 (877) 760-0114. English and application assistance is available Monday-Friday 8 am to 8 pm and Saturday 9 am to 5 pm. Burmese and Zomi application assistance are available Wednesday-Friday 1:30 pm to 8 pm and Saturday 1 pm to 5 pm.



Summer Meals for Kids

This program offers meals and learning activities for children over the summer months when children are not in school. To find a site near you, visit <https://meals4kidsok.org>



Child Support Services

OKDHS Child Support Services helps to ensure that both parents are providing the financial support their children need. The parent who is not incarcerated may want to apply for TANF. If so, the state may proceed with a child support case when the application is reviewed. You may want to talk to the incarcerated parent about working with the child support office to request a review and adjustment that reflects actual income during the incarceration period. For more information contact your local OKDHS office or (<https://oklahoma.gov/okdhs/services/child-support-services.html>)



Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

TANF is a federally funded program for children deprived of support because of a parent's death, incapacity, absence or unemployment. Cash assistance is available to the family on a time-limited basis through TANF. The purpose of this federal program is to provide temporary support in meeting basic needs, training leading to employment, employment services and childcare assistance for qualified families with children. (<https://oklahoma.gov/okdhs/services/tanf/tanfhome.html>)





Child Welfare Services

Child Welfare Services is required to engage parents, including absent and noncustodial parents, in case planning for their children in foster care whenever possible and appropriate even if the parents are incarcerated. For more information contact your local OKDHS office or (<https://oklahoma.gov/okdhs/services/child-welfare-services.html>)

To report child abuse or neglect, call the statewide Child Abuse Hotline at any time, at 1-800-522-3511 or your local county OKDHS office during business hours. You will be asked to give the child's name, address and specifics about what happened – how they were harmed or neglected.



Child Care Assistance

OKDHS helps to pay for the cost of childcare for children up to age 13 while the parent(s) work or go to school. Application for the program is made through the local county OKDHS office. For information call 1-844-834-8314 or (<https://oklahoma.gov/okdhs/services/adult/ccsubsidy/child-care-subsidy.html>)



Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA)

Many children remain eligible or gain eligibility for Medicaid coverage (SoonerCare) while their parents are incarcerated. The Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) is responsible for administering the Oklahoma Medicaid Program and oversight of all state purchased health care. For information call the OHCA helpline at 1-800-987-7767 or (<http://www.okhca.org/>)



Oklahoma County Health Departments

Oklahoma currently has county health departments and two independent city-county health departments serving all 77 counties. Each department offers a variety of services, such as immunizations, family planning, maternity education, well-baby clinics, adolescent health clinics, hearing and speech services, child developmental services, environmental health services, and the SoonerStart early intervention program. For information call the Oklahoma State Department of Health at 1-800-522-0203 or (<https://oklahoma.gov/health/locations/countymap.html>)



Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program

If you are caring for a child between the ages of 0 and 5 you may qualify for the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program. This program is provided throughout the state in county health departments, clinics, hospitals, and health centers. For more information (<https://oklahoma.gov/health/family-health/wic.html>)



Child Guidance Program at the Oklahoma State Department of Health

The Child Guidance Program at the Oklahoma State Department of Health housed in the Family Support and Prevention Service, aims to build healthy family relationships, and enhance child development. The program provides behavioral health, child development, parent education, and speech-language services. These services are provided on a sliding fee scale based on income and size of family. No one will be turned away for inability to pay. For more information call 405-271-4477, visit your local health department, or go to the Child Guidance Program (<https://oklahoma.gov/health/services/children-family-health/child-guidance-program.html>)



Social Security

Persons convicted of crime and incarcerated for more than 30 continuous days no longer receive social security retirement or disability payments while serving their sentences. But family members eligible to receive a portion of the incarcerated person's benefits should continue receiving payments. For more information call 1-800-772-1213 or (<https://www.ssa.gov/>)



Social Security Cards

You do not have to be the child(ren)'s legal guardian to obtain Social Security cards for them. All U.S. citizens need a copy of their birth certificate or baptismal record. For more information contact the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213, (<https://www.ssa.gov/ssnumber/>) or go in person to your nearest Social Security Office.



Birth Certificates

The Oklahoma State Department of Health Division of Vital Records is responsible for registering every birth. For general information call 405-426-8000 or to get a birth/death certificate go to Birth Certificates. (<https://oklahoma.gov/health/services/birth-and-death-certificates/birth-certificates.html>)



Enrolling children in school

You don't have to be the legal guardian of a child to enroll the child in public school. Children of incarcerated parents may be considered homeless if they are living with a caregiver who is not their parent or court-ordered guardian. For school, children can get assistance for education under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act.



If you have questions about a child's eligibility under McKinney-Vento or need help accessing services for a student, contact the local public school or Oklahoma State Department of Education. (<https://sde.ok.gov/homeless-resources>)



If you have a child with developmental disabilities or chronic medical conditions, you or the child may have special questions and need special assistance. Schools are required to assess children with learning disabilities and provide a free and appropriate education. For more information contact the Oklahoma State Department of Education, Special Education Services at 405-521-3351 or (<https://sde.ok.gov/special-education>)



Enrolling Children in Head Start and Early Head Start

These programs provide a comprehensive program of childcare, education, health, mental health, nutrition, parent involvement and services for children with disabilities. Early Head Start is for children from birth to age 3 and for pregnant women; Head Start is for children age 3-5. Eligibility is based on family income and other criteria. For more information (<https://okacaa.org/headstart/programs/>)



Reduced-Price/Free Breakfast or Lunch

You can apply for this program at any time during the school year, but keep an eye out for the application, which may be sent home with the child during the first week of school. For more information contact your local school district or (<https://sde.ok.gov/child-nutrition-programs>)

Homelessness resources

Pivot



The Homeless Alliance



Housing Solutions
of Tulsa



Sisu Youth Services



If using the print version of this toolkit, please search for the names of the webpages provided in each box.



Additional Oklahoma programs and agencies offering services and supports to families



Oklahoma 2-1-1 Helpline

Resources for food, clothing, shelter, and financial assistance can be found at Oklahoma 2-1-1. It is a free and confidential community helpline available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. 2-1-1 helps people access information they need to navigate the ever increasing and complex array of human services. For community, housing and financial assistance resources dial 2-1-1. (<https://csctulsa.org/211-oklahoma/>)



Birthright Living Legacy

The mission of Birthright Living Legacy is to validate the merit fathers bring to parenting. We celebrate and support fathers by equipping them with the tools and resources to lead successful families in the home out of the home or while incarcerated. We connect to a community of fathers through bi-weekly meetings, events, and workshops to improve parent-child relationships. In addition, Birthright Living Legacy provides support and counseling referrals to fathers while working to create a strong community of fathers dedicated to creating positive parent cycles. (<https://brlivinglegacy.com>)



Salvation Army

The Salvation Army operates service centers in communities across Oklahoma. Services include food distribution, children's programs, disaster relief, rehabilitation centers, and more. (<https://www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/>)



Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS)

For information about drug/alcohol dependence and prevention, call the Reach Out Hotline at 1-800-522- 9054 or (<https://oklahoma.gov/odmhsas.html>). Teens can talk to a peer who is trained to assist callers with any concerns including drugs and alcohol by contacting Teenline at 1-800-522-8336, between the hours of 3pm and midnight.



University of Oklahoma Center on Child Abuse & Neglect

The Center on Child Abuse and Neglect offers assessment and treatment for children who have been abused or neglected, adolescent sex offenders, and women and the children of women who used inappropriate substances during pregnancy. They also provide assessments for children at high-risk for abuse or neglect. For more information call 405-271-8858 or (<https://medicine.ouhsc.edu/Academic-Departments/Pediatrics/Sections/Developmental-Behavioral-Pediatrics/Patient-Care/Center-on-Child-Abuse-and-Neglect>)



Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness (OPSR)

OPSR was created to help Oklahoma families access the early care and education, family support, and health and mental health services they need to support their children during the most critical period of development from birth to age five. OPSR facilitates collaborative planning and decision making to increase coordination between programs, to maximize the use of public and private funding, and to pursue policies that improve learning opportunities and environments for Oklahoma's children. (<https://okschoolreadiness.org>)



The Oklahoma Association of Youth Services

Oklahoma Youth Services Agency provides counseling, mentoring, first offender programs, shelters, intervention centers, and youth services. (<https://www.oays.org/>)



Oklahoma Association of Community Action Agencies

Community Action Agencies are locally governed non-profit organizations that work to improve the lives of low-income individuals by creating opportunities for increased self-sufficiency and greater participation in the community. Community Action Agencies serve all 77 counties in Oklahoma. For more information call 405-949-1495 or (<https://okacaa.org/>)





Women's Justice Team

Women's Justice Team (WJT) offers on-site, and remote mental health and substance use treatment services to female-identified individuals in an outpatient setting. The program takes a multi-generational approach to client care because trauma, incarceration, unmanaged mental illness, and disordered substance use effects individuals and their families. The WJT parenting program specializes in providing gender-responsive care to parents that both restores parent capacity and strengthens family bonds. WJT provides family-inclusive, trauma-informed parenting groups that help build parenting skills to support the healing of families in early recovery. WJT provides maternal health care for pregnant clients, including referrals for prenatal care, doula assistance, and Family Care Plans. For more information about the WJT, call 918-560-1320. <https://www.fcsok.org/womens-justice-team/>



Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth (OCCY)

The Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth works to improve services to children through planning, coordinating, and communicating with communities and between public and private agencies; independent monitoring of the children and youth service system; and testing models and demonstration programs for effective services. For more information call 405-606-4900 or (<https://www.oklahoma.gov/occy>)



Calm Waters

Help for children and families in their grief journey caused by death, divorce or other significant loss. For more information call 405-841-4800 or (<https://www.calmwaters.org/>)



Goodwill Industries of Central Oklahoma

Goodwill Industries of Central Oklahoma helps people overcome challenges to employment through its little to no cost micro credential programs or no cost employment programs for youth, veterans and re-entry populations. After completion of Goodwill programs, clients have an opportunity to speak with employment specialists to help find a job. (<https://okgoodwill.org/programs-and-employment/employment-programs/reentry-preparation-program/>)



Warmline for Oklahoma Child Care Providers

The Oklahoma Warmline provides families, childcare providers, and caregivers free consultation and support for nurturing infants, toddlers, and children up to age 13 as they grow and develop. Trained consultants specializing in child health, development, and behavioral health are available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. They offer practical advice, generate ideas and solutions for daily challenges, provide support, and help connect you with additional resources and referrals when needed. (<https://okwarmline.org/>)



Oklahoma Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

The child may have a court appointed CASA volunteer. The CASA volunteer's role is to ensure that the rights of the child are represented in all proceedings. (<https://oklahomacasa.org/>)



Oklahoma Child Care Resource & Referral Association (OCCRRA)

The OCCRRA is an organization devoted to serving communities statewide in ways that enhance Oklahoma's childcare resources. Information is available on training, as well as listings of licensed childcare facilities, with links to local childcare resource and referral agencies. For more information, call 1-888-962-2772 or (<https://www.oklahomachildcare.org/>)



Oklahoma Department of Corrections (ODOC)

A quick FAQ reference for Oklahoma prisons is available by visiting (<https://oklahoma.gov/doc/offender-info.html>)



Oklahoma Native American Resource Guide

The Oklahoma Digital Prairie provides the Native American Resource guide with a list of programs and resources by visiting (<https://www.digitalprairie.ok.gov/digital/collection/stgovpub/id/23317>)



NICWA Resources for Parents Facing Incarceration, and Their Children, Families and Caregivers

This publication from the National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA) offers essential resources for those navigating the effects of parental incarceration. (https://www.nicwa.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/064_NICWA_San-Manuel-Parent-Resource_9.29.pdf)



Parenting in Jail

Parenting in Jail, a program of Family & Children's Services, provides evidence-based parenting classes to individuals in the following county jails: Tulsa, Okmulgee, Osage, Creek, and Rogers. In addition to classes, participants may be eligible for weekly in-jail contact visits with their minor children. Caregivers are connected to community resources and provided information regarding how to support children with incarcerated parents. Community-based parenting classes are also available to individuals living in Tulsa and surrounding counties if they are involved in the criminal legal system. For more information about the Parenting in Jail program, call 918-560-1300. <https://www.fcsok.org/womens-justice>



Latino Community Development Agency

Resources are available to help strengthen families about protective factors and community resources. (<https://lcdaok.com>)



Hispanic Resource Center; Tulsa City-County Library

Provides the opportunity to learn about Latino history and culture. Strengthening cultural and community connections is a protective factor. (<https://www.tulsalibrary.org/locations/visit-the-hispanic-resource-center>)



Family Resource Centers (FRCs)

Family Resource Centers (FRCs) are supportive and welcoming places for all families. These centers offer a range of free or low-cost services, including parenting and play groups, as well as clothing, diapers, and various household items. Each service or support is designed to help families navigate their unique needs. FRCs focus on building strong support networks, ensuring everyone feels understood and valued. Through their programs, they promote resilience and healing, aiming to improve children's well-being and strengthen family bonds. To learn more information or connect with an FRC near you, visit <https://parentpro.org/content/services>.



Mentoring, supports, and youth organizations



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oklahoma (BBBSOK)

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oklahoma's mentoring programs are designed to create positive, measurable outcomes for youth, including educational success, avoidance of risky behaviors, higher aspirations, greater confidence, and better relationships. BBBS matches children (called Littles) with caring adult role models (called Bigs). Bigs share experiences with Littles that expand their world in new ways. BBBSOK services are available in the metro areas of Bartlesville, Norman, Oklahoma City, Stillwater, and Tulsa. For more information, (www.bigoklahoma.org) or call 918-744-4400.



Girl Scouts

Girl Scouts is an organization that promotes leadership, success, and adventure in a safe, no-limits environment designed by girls for girls. Girl Scouts aims to develop a strong sense of self, positive values, learning from setbacks, healthy relationships, and problem-solving skills. Girl Scouts participation is available to youth in grades K-1 (Daisies), 2-3 (Brownies), 4-5 (Juniors), 6-8 (Cadettes), 9-10 (Seniors), and 11-12 (Ambassadors). For more information or to find a local Girls Scout program (<https://www.girlscouts.org/>)



Girl Scouts Beyond Bars of Oklahoma

Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma The Girl Scouts Beyond Bars program works with girls with incarcerated mothers, providing support and transportation to visit and maintain contact. For more information call 918-749-2551 or toll-free 800-707-9914 or (<https://www.gseok.org/en/members/for-parents-and-families/girl-scouts-beyond-bars.html>)



Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA)

The Boys & Girls Clubs of America provides safe places for children to grow and thrive, engaging programs focused on academics, health, and leadership, and trained staff who guide, coach, and motivate kids to be successful. Programs are available for age groups 6 to 9, 10 to 12, 13 to 15, and 16+ years. To locate your nearest Boys and Girls Club call 404-487-5700 or (<https://www.bgca.org/>)



Scouts BSA

Scouts BSA offers a variety of programs including: Cub Scouts for youth grades K-5, Scouts BSA for youth 11-17 years old, Venturing Co-ed 14-20 years old, Sea Scouting Co-ed 14-20 years old, and Exploring Co-ed 10-20 years old. (<https://www.scouting.org/>)

Being a Cub Scout means you are a member of a worldwide youth movement that stands for certain values and beliefs. Young people of different ages have different ranks in Cub Scouting from Tiger Cub (age 7) to Webelos Scout (age 10). (<https://www.scouting.org/programs/cub-%20scouts/>)



4-H Youth Development

This program is for grades 3rd-12th can participate and provides kids with community, mentors, and learning opportunities to develop skills they need to create positive change in their lives and communities. A few of their activities include gardening, science, agriculture, arts, STEM, healthy living, civic engagement and more. (<https://4-h.org/>)



Grandparent Toolkit

This toolkit and video series help grandparents who are caring for their grandchildren. The toolkit's goal is to help increase grandparents confidence and knowledge about common issues and learn about available resources for grandparents. <https://oklahoma.gov/health/health-education/children--family-health/maternal-and-child-health-service/grandparent-toolkit.html>



Prison Fellowship® Angel Tree®

Prison Fellowship® Angel Tree® fosters relationships between children and their incarcerated parents through local churches that provide Christmas gifts and a personal message from the parent to the child. Angel Tree® also supports the family year-round by sending kids to Christian summer camps, offering one-day sports camps, and providing connections to mentoring and other community programs, all at no cost to the families. (<https://www.prisonfellowship.org/family>)





Oklahoma Messages Project

Oklahoma Messages Project's mission is to improve children's lives through shared reading via video with their incarcerated parents. OK Messages Project goes into prisons to coach and film parents reading books and sharing a hopeful message. The DVDs are mailed to the child(ren) with the book read on the video. The program, "Messages from Mom and Dad with Bedtime Stories" is an important part of helping children thrive during their parents' absence. When kids hear, 'I want you to know that Mommy is safe, and it's not your fault that we're separated. I miss and love you so much! I'm very proud of you, how you help your sister and grandma, and do your homework— So let's read a book together...'" their worry and sadness decrease significantly. The child-parent connection is restored. Their self-esteem and hope are boosted; and while reading together with parents nightly, their reading skills improve, and they do better in school. For more information about the Oklahoma Messages Project, call 405-285-5955. <https://okmessagesproject.org/>



New Day Camp

New Day Camp, offered through the Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries of Oklahoma (CJAMM), is for children ages 8 to 14 years who currently have or have had in the past, at least one incarcerated parent. The camp is hosted at Lake Texoma and includes activities to address the special needs of this group of young people may have. office@cjamm.org (<https://www.cjamm.org/new-day-camp/>)



Light Christian Academy

Light Christian Academy was established in 2012 to serve students with incarcerated parents. While we continue to support families affected by incarceration, we are expanding our reach by opening enrollment to students in the surrounding community. Eligible zip codes include 73111, 73104, 73105, 73106, 73117, and 73121. Light Christian Academy is a Pre-K through 4th grade college-preparatory Christian school



New Hope Oklahoma

New Hope Oklahoma is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing life skills development and social and emotional support services for children of the justice-involved, across Oklahoma. New Hope offers high-quality, free programming in schools, led by licensed behavioral health professionals and certified teaching staff. Programs are primarily embedded within school sites, but also can be embedded in community centers and churches during the after school hours. In addition to after school programs, New Hope offers free residential summer camps for qualifying youth ages 9-14 years, and day camps for youth ages 5-8 years, during the summer months. <https://newhopeoklahoma.org>



Oklahoma Family Network (OFN)

The Oklahoma Family Network is Oklahoma's parent-to-parent mentorship network for those raising children with special medical needs, developmental delays, or a disability. OFN provides support to families through parent-to-parent mentorship and educational training. Call 1-877-871-5072 or (<https://oklahomafamilynetwork.org/>)



Internet links

The Oklahoma Children of Incarcerated Parents Advisory Committee provides these Internet links as a service to caregivers. If you do not have access to the Internet, try your local library or ask a friend to print materials from a home computer.

Other Toolkits and Guides:

Statewide Correctional Initiatives Supporting Children with Incarcerated Parents: An Action Plan for Policymakers



Science Direct: Children and Youth Services Review



National Center for Homeless Education



The National Resource Center on Children and Families of the Incarcerated



Youth.Gov Children of Incarcerated Parents Tools, Guides, & Resources



Sesame Street Resources



Faith-Based Organizations

Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (State of Oklahoma)



Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries of Oklahoma, Inc. (CJAMM)



Prison Fellowship®
Angel Tree®



If using the print version of this toolkit, please search for the names of the webpages provided in each box.



Reading lists and videos for children, caregivers and providers

The following books were written to help children understand the experience of having a mother or father in prison or jail. When a parent, counselor or caregiver reads these books to children, it can help create the opportunity to talk more about the child's feelings to help them process and cope.

Knock Knock: My Dad's Dream for Me (2013)

Daniel Beaty

A poignant children's book about an absent father's enduring love and the dreams he leaves behind.

Far Apart, Close in Heart: Being a Family When a Loved One is Incarcerated (2017)

Becky Birtha

A sensitive story addressing children's varied emotions when a parent is incarcerated, emphasizing that they are not alone.

Kennedy's Big Visit (2015)

Daphne Brooks

A touching tale about a young girl's emotional journey visiting her father in prison and their unbreakable bond.

Mama's Nightingale: A Story of Immigration and Separation (2015)

Edwidge Danticat

A story of a girl who finds hope and connection through her mother's recorded bedtime tales while she is detained.

Almost Like Visiting (2016)

Shannon Ellis

A resourceful book exploring the emotions of children during video visits with incarcerated parents.

Our Moms (2018)

Q. Futrell

An easy-to-read guide that fosters understanding of parental incarceration while promoting diversity and support.

Deena Misses Her Mom (2017)

Jonae Haynesworth

A story about a girl struggling with anger and grief after her mother's incarceration and her journey toward healing.

The Night Dad Went to Jail: What to Expect When Someone You Love Goes to Jail (2013)

Melissa Higgins

A guide for children dealing with the emotions and uncertainty when a loved one is jailed.

Missing Daddy (2019)

Mariam Kaba

A heartfelt account of a girl's longing for her imprisoned father and the joy of their visits.

See You Soon (2022)

Mariame Kaba

An illustrated story showing the love and connection between a girl and her mother, despite incarceration.

Love Never Leaves: Children Coping with the Incarceration of Their Loved One (2024)

Katrina McCutchen

Calvin's emotional journey highlights the enduring power of love despite his father's incarceration.

Visiting Day (2015)

Jacqueline Woodson

A beautifully illustrated story capturing the anticipation and joy of a girl's monthly visit to her father in prison.

My Daddy's in Jail (2015)

Anthony Curcio

A whimsical yet informative story that helps children understand jail and navigate their feelings.

Two of Every 100 (2010)

Richard W. Dyches

A workbook designed to help children with incarcerated parents express their feelings and concerns.

Anna's Test (2019)

Whitney Hollins

Anna eagerly shares her academic success with her incarcerated father, fostering conversations about parental incarceration.





When Dad Was Away (2013)

Karen Littlewood

A girl copes with her father's imprisonment and finds comfort in his recorded stories and family support.

Someone I Know Lives in Prison (2013)

Rebecca Myers

An educational tool that helps children understand the prison visitation process.

Sing, Sing Midnight (2016)

Emily Ridge Gallagher

A lyrical tale of a girl who finds connection and comfort through her father's unexpected answers during his incarceration.

Dear Dad, Love Nelson: The Story of One Boy and his Incarcerated Father (2023)

Margaret McBride

This story builds awareness of parental incarceration and increases empathy for people who have an incarcerated loved one.

Questions for Dad: Helping Children Cope with Parental Incarceration (2022)

Ryan Stowe

Two siblings confront their questions and emotions about their father's incarceration, learning to support each other.

Welcome Home: Mommy Gets Out Today (2015)

Jamantha Williams Watson

A story about two children navigating the joy and challenges of reuniting with a mother returning from prison.

Resources for policymakers



Safeguarding Children of Arrested Parents: Bureau of Justice Assistance U.S. Department of Justice: (<https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/Publications/IACP-SafeguardingChildren.pdf>)



Child Welfare Information Gateway (<https://www.childwelfare.gov/>)



The Echoes of Incarceration Projects: Young filmmakers with incarcerated parents created a film about their experience. (<https://www.echoesofincarceration.org/>)



Caring Through Struggle: Caregivers of Children with Incarcerated Parents. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4uGikgx6QTW>)



Keeping Children Safe when their Parents are Arrested: Local Approaches that Work (<https://www.ojp.gov/ncjrs/virtual-library/abstracts/keeping-children-safe-when-their-parents-are-arrested-local>)



SchoolHouse Connection (<https://schoolhouseconnection.org/>)



Every Door Closed: Barriers Facing Parents with Criminal Records / Amy E. Hirsch, et al., Center for Law and Social Policy, Community Legal Services, 2002, (<https://www.clasp.org/publications/report/brief/every-door-closed-barriers-facing-parents-criminal-records>)



Children of Incarcerated Parents: An Action Plan for Federal Policymakers Justice Center, The Council of State Governments, 2009 (<https://www.ojp.gov/ncjrs/virtual-library/abstracts/children-incarcerated-parents-action-plan-federal-policymakers>)



Parents in Prison and Their Minor Children, The Bureau of Justice Statistics Report Glaze, L. and Maruschak, L., August 2008, revised March 2010, (<https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/pptmc.pdf>)



Oklahoma Study of Incarcerated Mothers and Their Children – 2014 Author: Susan F. Sharp, Ph.D., David Axlyn McLeod, Ph.D, MSW, Melissa S. Jones, MA, (<https://oklahoma.gov/content/dam/ok/en/occy/office-of-planning-and-coordination/2014-Oklahoma-Study-of-Incarcerated-Mothers-and-their-Children.pdf>)



Oklahoma Children of Incarcerated Parents Advisory Committee / Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth (oklahoma.gov/occy/departments/planning-and-coordination/p-c-cip/children-of-incarcerated-parents-advisory-committee.html)



The Effects of Childhood Stress on Health Across the Lifespan (US DHHS CDC, 2008) This report succinctly summarizes the short and long-term effects on children of chronic and/or severe stress, including incarceration of a family member. Data focuses on the results of the Adverse (<https://stacks.cdc.gov/view/cdc/6978>)



Oklahoma Study of Incarcerated Mothers and Their Children Phase 1, 2 and 3 Author: Susan F. Sharp, Ph.D., Study of Incarcerated Women and Their Children in Oklahoma, October 2004, 2005, (<https://www.ojp.gov/ncjrs/virtual-library/abstracts/oklahoma-study-incarcerated-mothers-and-their-children-phase-ii>)



Books for caregivers and service providers

Incarceration and Families (2016)

Hillary W. Poole

This book explores the challenges faced by more than 2.5 million American children who have incarcerated parents. It offers advice and encouragement for kids navigating these difficult circumstances while highlighting changes in family structures in modern times. The book includes accessible information and resources to help children feel less isolated.

Parental Incarceration and the Family: Psychological and Social Effects of Imprisonment on Children, Parents, and Caregivers (2014)

Joyce A. Arditti

This book examines how parental incarceration impacts children, caregivers, and the incarcerated parent, focusing on the disadvantages children face and the adjustments required of caregivers. Through research and personal stories, it paints a vivid picture of the family dynamics affected by imprisonment. The author advocates for policy changes that better address the needs of families with incarcerated members.

The Shadow System: Mass Incarceration and the American Family (2020)

Sylvia A. Harvey

This book follows three families navigating the hardships caused by mass incarceration, from a father serving a life sentence to a mother fighting for custody. It sheds light on how the system fractures families and challenges their resilience. The author provides a human perspective on systemic injustice while illustrating the emotional and social costs of incarceration.

Holding On: Family and Fatherhood during Incarceration and Reentry (2019)

Tasseli McKay

Based on a ten-year study, this book examines the parenting and relationships of incarcerated men and their families. It highlights the central role these men play as fathers and partners and how their absence impacts loved ones. The book challenges common perceptions about incarcerated men and advocates for policies that support vulnerable families. The research bridges gaps between family well-being and incarceration studies.

Doing Time on the Outside: Incarceration and Family Life in Urban America (2007)

Donald Braman

This book reveals the financial, social, and emotional toll incarceration takes on families. It focuses on urban families and the challenges they face while supporting loved ones behind bars. The author provides a detailed account of how imprisonment reshapes family dynamics and relationships.

Family Arrested: How to Survive the Incarceration of a Loved One (2002)

Ann Edenfield

Drawing from personal experience, this book offers practical advice for families dealing with the incarceration of a loved one. It explains the legal and emotional steps families must navigate, from arrest through sentencing and imprisonment. The book provides a roadmap to help families survive and adapt to these challenges.

Parenting Through Incarceration and Beyond (2023)

Kevin D. Johnson II

This book empowers incarcerated parents to maintain meaningful relationships with their children and offers strategies for parenting during and after incarceration. It emphasizes the importance of family bonds in promoting healing and resilience. The author calls for a more compassionate and inclusive society that supports families facing these unique challenges.

Research and information for providers



The Antisocial Behavior of the Adolescent Children of Incarcerated Parents: A Developmental Perspective *Eddy and Reid (OSLC, 2002)*

This study explores the relationship between parental criminality and adolescent antisocial behavior, examining effective interventions and educational programs for incarcerated parents. <https://aspe.hhs.gov/reports/antisocial-behavior-adolescent-children-incarcerated-parents-developmental-perspective-0>



Childhood Loss and Behavioral Problems: Loosening the Links *Viboch, Vera (2005)*

This article explains the connection between parental incarceration and child misbehavior, focusing on grief and loss, effective responses to children's feelings of loss, helping children understand parental incarceration, and fostering stability and security. <https://www.vera.org/publications/childhood-loss-and-behavioral-problems-loosening-the-links>



Prisoners in 2011 *Carson, E.A. & W.J. Sabol (Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2012)*

Highlights data and trends in the incarcerated population during 2011. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/p11.pdf>



Parents in Prison: Why Keeping Low-Level Drug Offenders in Prison Hurts Kids, and What the Justice Department is Doing to Help

Child Trends (August 22, 2013)

Highlights the adverse effects of incarcerating low-level offenders on children and discusses related justice department initiatives. <https://www.childtrends.org/publications/parents-in-prison-why-keeping-low-level-drug-offenders-in-prison-hurts-kids-and-what-the-justice-department-is-doing-to-help>



Broken Bonds: Understanding and Addressing the Needs of Children with Incarcerated Parents

Vigne, Davies, Brazzell (Urban Institute, 2008)

This report highlights the emotional and behavioral impacts of parental incarceration on children and identifies protective factors that help build resilience within families. <https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/31486/411616-Broken-Bonds-Understanding-and-Addressing-the-Needs-of-Children-with-Incarcerated-Parents.PDF>





Children's Antisocial Behavior, Mental Health, Drug Use, and Educational Experience after Parental Incarceration: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Murray, J., D.P. Farrington, & I. Sekol (2012)
Explores the long-term impacts of parental incarceration on children, focusing on antisocial behavior, mental health, and education. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/22229730/>



Families Left Behind: The Hidden Costs of Incarceration and Reentry

Travis, McBride, Solomon (Urban Institute, 2005)
A report for social service providers discussing the effects of incarceration on family dynamics, visitation challenges, and the role of families in stabilization and reintegration. <https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/50461/310882-Families-Left-Behind.PDF>



Prisoners in 2012 – Advance Counts

Carson, E.A. & D. Golinelli (Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin, 2013)
Provides statistical insights into the incarcerated population in 2012. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/p12ac.pdf>



Mean Lives, Mean Laws: Oklahoma's Women Prisoners

Sharp, S.F., & Juanita Ortiz (2014)
Discusses the experiences of incarcerated women in Oklahoma, shedding light on systemic issues and social consequences. <https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.36019/9780813562773/html>



Parental Incarceration and Child Wellbeing in Fragile Families Center for Research on Child Wellbeing (Fragile Families Research Brief Number 42, 2008)

Discusses the effects of parental incarceration on child wellbeing and family dynamics in fragile families. <https://fragilefamilies.princeton.edu/sites/fragilefamilies/files/researchbrief42.pdf>



Parents in Prison and Their Minor Children Glaze, L.E. & L.M. Maruschak (Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report, 2008)

Explores the impacts of parental incarceration on minor children and family dynamics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/pptmc.pdf>



Living with a Parent in Prison: Learning from Young People

Catherine Flynn & Kathryn Gor (2024)
This study shares children's perspectives on coping with parental imprisonment. It highlights their need for connectedness, respect, and recognition, urging improved support from families, schools, and justice systems. https://shineforkids.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/MonashUniversity_ChildrensVoices_FinalReport_September2024.pdf



The Effects of Childhood Stress on Health across the Lifespan

Summarizes the effects of chronic stress, including parental incarceration, on children's health and development, based on the ACE Study findings. <https://drum.lib.umd.edu/handle/1903/22891>



National Organizations



There are many national organizations that provide support or information.

The Annie E. Casey
Foundation Kids Count
Data Center



ASU Center of
Child Well-Being



WEGOTUSNOW



CSG Justice Center:
Evidence-Based and
Promising Programs
Supporting Incarcerated
Parents, Their Children and
Families



Osborne Association



National Center
for Fathering



If using the print version of this toolkit, please search for the names of the webpages provided in each box.



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4. How to Explain...Jails and Prisons...to Children: A Caregiver's Guide, Oregon Department of Corrections Children of Incarcerated Parents Project Elizabeth Sazie, MD, MPH, Diane Ponder, LCSW and Juanita Johnson
5. Family and Corrections Network (FCN) Including the Children of Prisoners Library. www.fcnetwork.org
6. A Behavioral Health Toolkit for Providers Working with Children of the Incarcerated and their Families. (Washington State Department of Social & Health Services, 2009)
7. Children of Incarcerated Parents Web Portal. This website, found at www.childrenofincarceratedparents.org, consolidates, in a single online location, information regarding federal resources, grant opportunities, best and promising practices, and ongoing government initiatives that support children of incarcerated parents and their caregivers. The portal provides user-friendly information for stakeholders, including local and state governments, which wish to initiate their own collaborative processes to improve support for these children. For example, visit the portal to view the Children of Incarcerated Parents Framing Paper, which outlines the challenges children of incarcerated parents and their families face and provides strategies for service providers on how to enhance these children's social and emotional well-being. (Children of Incarcerated Parents Web Portal | National Reentry Resource Center)
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Survey: Give us your feedback

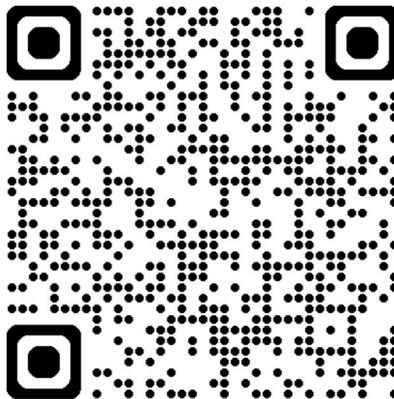
Share your experience with the CIP Toolkit and help us improve future editions.

This brief, voluntary survey invites you to share how you use the Children of Incarcerated Parents (CIP) Toolkit and which resources have been most helpful.

Your feedback helps the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth (OCCY) and the CIP Advisory Committee strengthen future versions of the toolkit. Responses are anonymous, no identifying information is collected or shared, and the survey takes approximately three to five minutes to complete.

You may also report any missing information, suggest new resources, or request improvements. Alternative formats are available by emailing danielle.dill@occy.ok.gov. All responses are used solely for program improvement.

Scan or click the QR Code



Or visit tinyurl.com/2026CIPSURVEY

Thank you for participating.

Notes



**OKLAHOMA
COMMISSION ON
CHILDREN AND
YOUTH**

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Hidden in Plain Sight:

Homeless Children & Youth Steering Committee 2025 Annual Report



OKLAHOMA
COMMISSION ON
CHILDREN AND
YOUTH

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Members of the Homeless Children and Youth Steering Committee (HCYSC) and partner organizations representing parent voice, youth leadership, higher education, state government, and the private sector convened around a shared goal: supporting children, youth, and families experiencing homelessness.

Pictured (left to right): James Ray, OCCY Parent Partnership Board; Venicesa Sampson, Member Experience Officer, Oklahoma's Credit Union; Tammy Killman, Assistant Vice President of Member Experience, Oklahoma's Credit Union; Jae Burley, OKC Youth Action Board; Natalie Dickson, Senior Research Assistant, OU E-Team; Lisa White, Senior Project Coordinator, OU E-Team; Jennifer Weins, SRAE Parent Education Specialist, Oklahoma State Department of Health; and Marcellus Seals, OKC Youth Action Board.

▶ Executive Summary

Homelessness among children, youth, and families in Oklahoma is increasing and remains significantly under-identified. Most Oklahoma children and youth experiencing homelessness are not in shelters; they are doubled up with relatives or friends (often referred to as “couch surfing” or “couch homeless”), staying in motels, or moving frequently between temporary arrangements. These “hidden” situations make homelessness harder to detect and harder to address.

Under 10 O.S. § 601.6c, the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth (OCCY) is required to review data, identify barriers, and present policy recommendations annually to state leaders. This 2025 report provides a concise overview of current trends, system gaps, existing strengths, and actionable strategies to improve outcomes.

In 2025, the Homeless Children and Youth Steering Committee (HCYSC), convened by OCCY, adopted a statewide 2025–2027 Strategic Plan to strengthen policy, partnerships, and data-driven approaches to preventing and ending child and youth homelessness. This report aligns with that framework and provides annual legislative findings required under 10 O.S. § 601.6c.

Key Findings

- Data from the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) show that the number of public school students identified as experiencing homelessness has risen substantially in recent years, increasing from 21,988 students in the 2021-22 school year to 26,673 students in 2024-25, a growth of approximately 4,685 students (about 21%) statewide. (OSDE, 2022; 2025).
- Infants, toddlers, and unaccompanied youth remain the most undercounted and least served groups.
- Most Oklahoma students experiencing homelessness are in doubled-up living situations and do not access shelters, making their homelessness less visible and more likely to go unidentified, delaying access to transportation, educational stability, and other McKinney-Vento supports.

- Transportation, documentation, and mental health access are major barriers across the state.
- Oklahoma has expanded efforts in identification, statewide screening for student housing instability, access to required educational documentation (such as enrollment and immunization records), and cross-system coordination.

Priority Recommendations

- Strengthen identification in schools, childcare, and state systems.
- Reduce barriers to accessing pre-kindergarten and other early childhood programs for children and families experiencing homelessness.
- Expand youth-specific housing and supports.
- Improve transportation and documentation access.
- Increase behavioral health resources tailored for youth and families.
- Strengthen prevention strategies statewide.
- Support coordinated, data-driven decision-making across systems.

▶ Statutory Charge & Definitions

Statutory Charge (10 O.S. § 601.6c)

The Legislature directs OCCY to:

- Review data on homeless children and youth;
- Identify barriers and propose solutions;
- Engage state agencies and community partners; and
- Report findings annually to the Senate President Pro Tempore and House Speaker.

Definition of Homeless Children & Youth (State + McKinney-Vento)

A homeless child or youth in Oklahoma is 21 or younger and meets one or more of the following:

- Lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence;
- Lives in motels, hotels, shelters, transitional housing, or public/private spaces not designed for sleeping;
- Is doubled-up due to economic hardship or loss of housing;
- Is unaccompanied and without stable shelter; or
- Lacks a guardian willing and able to provide adequate housing.

These definitions include infants, toddlers, school-age children, unaccompanied minors, and transition-age youth.

▶ Oklahoma Landscape & Data Overview

Overview

Homelessness among Oklahoma children and youth is increasing. Schools, youth organizations, early childhood programs, and behavioral health providers all report higher need, more complex cases, and limited resources. Most homelessness remains hidden, occurring outside traditional shelter systems.

School Data (McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act)

Under the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, school districts are required to identify and support students who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including students who are doubled up, staying in motels, or living in shelters.

- Oklahoma school districts identified 26,673 PK–12 students as lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence in SY 2024–2025 (OSDE, 2025). Last count information.
- The majority (83%) of Oklahoma’s McKinney-Vento-identified students were in doubled-up living arrangements due to economic hardship or eviction (OSDE, 2025).
- Transportation remains the most common request for McKinney-Vento supports across districts, especially in rural communities.

In addition to statewide counts, districts report emerging trends based on information submitted by local McKinney-Vento liaisons to the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE), including annual and ongoing program reporting:

- Families experiencing eviction or severe cost burden;
- Students staying in motels; and
- Rural homelessness where no shelter options exist.

Implementation of the Universal Residency Questionnaire has strengthened identification; however, gaps remain in consistently identifying students experiencing couch homelessness, highly mobile families, and students in rural districts where staffing, training, and access to services are limited.

Infants and Toddlers (0–5)

- Young children (0–5) remain the least likely to be captured in statewide data systems, as most are not yet connected to public schools.
- Housing instability is consistently identified as one of the top three barriers to consistent child-care attendance and early learning engagement (OKCCR&R, 2024).
- Early childhood providers report increases in:
 - Families cycling between motels, temporary stays, or doubled-up arrangements;
 - Infants and toddlers missing developmental screenings due to mobility;
 - Families unable to secure child care due to lack of documentation or transportation.

Unaccompanied Youth (Ages 14–24)

- An estimated 450 unaccompanied youth (ages 14–24) experienced homelessness in Oklahoma in 2024 (Read Frontier, 2025).

- Oklahoma has 329 youth-specific shelter and transitional housing beds, leaving a clear gap between need and available capacity (Oklahoma Memo, 2024).
- Youth providers report a rise in young people sleeping in cars, storage units, tents, or rotating among friends' homes.
- Youth avoid adult shelters due to safety concerns, trauma histories, and environments not designed for adolescent or young adult needs.
- Rural youth face additional barriers, including no youth shelters, limited transportation, and long distances to services.

Behavioral Health Indicators

- Oklahoma students experiencing housing instability report 2–3× higher rates of depressive symptoms compared to their housed peers (YRBS, 2024).
- Students experiencing homelessness are four times more likely to report suicidal ideation (YRBS, 2024).
- Housing-unstable youth also show higher rates of:
 - Chronic absenteeism;
 - Substance use;
 - Exposure to violence or unsafe environments.

Point-in-Time (PIT) Count

- The 2024 PIT Count identified 5,497 Oklahomans experiencing homelessness on a single night (HUD, 2024).
- Of these, 810 were unaccompanied youth ages 18–24 counted in households without children (HUD, 2024).
- The PIT Count is widely understood to undercount youth and families, as it excludes:
 - Doubled-up living arrangements;
 - Motel stays;
 - Many rural households experiencing hidden homelessness.

Community Trends

- Providers across the state note rising family homelessness linked to evictions, domestic violence, cost burden, and unstable employment.
- Youth Services of Tulsa documented its highest crisis-housing demand in over a decade (YST, 2025).
- Oklahoma City youth providers report increases in youth sleeping in vehicles, couch-surfing, or remaining unsheltered after aging out of supports.
- Rural communities report:
 - No youth shelters available in many counties;
 - Very limited rental availability;
 - Lack of public transportation; and
 - Higher reliance on doubled-up situations not captured in data.

➤ Key Gaps & Barriers



Darryl Savell experienced homelessness with his then four-year-old daughter after losing his job and employer-provided housing at a hotel in Oklahoma City. During the winter months, they faced limited shelter options, as many emergency shelters were full or served only women and children, creating significant barriers for a single father seeking family shelter. With support from City Rescue Mission, Darryl and his daughter secured temporary shelter and received wraparound services and comprehensive case management. Although the family is now stably housed, Darryl continues to share his lived experience to educate policymakers and stakeholders about gaps in family shelter capacity and the importance of trauma-informed supports in schools and service systems.

Under-Identification

- Hidden homelessness is common and difficult to detect.
- Inconsistent screening across schools, early childhood programs, and agencies.

Limited Youth-Specific Housing

- Very few shelter beds for youth 16–24.
- Limited safe spaces for pregnant/parenting youth.
- Rural areas often have no youth housing options.

Documentation Barriers

- Lack of birth certificates, IDs, or Social Security cards limits access to school, work, health care, and housing.
- Youth exiting foster care or juvenile justice often leave without essential paperwork.

Community Resistance

- Misunderstanding about youth homelessness can delay shelter expansion or local services.
- Neighborhood concerns often overshadow the needs of youth.

Transportation Challenges

- Long distances in rural areas; no public transit.
- School transportation support can require extensive coordination.
- Families lack reliable vehicles or car seats.

Mental & Behavioral Health Access

- Waitlists for child and adolescent therapy.
- Limited trauma-informed care for youth experiencing homelessness.
- Few behavioral health providers embedded in shelters or schools.

Fragmented Systems

- Minimal data-sharing across education, child welfare, housing, and health.
- Eligibility confusion prevents timely access to services.
- Transition planning varies among agencies.
- Limited Pre-K availability and enrollment requirements often prevent children experiencing homelessness from accessing early learning opportunities.

➤ Current State Efforts & Strengths

Oklahoma has built meaningful infrastructure to support children and youth experiencing homelessness; however, these efforts are not yet sufficient to meet the scale, complexity, and growth of need statewide. While this progress reflects momentum, increased coordination, and growing alignment across education, early childhood, housing, behavioral health, and youth services, significant gaps remain, particularly for children and youth experiencing “couch homelessness,” those in rural communities, and families requiring prevention-focused supports.

Cross-System Collaboration (HCYSC)

OCCY’s Homeless Children and Youth Steering Committee (HCYSC) brings together state agencies, school personnel, behavioral health partners, community providers, parents, and youth with lived experience. The Committee’s work has improved data sharing, elevated parent and youth voice, and established a unified statewide framework through the 2025–2027 Strategic Plan.



Susan Agel, Chair of the OCCY Homeless Children and Youth Subcommittee, emphasized the importance of cross-system collaboration to strengthen supports for youth experiencing homelessness.

Universal Residency Questionnaire (URQ)

The statewide adoption of the URQ has significantly improved early identification in schools and early childhood settings. Districts report more consistent screening practices, earlier detection of housing instability, and stronger alignment with McKinney-Vento eligibility requirements.

McKinney-Vento Liaisons

District liaisons continue to be a cornerstone of Oklahoma’s response to student homelessness. They provide direct support for identification, transportation, enrollment, and school stability, particularly in rural districts where families face long travel distances and limited public transit.

Homeless Youth ID Program

Oklahoma’s youth identification program has removed common documentation barriers for unaccompanied youth. Fee waivers, clearer eligibility processes, and interagency cooperation have increased access to IDs, birth certificates, and essential records necessary for school, employment, and housing.

Early Childhood Coordination

Early childhood programs, including Early Head Start, Head Start, Child Care Resource and Referral agencies, and home visiting services have strengthened capacity to identify families facing housing instability. Providers report improved collaboration with school districts and increased referrals for developmental screening and family support.

Legislative Engagement & Interim Study Leadership



Rep. Daniel Pae, R, represents Oklahoma's 62nd District.

- Representative Daniel Pae sponsored an interim study on youth homelessness, with OCCY and partners coordinating presenters and statewide data. The study elevated youth homelessness as a bipartisan legislative priority.
- OCCY hosted a town hall with Senator Brenda Stanley, Representative Pae, and a staff representative from Congresswoman Stephanie Bice's office, strengthening state and federal engagement on youth homelessness.

Community Innovation

Examples of community-led innovation include:

- Youth Services of Tulsa expanding crisis response, drop-in supports, and short-term housing options, reaching the highest demand in more than a decade.
- Pivot, Inc. operating one of Oklahoma's only youth-focused tiny home communities, providing safe, stable, developmentally appropriate housing paired with case management, education and employment supports, and wraparound services. Pivot's model has received national attention as a scalable and cost-effective approach for transition-age youth.
- Rural nonprofits piloting mobile outreach, transportation supports, and motel-based stabilization strategies in communities without youth shelters.
- Oklahoma's Credit Union partners with youth programs to provide financial literacy and banking support for youth at risk of or experiencing homelessness, offering practical skills that promote long-term stability.
- Faith-based and volunteer groups offering meals, clothing drives, mentoring, and transportation supports that fill gaps in rural counties.
- Positive Tomorrows opening three Early Head Start and Head Start classrooms exclusively serving children experiencing homelessness, providing trauma-informed early learning, family supports, and stability during a critical developmental period.

Together, these community-driven models reflect Oklahoma's capacity for innovation and highlight opportunities to scale effective practices statewide.

Youth and Parent Engagement with Lived Experience

OCCY integrates youth and parent voice into statewide planning and policy development. Individuals with lived experience, including those who have faced housing instability, provide critical insight into real barriers and systems gaps. This engagement strengthens decision making and aligns Oklahoma with national best practices for responsive, effective policy.

- The OCCY Parent Partnership Board elevates parent voice to inform system improvements and family-centered practices.
- OCCY is launching a statewide Youth Advisory Council in 2026, developed in partnership with youth who have varied lived experiences, including homelessness.
- Youth and parents contribute to HCYSC discussions and listening sessions, ensuring that recommendations reflect real experiences and practical needs.

► Policy & Practice Recommendations

These recommendations support the statutory purpose outlined in 10 O.S. § 601.6c, reflect the findings of this report, and align with the priorities established in the HCYSC 2025–2027 Strategic Plan, including strengthening policy, expanding partnerships, and improving data and continuous improvement.

1. Strengthen Early Identification and Reduce Access Barriers

Early and consistent identification is crucial for connecting children, youth, and families to supports.

Recommended Actions

- Ensure school districts receive ongoing McKinney-Vento and URQ training, with particular support for rural districts.
- Expand identification efforts for infants and toddlers (0–5) through early childhood programs, home visiting, CCR&R agencies, pediatric providers, and child welfare partners.
- Streamline or eliminate documentation requirements (e.g., proof of address, guardianship paperwork) that prevent families or unaccompanied youth from accessing services, child care, or enrollment.
- Improve access to transportation support for students experiencing homelessness, especially in rural and high-poverty areas.

2. Expand Youth Housing, Crisis Response, and Family Stability Supports

Oklahoma's current housing and shelter capacity is insufficient to meet statewide need.

Recommended Actions

- Support efforts to increase youth-specific crisis beds, transitional housing units, and host-home programs, prioritizing regions with no youth shelters.
- Strengthen family stability strategies that help prevent homelessness, including eviction prevention assistance, flexible crisis supports, and landlord mediation strategies.
- Promote youth-centered models (e.g., drop-in centers, transitional living, wraparound staffing) that are developmentally appropriate and trauma-informed.
- Strengthen behavioral health access for youth experiencing homelessness through mobile teams, telehealth, and community partnerships.

3. Advance Cross-System Collaboration and Partnerships

Ending child and youth homelessness requires coordinated, aligned action across state, tribal, and community systems.

Recommended Actions

- Continue to strengthen the work of the Homeless Children and Youth Steering Committee, including cross-agency initiatives and shared priority setting.
- Foster partnerships between schools, early childhood programs, youth-serving organizations, higher education, faith communities, and local housing providers.
- Support local communities in developing regional coalitions to address rural homelessness, transportation barriers, and service gaps.

- Encourage opportunities to leverage federal grants, philanthropic partners, and private sector collaborations to expand supports for children and youth.

4. Improve Data Quality, Sharing, and Continuous Improvement

Accurate data is essential for understanding need and measuring progress.

Recommended Actions

- Strengthen statewide data coordination for children and youth experiencing homelessness, including schools, child welfare, early childhood, health, and behavioral health systems.
- Encourage communities to use both quantitative and qualitative data, including youth and family voice, to identify trends and inform system improvements.
- Strengthen efforts to identify early childhood homelessness and barriers to early childhood education through consistent screening practices and coordinated training.
- Improve rural data collection methods that capture “hidden homelessness” such as doubled-up living and motel stays.

5. Reduce System Barriers That Disproportionately Impact Unaccompanied Youth

Unaccompanied youth face unique legal and logistical challenges.

Recommended Actions

- Remove administrative barriers that prevent unaccompanied youth from obtaining necessary documents (IDs, birth certificates, medical records, school transcripts).
- Expand training for youth-serving providers, schools, and housing partners on youth rights and consent frameworks.
- Improve access to education, employment, and postsecondary pathways for youth experiencing homelessness.

➤ Conclusion

This report is titled *Hidden in Plain Sight* because the homelessness experienced by Oklahoma’s children and youth often goes unnoticed, despite its presence in every corner of our state. The data make clear that thousands of young people, infants, students, and unaccompanied youth, are living in unstable, unsafe, and temporary conditions that jeopardize their well-being and their futures. Most are not in shelters. They are doubled-up, staying in motels, or moving from place to place, situations that fail to meet their basic needs and remain largely invisible in traditional data systems.

Oklahoma has strong partners, committed agencies, and community organizations working tirelessly on behalf of these children and youth. Yet the scale and urgency of the crisis now demand more than the current system is resourced to provide. Families facing eviction, toddlers missing critical developmental screenings, and youth sleeping in vehicles or rotating among friends’ homes illustrate the real human impact behind the numbers.

Oklahoma now has a clear roadmap - the **HCYSC 2025–2027 Strategic Plan** - to strengthen policy, partnerships, and data-driven solutions. What has been hidden in plain sight can no longer remain unseen, and this report’s findings complement the Plan’s call for coordinated statewide action. Legislators have a pivotal opportunity to advance both the annual recommendations required by statute and the longer-term strategic priorities endorsed by stakeholders statewide. The decisions made now will shape outcomes for thousands of Oklahoma’s children and youth. They are counting on us to act with urgency, clarity, and commitment.

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**OKLAHOMA
COMMISSION ON
CHILDREN AND
YOUTH**

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1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

3 HOUSE BILL 3849

By: Roberts

4
5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to the Oklahoma Juvenile Code;
8 amending 10A O.S. 2021, Sections 2-10-101 and 2-10-
9 102, as amended by Section 11, Chapter 347, O.S.L.
10 2024 (10A O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 2-10-102), which
11 relate to the Oklahoma Mentoring Children of
12 Incarcerated Parents Program; modifying purpose;
13 modifying who may receive mentoring services;
14 modifying applicant requirements; modifying time
15 period in which the Commission shall award grants for
16 specific purpose; and providing an effective date.

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

18 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2021, Section 2-10-101,
19 is amended to read as follows:

20 Section 2-10-101. A. The Oklahoma Commission on Children and
21 Youth shall establish the Oklahoma Mentoring Children of
22 Incarcerated Parents Program.

23 B. The purpose of the Oklahoma Mentoring Children of
24 Incarcerated Parents Program is to provide effective intervention
services through ~~one-to-one~~ mentoring relationships to children of
incarcerated parents ~~who either:~~

1 ~~1. Are in the custody of the Office of Juvenile Affairs and~~
2 ~~currently placed outside the home; or~~

3 ~~2. Have been identified by the Office of Juvenile Affairs as~~
4 ~~and to children at risk of becoming involved in the juvenile justice~~
5 ~~system.~~

6 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2021, Section 2-10-102,
7 as amended by Section 11, Chapter 347, O.S.L. 2024 (10A O.S. Supp.
8 2025, Section 2-10-102), is amended to read as follows:

9 Section 2-10-102. ~~1.~~ A. The Oklahoma Commission on Children
10 and Youth shall issue a request for proposals on or before July 1,
11 2024, and July 1 of every third year thereafter for which the
12 Oklahoma Mentoring Children of Incarcerated Parents Program is
13 funded, seeking applications to administer the Oklahoma Mentoring
14 Children of Incarcerated Parents Program.

15 ~~2.~~ B. The Office of Management and Enterprise Services shall
16 work in conjunction with the Commission to coordinate a competitive
17 bid process.

18 ~~3.~~ C. The Commission, in coordination with the Office of
19 Management and Enterprise Services, shall review the applications
20 for compliance with the established requirements.

21 ~~4.~~ D. Entities eligible to submit applications to administer
22 the Oklahoma Mentoring Children of Incarcerated Parents Program
23 shall be limited to nonprofit organizations or programs which are
24 exempt from taxation pursuant to the provisions of Section 501

1 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C., Section 501 (c) (3)
2 and which otherwise meet the requirements set forth in ~~paragraph 5~~
3 subsection E of this section.

4 ~~5.~~ E. The Commission may approve an application that meets the
5 requirements set forth in this subsection and as established by the
6 Commission. The approved applicant or applicants shall provide ~~one-~~
7 ~~to-one~~ mentoring services to children of incarcerated parents ~~who~~
8 ~~are in the custody of the Office of Juvenile Affairs and currently~~
9 ~~placed outside the home, or have been identified by the Office of~~
10 ~~Juvenile Affairs as~~ and to children at risk of becoming involved in
11 the juvenile justice system. The selected applicant or applicants
12 shall:

13 a. ~~currently serve~~

14 1. Serve youth ages ~~6-18,~~

15 b. ~~have~~ six (6) through eighteen (18);

16 2. Have a statewide or regional presence~~,~~

17 c. ~~currently provide one-to-one;~~

18 3. Provide mentoring services to children of incarcerated
19 parents~~,~~

20 d. ~~have;~~

21 4. Have served children of incarcerated parents for ~~five (5)~~
22 three (3) years or more~~,~~

23 e. ~~have;~~

24 5. Have rigorous volunteer application and screening processes~~,~~

1 f. have;

2 6. Have established child safety policies and procedures,

3 g. measure;

4 7. Measure performance outcomes via multiple tools,

5 h. ~~have five (5);~~

6 8. Have three (3) years or more of performance outcome data,

7 i. provide;

8 9. Provide ongoing safety training and diversity training for
9 program staff,

10 ~~j. have an established working relationship with the~~
11 ~~Office of Juvenile Affairs,~~

12 k. set;

13 10. Set match-retention-rate goals,

14 ~~l. have; and~~

15 11. Have experience working with high-risk populations, ~~and~~

16 ~~m. deliver contracted services at a cost no greater than~~
17 ~~One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) per~~
18 ~~mentor-mentee match.~~

19 ~~6. On or before July 1, 2012, and each July 1 thereafter for~~
20 ~~which the Oklahoma Mentoring Children of Incarcerated Parents~~
21 ~~Program is funded, the Office of Juvenile Affairs may forward~~
22 ~~applications that the Office of Juvenile Affairs has determined meet~~
23 ~~the requirements of this section to the Commission.~~

1 F. On or before November 1, ~~2012~~ 2024, and ~~each November~~ every
2 third year thereafter for which the Oklahoma Mentoring Children of
3 Incarcerated Parents Program is funded, the Commission shall award,
4 through a competitive bid process, ~~one~~ a grant ~~to one applicant to~~
5 ~~provide one to one~~ or grants for the purpose of providing mentoring
6 services to children of incarcerated parents ~~who either are in the~~
7 ~~custody of the Office of Juvenile Affairs and currently placed~~
8 ~~outside the home or have been identified by the Office of Juvenile~~
9 ~~Affairs as~~ and to children at risk of becoming involved in the
10 juvenile justice system.

11 ~~7.~~ In addition to the grant funding, ~~the Commission shall be~~
12 ~~authorized to provide other appropriate assistance to the selected~~
13 ~~applicant.~~

14 ~~8.~~ G. The Commission shall be authorized to promulgate rules
15 and establish procedures necessary to implement the provisions of
16 this act.

17 ~~9.~~ H. The Office of Management and Enterprise Services shall
18 work with the Commission to implement the provisions of this act.

19 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.

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21 60-2-15661 CMA 01/05/26

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1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

3 HOUSE BILL 4302

By: Pae

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to children; amending 10 O.S. 2021,
8 Section 601.6, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 178,
9 O.S.L. 2025 (10 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 601.6),
10 which relates to the Office of Juvenile System
11 Oversight; authorizing the Office to subpoena certain
12 records; authorizing the release of certain
13 information for certain purposes; and providing an
14 effective date.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

16 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 10 O.S. 2021, Section 601.6, as
17 amended by Section 1, Chapter 178, O.S.L. 2025 (10 O.S. Supp. 2025,
18 Section 601.6), is amended to read as follows:

19 Section 601.6. A. For purposes of this section, the term
20 "children and youth service system" shall have the same meaning as
21 it is defined in Section 600 of this title.

22 B. The Office of Juvenile System Oversight shall have the
23 responsibility of inspecting and investigating misfeasance and
24 malfeasance within the children and youth service system, as

1 directed by the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth, to
2 ascertain compliance with established responsibilities.

3 C. The Office shall conduct not less than one but not more than
4 two regular, periodic, unannounced inspections of state-operated
5 children's institutions and facilities annually. The Office is
6 further authorized to inspect privately operated children's
7 institutions and facilities that receive state or federal funding,
8 on a periodic basis or as needed.

9 D. The Office shall investigate complaints filed with the
10 Office regarding the children and youth service system.

11 E. The Office of Juvenile System Oversight shall have the
12 authority to:

13 1. Access all facilities within the children and youth service
14 system for the purpose of conducting inspections and investigations;

15 2. Examine and copy all records and budgets pertaining to the
16 children and youth service system and to review inspection reports
17 of the State Fire Marshal, State Department of Health, and any other
18 agency that accredits such institutions and facilities;

19 3. Interview the residents of institutions and facilities
20 within the children and youth service system;

21 4. Subpoena child or juvenile records maintained by state-
22 operated and privately-operated entities within the children and
23 youth service system;

24 5. Subpoena witnesses and hold public hearings;

1 ~~5.~~ 6. Establish, in accordance with the Dispute Resolution Act,
2 Sections 1801 through 1813 of Title 12 of the Oklahoma Statutes, a
3 voluntary program for foster parents to mediate complaints
4 concerning the rights of foster parents, as provided for in Section
5 1-9-119 of Title 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes, that relate to
6 certain actions, inactions or decisions of the Department of Human
7 Services, the Department of Juvenile Justice, or child-placing
8 agencies that may adversely affect the safety and well-being of
9 children in the custody of the state;

10 ~~6.~~ 7. Receive any complaint alleging that an employee of the
11 Department of Human Services or a child-placing agency has
12 threatened a foster parent with removal of a child from the foster
13 parent, harassed a foster parent, or refused to place a child in a
14 licensed or certified foster home, or disrupted a child placement as
15 retaliation or discrimination towards a foster parent who has:
16 a. filed a grievance pursuant to Section 1-9-120 of Title
17 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes,
18 b. provided information to any state official or
19 Department employee, or
20 c. testified, assisted, or otherwise participated in an
21 investigation, proceeding, or hearing against the
22 Department or child-placing agency.

23 The Office of Juvenile System Oversight shall forward the
24 complaints to the Office of Client Advocacy for investigation

1 pursuant to subsection D of Section 1-9-112 of Title 10A of the
2 Oklahoma Statutes. The Office of Juvenile System Oversight shall
3 work with the Office of Client Advocacy to ensure the complaints are
4 investigated and resolved in accordance with the grievance
5 procedures provided in Section 1-9-120 of Title 10A of the Oklahoma
6 Statutes. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to any
7 complaint by a foster parent regarding the result of a criminal,
8 administrative, or civil proceeding for a violation of any law,
9 rule, or contract provision by that foster parent, or the action
10 taken by the Department or a child-placing agency in conformity with
11 the result of any such proceeding;

12 ~~7.~~ 8. Issue reports to the Governor, Speaker of the House of
13 Representatives, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, Chief Justice
14 of the Supreme Court of the State of Oklahoma, any appropriate
15 prosecutorial agency, the director of the agency under
16 consideration, and other persons as necessary and appropriate; and

17 ~~8.~~ 9. Provide recommendations to the Oklahoma Commission on
18 Children and Youth on or before May 1 of each year.

19 F. The Office of Juvenile System Oversight shall not release
20 information that would identify a person who makes a complaint to
21 the Office, unless a:

22 1. A court of competent jurisdiction orders release of the
23 information for good cause shown; or

24

1 2. The disclosure of such information is needed to protect the
2 safety of others if the complainant has communicated an explicit
3 threat to kill or inflict serious bodily injury upon a reasonably
4 identified person or has communicated an explicit threat against any
5 entity. The Office shall be deemed to have taken reasonable
6 precautions if it makes a reasonable effort to:

7 a. communicate the threat to the reasonably identified
8 person or entity, and

9 b. notify an appropriate law enforcement agency in the
10 vicinity where the complainant or any potential victim
11 resides.

12 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.

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14 60-2-15641 CMA 01/06/26
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1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

3 HOUSE BILL 3637

By: Lawson

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6
7 AS INTRODUCED

8 An Act relating to children; amending 10A O.S. 2021,
9 Sections 1-9-102, 1-9-103, 1-9-104, 1-9-104a, and 1-
10 9-104b, which relate to the Oklahoma Children's Code;
11 providing that the lead agency for child abuse
12 multidisciplinary review team shall be certified or
13 qualified; providing that the district attorney shall
14 choose and the team shall provide input and consent
15 for the lead agency; providing duties for the team;
16 updating references; providing that law enforcement
17 and staff shall conduct joint investigations;
18 modifying team functions; directing an entity to
19 review the teams; directing the Department of Human
20 Services to work in partnership with designated
21 entity; modifying terms relating to the Child Abuse
22 Multidisciplinary Team Account; authorizing certain
23 entity to administer certain funds; authorizing the
24 Department to contract with qualifying entity;
modifying who may promulgate rules; creating the
Oklahoma Multidisciplinary Team Council; providing
for membership; providing requirements for
membership; providing duties of Council; directing
Council to elect chair and vice-chair; providing that
a quorum of the Council may carry out business;
repealing 10A O.S. 2021, Sections 1-9-103a and 1-9-
103b, which relate to the Child Abuse
Multidisciplinary Team Account Fund; repealing 63
O.S. 2021, Section 1-227.9, which relates to the
Child Abuse Training and Coordination Council;
providing for codification; and providing an
effective date.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

2 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2021, Section 1-9-102, is
3 amended to read as follows:

4 Section 1-9-102. A. 1. ~~In coordination with the Oklahoma~~
5 ~~Commission on Children and Youth, each~~ Each district attorney shall
6 develop a child abuse multidisciplinary ~~child abuse~~ review team in
7 each district attorney's respective county ~~of the district attorney~~
8 or in a contiguous group of counties.

9 2. The lead agency for the team shall be a certified child
10 advocacy center or another qualified agency chosen by the ~~members of~~
11 ~~the team~~ district attorney with input and consent from the child
12 abuse multidisciplinary team members. The team shall review,
13 provide input, and intervene in reports involving child sexual abuse
14 or child physical abuse or neglect.

15 B. The child abuse multidisciplinary ~~child abuse~~ team members
16 shall include, but not be limited to:

17 1. Mental health professionals licensed pursuant to the laws of
18 this state or licensed professional counselors;

19 2. Police officers or other law enforcement agents with a role
20 in, or experience or training in child abuse and neglect
21 investigation;

22 3. Medical personnel with experience in child abuse and neglect
23 identification;

24

1 4. Child protective services workers within the Department of
2 Human Services;

3 5. ~~Multidisciplinary child~~ Child abuse multidisciplinary team
4 coordinators, or Child Advocacy Center personnel; and

5 6. The district attorney or assistant district attorney.

6 C. 1. ~~To the extent that resources are available to each of~~
7 ~~the various multidisciplinary child abuse teams throughout the~~
8 ~~state, the~~ The functions of the team shall include, but not be
9 limited to, the following specific functions:

10 a. ~~whenever feasible,~~ law enforcement and child welfare
11 staff shall conduct joint investigations ~~in an effort~~
12 ~~to effectively respond to child abuse reports, as~~
13 outlined in each written protocol in a timely manner,
14 into reports of child sexual and physical abuse or
15 neglect,

16 b. develop or adopt a written protocol for investigating
17 child sexual abuse and child physical abuse or neglect
18 cases ~~and for interviewing child victims. The purpose~~
19 ~~of the protocol shall be~~ to ensure coordination and
20 cooperation between all agencies involved so as to
21 increase the efficiency in handling such cases and to
22 minimize the stress created for the allegedly abused
23 child by the legal and investigatory process.—~~In~~
24 ~~addition, each team shall develop confidentiality~~

1 ~~statements and interagency agreements signed by member~~
2 ~~agencies that specify the cooperative effort of the~~
3 ~~member agencies to the team,~~

4 c. ~~increase communication and collaboration among the~~
5 ~~professionals responsible for the reporting,~~
6 ~~investigation, prosecution and treatment of child~~
7 ~~abuse and neglect cases,~~

8 d. ~~eliminate duplicative efforts in the investigation and~~
9 ~~the prosecution of child abuse and neglect cases,~~

10 e. ~~identify gaps in service or all untapped resources~~
11 ~~within the community to improve the delivery of~~
12 ~~services to the victim and family~~ develop or adopt a
13 written protocol for interviewing children involved in
14 investigations and the use of child advocacy centers
15 for forensic interviews,

16 d. develop or adopt confidentiality statements and
17 interagency agreements signed by member agencies that
18 specify the cooperative effort of the member agencies
19 to the team,

20 e. identify gaps in service or all untapped resources
21 within the community to improve the delivery of
22 services to the victim and family,

23 f. ~~encourage the development of~~ develop expertise through
24 training. Each team member and those conducting child

1 abuse investigations and interviews of child abuse
2 victims shall be trained in the multidisciplinary team
3 approach, conducting legally sound and age-appropriate
4 interviews, effective investigation techniques and
5 joint investigations as provided through ~~the State~~
6 ~~Department of Health, the Commission on Children and~~
7 ~~Youth~~ a nationally accredited state chapter of
8 Oklahoma Children's Advocacy Centers, or other
9 resources as approved by the Child Abuse
10 Multidisciplinary Team Council,

- 11 g. ~~formalize~~ adopt a standardized case review process and
12 ~~provide data as requested to the Commission for~~
13 ~~freestanding teams, and~~
- 14 h. ~~standardize investigative procedures for the handling~~
15 ~~of child abuse and neglect cases~~ provide data as
16 requested to the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team
17 Council.

18 2. All investigations of child sexual abuse and child physical
19 abuse or neglect and interviews of child abuse or neglect victims
20 shall be carried out by appropriate personnel using the protocols
21 and procedures specified in this section.

22 3. ~~If trained personnel are not available in a timely fashion~~
23 ~~and, in the judgment of a law enforcement officer or the Department~~
24 ~~of Human Services, there is reasonable cause to believe a delay in~~

1 ~~investigation or interview of the child victim could place the child~~
2 ~~in jeopardy of harm or threatened harm to a child's health or~~
3 ~~welfare, the investigation may proceed without full participation of~~
4 ~~all personnel. This authority applies only for as long as~~
5 ~~reasonable danger to the child exists. A reasonable effort to find~~
6 ~~and provide a trained investigator or interviewer shall be made.~~

7 4. ~~Freestanding multidisciplinary child~~ Child abuse
8 multidisciplinary teams shall be approved by ~~the Commission~~ an
9 entity identified as a nationally accredited state chapter of
10 Oklahoma Children's Advocacy Centers in partnership with the Child
11 Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Council. ~~The Commission shall conduct~~
12 ~~an~~ An annual review of ~~freestanding~~ child abuse multidisciplinary
13 teams shall be conducted to ensure that the teams are functioning
14 effectively. Teams not meeting the minimal standards as promulgated
15 by the ~~Commission~~ Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Council shall
16 be removed from the list of functioning teams in the state.

17 D. 1. A multidisciplinary child abuse team may enter into an
18 agreement with the Child Death Review Board within the Oklahoma
19 Commission on Children and Youth and, in accordance with rules
20 promulgated by the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth,
21 conduct case reviews of deaths and near deaths of children within
22 the geographical area of that multidisciplinary child abuse team.

23 2. Any child abuse multidisciplinary ~~child abuse~~ team reviewing
24 deaths and near deaths of children shall prepare and make available

1 to the public, on an annual basis, a report containing a summary of
2 the activities of the team relating to the review of the deaths and
3 near deaths of children and a summary of the extent to which the
4 state child protection system is coordinating with foster care and
5 adoption programs and whether the state is efficiently discharging
6 its child protection responsibilities. The report shall be
7 completed no later than December 31 of each year.

8 E. Nothing in this section shall preclude the use of hospital
9 team reviews for client-specific purposes and multidisciplinary
10 teams, either of which were in existence prior to July 1, 1995;
11 provided, however, such teams shall not be subject to the provisions
12 of paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section.

13 F. ~~1.~~ Child advocacy centers shall be classified, based on the
14 child population of a district attorney's district, as follows:

15 a. ~~nonurban~~

16 1. Nonurban centers in districts with child populations that
17 are less than sixty thousand (60,000) ~~;~~

18 b. ~~midlevel~~

19 2. Midlevel nonurban centers in districts with child
20 populations equal to or greater than sixty thousand (60,000), but
21 not including Oklahoma and Tulsa Counties ~~;~~ and

22 c. ~~urban~~

23 3. Urban centers in Oklahoma and Tulsa Counties.
24

1 ~~2. The multidisciplinary child abuse team used by the child~~
2 ~~advocacy center for its accreditation shall meet the criteria~~
3 ~~required by a national association of child advocacy centers and, in~~
4 ~~addition, the team shall:~~

- 5 ~~a. choose a lead agency for the team,~~
- 6 ~~b. intervene in reports involving child sexual abuse and~~
7 ~~may intervene in child physical abuse or neglect,~~
- 8 ~~c. promote the joint investigation of child abuse reports~~
9 ~~between law enforcement and child welfare staff, and~~
- 10 ~~d. formalize standardized investigative procedures for~~
11 ~~the handling of child abuse and neglect cases.~~

12 G. ~~Multidisciplinary child abuse~~ Child abuse multidisciplinary
13 teams and child advocacy centers shall have full access to any
14 service or treatment plan and any personal data known to the
15 Department which is directly related to the implementation of this
16 section.

17 H. Each member of the team shall be responsible for protecting
18 the confidentiality of the child and any information made available
19 to such person as a member of the team. The child abuse
20 multidisciplinary team and any information received by the team
21 shall be exempt from the requirements of Sections 301 through 314 of
22 Title 25 of the Oklahoma Statutes and Sections 24A.1 through 24A.31
23 of Title 51 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

1 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2021, Section 1-9-103, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 Section 1-9-103. A. 1. There is hereby created in the
4 Department of Human Services a revolving fund to be designated the
5 "Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Account".

6 2. The account shall be a continuing fund, not subject to
7 fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all monies received by
8 the Department pursuant to the provisions of this section and
9 Section 1-9-104 of this title.

10 3. All monies accruing to the credit of the fund are hereby
11 appropriated and shall be budgeted and expended by the Department
12 for the purposes provided in Sections 1-9-102 and 1-9-104 of this
13 title.

14 4. Expenditures from the account shall be made upon warrants
15 issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by
16 law with the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise
17 Services for approval and payment.

18 B. The account shall be administered by the Department for the
19 benefit of children of Oklahoma and made available to eligible:

- 20 1. ~~Coordinated~~ Functioning multidisciplinary child abuse teams;
- 21 2. Nonurban child advocacy centers;
- 22 3. ~~Mid-level~~ Midlevel nonurban child advocacy centers; and
- 23 4. Urban child advocacy centers.

24

1 C. 1. The Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Account shall consist
2 of:

3 a. all monies received by the Department pursuant to the
4 provisions of Section 1-9-104 of this title,

5 b. interest attributable to investment of money in the
6 Account, and

7 c. money received by the Department in the form of gifts,
8 grants, reimbursements, or from any other source
9 intended to be used for the purposes specified or
10 collected pursuant to the provisions of this section
11 and Section 1-9-102 of this title.

12 2. The monies deposited in the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary
13 Account shall at no time become monies of the state and shall not
14 become part of the general budget of the Department or any other
15 state agency. Except as otherwise authorized by this section and
16 Section 1-9-104 of this title, no monies from the Account shall be
17 transferred for any purpose to any other state agency or any account
18 of the Department or be used for the purpose of contracting with any
19 other state agency or reimbursing any other state agency for any
20 expense.

21 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2021, Section 1-9-104, is
22 amended to read as follows:

23

24

1 Section 1-9-104. A. The Department of Human Services, in
2 partnership with a designated entity, shall allocate monies
3 available in the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Account (CAMA) to:
4 1. ~~The Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Account (CAMTA) Fund~~
5 ~~created by Section 1-9-103a of this title. Monies made available to~~
6 ~~the CAMTA shall be used for the purposes of funding one One~~
7 ~~functioning freestanding child abuse multidisciplinary ~~child abuse~~~~
8 ~~team in each county of this state, utilizing the funding~~
9 ~~distributions as provided in subsection B of this section, certified~~
10 ~~by the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Council;~~

11 2. One hospital team pursuant to subsection E of Section 1-9-
12 102 of this title; and

13 3. One child advocacy center, accredited by the National
14 Children's Alliance, per district attorney's district. A child
15 advocacy center shall:

16 a. be eligible for Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Account
17 (CAMA) funding upon accreditation by the National
18 Children's Alliance,

19 b. secure a third-year interim review to determine
20 whether the child advocacy center continues to meet
21 the National Children's Alliance standards in effect
22 at the time of its last accreditation. If a child
23 advocacy center fails the third-year review, the
24 center shall remain eligible for CAMA funding, but

1 shall have another review conducted in the fourth
2 year. If the child advocacy center fails the fourth-
3 year review, the center shall be ineligible to receive
4 CAMA funding until such time as the center receives
5 reaccreditation from the National Children's Alliance,
6 and

7 c. remain the center for the district attorney's district
8 as long as the center is accredited and eligibility is
9 maintained pursuant to the provisions of Section 1-9-
10 102 of this title. If a center does not remain
11 eligible pursuant to the provisions of Section 1-9-102
12 of this title, endorsement by the district attorney as
13 the child advocacy center for the district may be
14 sought by any entity beginning with the calendar year
15 after the center is determined to be ineligible. The
16 two centers in district number (4) and district number
17 (13) that were accredited as of May 17, 2005, shall
18 continue to receive funding at the nonurban level.
19 Should one of the exempted centers close or no longer
20 meet the criteria for a child advocacy center pursuant
21 to the provisions of Section 1-9-102 of this title,
22 the center shall not be allowed to reopen in that
23 district or to receive CAMA funds. The remaining
24

1 center shall become the sole child advocacy center for
2 the district attorney's district.

3 B. Funding distribution pursuant to the provisions of this
4 section shall be determined:

5 1. By multiplying the number of applicants in each category by
6 the corresponding weight as follows:

- 7 a. ~~freestanding~~ functioning child abuse multidisciplinary
8 ~~child abuse~~ team - 1,
- 9 b. hospital team - 1,
- 10 c. nonurban centers - 4,
- 11 d. ~~mid-level~~ midlevel nonurban centers - 6, and
- 12 e. urban centers - 24;

13 2. Adding together the weighted results for all categories;

14 3. Dividing the weighted result for each category by the sum of
15 the weighted results for all categories; and

16 4. Equally distributing funding to each applicant in the
17 corresponding category based on the amounts obtained by multiplying

18 the total available funding by the calculated percentages. ~~The~~

19 ~~total amount for all freestanding multidisciplinary teams as~~

20 ~~determined by the formula provided in this subsection shall be~~

21 ~~transferred to the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Account~~

22 ~~(CAMTA) Fund established by Section 1-9-103a of this title and~~

23 ~~contracts with each freestanding multidisciplinary team shall be~~

24 ~~completed no later than January 1 of each year.~~

1 ~~During state fiscal year 2019, the Oklahoma Commission on~~
2 ~~Children and Youth may disburse to each freestanding~~
3 ~~multidisciplinary team the remaining contracted amount of the~~
4 ~~freestanding multidisciplinary team award. The freestanding~~
5 ~~multidisciplinary team shall provide the Commission with monthly~~
6 ~~documentation of expenses as well as activity data and continue~~
7 ~~providing such documentation thereafter. Beginning January 1, 2020,~~
8 ~~and each year thereafter, the Commission may disburse the contracted~~
9 ~~amount at the beginning of the calendar year to freestanding~~
10 ~~multidisciplinary teams that are functioning effectively as~~
11 ~~determined by the Commission pursuant to Section 1-9-102 of this~~
12 ~~title.~~

13 C. By January 31, ~~2003~~ 2027, and by January 31 of each year
14 thereafter, the Department shall partner with a designated entity to
15 disburse monies from the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Account to
16 eligible child abuse multidisciplinary teams and child advocacy
17 centers. A child abuse multidisciplinary team or child advocacy
18 center shall be in compliance with the provisions of Section 1-9-102
19 of this title to be eligible for Child Abuse Multidisciplinary
20 Account funding. The disbursement shall be a single, annual
21 disbursement, for the collection period of the preceding year
22 beginning October 1 through September 30.

23 D. ~~A report issued by the Oklahoma Commission on Children and~~
24 ~~Youth to the Oklahoma Legislature outlining performance measures for~~

1 ~~all multidisciplinary teams, including those associated with child~~
2 ~~advocacy centers, and recommendations on the funding formula~~
3 ~~provided for in this section shall be transmitted to the Oklahoma~~
4 ~~Legislature no later than December 31, 2017.~~ The Department, the
5 ~~Commission, and the Children's Advocacy Centers of Oklahoma, Inc.,~~
6 and the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Council shall meet
7 annually to review and certify the amount of CAMA and CAMTA funds to
8 be disbursed.

9 E. ~~A child advocacy center may carry over funding for a period~~
10 ~~of one (1) year after allocation, such one-year period to begin in~~
11 ~~January and end in December of the same year; provided, however,~~
12 ~~funds not used within twenty-four (24) months of the original~~
13 ~~allocation will be deducted from the contract amount for the next~~
14 ~~contract year. If a center is ineligible for funding in an upcoming~~
15 ~~year, unused funds from the current or previous years shall be~~
16 ~~returned to the CAMA Fund for use in subsequent years. Funds not~~
17 ~~used by a freestanding team by the end of the contract period shall~~
18 ~~revert to, and be deposited in, the CAMA Fund~~ A child abuse
19 multidisciplinary team or child advocacy center may carry over
20 funding for a period of one (1) year after allocation, with such
21 one-year period to begin in January and end in December of the same
22 year; provided, however, funds not used within twenty-four (24)
23 months of the original allocation shall be returned to the CAMA
24 account. If a child abuse multidisciplinary team or child advocacy

1 center is ineligible for funding in an upcoming year, unused funds
2 from the current or previous years shall be returned to the CAMA
3 account for use in subsequent years.

4 F. ~~The Commission is hereby authorized to receive five percent~~
5 ~~(5.0%) in administrative costs from the CAMTA Fund.~~ The Department
6 of Human Services is hereby authorized to receive one-half of one
7 percent (0.5%) in administrative costs from the CAMA fund. In
8 partnership with the Department, an eligible entity identified as a
9 nationally accredited state chapter of Oklahoma Children's Advocacy
10 Centers is hereby authorized to administer the CAMA fund.

11 SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2021, Section 1-9-104a,
12 is amended to read as follows:

13 Section 1-9-104a. ~~The Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth~~
14 ~~shall~~ Department of Human Services is hereby authorized to contract
15 with a qualifying entity identified as a nationally accredited state
16 chapter of Oklahoma Children's Advocacy Centers to administer Child
17 Abuse Multidisciplinary Account funds and a qualifying entity
18 identified as a nationally accredited state chapter of Oklahoma
19 Children's Advocacy Centers is authorized to contract with eligible
20 providers as authorized by this act.

21 SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 10A O.S. 2021, Section 1-9-104b,
22 is amended to read as follows:

23 Section 1-9-104b. ~~The Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth~~
24 ~~and the Department of Human Services~~ Child Abuse Multidisciplinary

1 Team Council shall promulgate rules to implement the provisions of
2 this act.

3 SECTION 6. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
4 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-9-102b of Title 10A, unless
5 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

6 A. There is hereby created the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary
7 Team Council.

8 B. The Oklahoma District Attorneys Council shall appoint a
9 Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Council which shall be composed
10 of nine (9) members, as follows:

11 1. One member shall be the child welfare director within the
12 Department of Human Services;

13 2. One member shall be a district attorney;

14 3. One member shall be a representative of the Council on Law
15 Enforcement Education and Training (CLEET);

16 4. One member shall be a representative of an entity identified
17 as a nationally accredited state chapter of Oklahoma Children's
18 Advocacy Centers;

19 5. One member shall be a representative of a statewide medical
20 association and shall be a member of a state chapter of a national
21 academy of pediatrics;

22 6. One member shall be a representative of the Oklahoma Indian
23 Child Welfare Association;

24

1 7. One member shall be a representative of an advisory task
2 force on child abuse and neglect;

3 8. One member shall be a representative of the Oklahoma
4 Commission on Children and Youth; and

5 9. One member shall be a person with lived experience of the
6 child welfare system in Oklahoma as appointed by the Attorney
7 General.

8 C. Each member of the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team
9 Council is authorized to have one designee.

10 D. The appointed members shall be persons having expertise in
11 multidisciplinary team joint investigation and the dynamics,
12 identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect and child
13 sexual abuse.

14 E. The Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Council shall:

15 1. Establish objective criteria and guidelines for
16 multidisciplinary investigations and, as appropriate for each
17 discipline, discipline-specific training on child abuse and neglect
18 for professionals with responsibilities affecting children, youth,
19 and families;

20 2. Review curricula and make recommendations to state agencies,
21 professional organizations, and associations regarding available
22 curricula and curricula having high standards of professional merit;
23
24

1 3. Review curricula regarding child abuse and neglect used in
2 law enforcement officer training by CLEET and make recommendations
3 regarding the curricula to CLEET;

4 4. Cooperate with and assist professional organizations and
5 associations in the development and implementation of ongoing
6 training programs and strategies to encourage professionals to
7 participate in such training programs;

8 5. Make reports and recommendations regarding the continued
9 development and improvement of multidisciplinary team joint
10 investigations to the Oklahoma Legislature;

11 6. Prepare and issue a model protocol for multidisciplinary
12 teams regarding the investigation and prosecution of child sexual
13 abuse, child physical abuse, and neglect cases;

14 7. Review and approve protocols prepared by the local child
15 abuse multidisciplinary teams;

16 8. Advise multidisciplinary teams on team development;

17 9. Determine data collection protocol and collect data on the
18 operation and cases reviewed by the child abuse multidisciplinary
19 teams;

20 10. Collect data from the Oklahoma Commission on Children and
21 Youth Child Death Review Board and Post Adjudication Review Board;

22 11. Issue annual reports;

23 12. Annually approve the list of functioning multidisciplinary
24 teams in the state; and

1 13. Meet annually with the Department, Children's Advocacy
2 Centers of Oklahoma, Inc., and the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary
3 Team Council to review and certify the amount of CAMA funds to be
4 disbursed.

5 F. The Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Council shall elect a
6 chair and vice-chair at every first annual meeting.

7 G. Five members of the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team
8 Council shall constitute a quorum and may carry out any business by
9 a simple majority vote of a quorum.

10 SECTION 7. REPEALER 10A O.S. 2021, Sections 1-9-103a and
11 1-9-103b, are hereby repealed.

12 SECTION 8. REPEALER 63 O.S. 2021, Section 1-227.9, is
13 hereby repealed.

14 SECTION 9. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.

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16 60-2-13989 CMA 12/15/25

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STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

SENATE BILL 1591

By: Rosino

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to medical marijuana; amending 63 O.S. 2021, Sections 423, as last amended by Section 8, Chapter 182, O.S.L. 2024 and 427.18, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 272, O.S.L. 2025 (63 O.S. Supp. 2025, Sections 423 and 427.18), which relate to medical marijuana processing license and packaging and labeling requirements; limiting certain tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) amounts in certain products and packages; updating statutory language; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 423, as last amended by Section 8, Chapter 182, O.S.L. 2024 (63 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 423), is amended to read as follows:

Section 423. A. The Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority shall make available on its website in an easy-to-find location an application for a medical marijuana processing license. The Authority shall be authorized to issue two types of medical marijuana processor licenses based on the level of risk posed by the type of processing conducted:

1. Nonhazardous medical marijuana processor license; and

1 2. Hazardous medical marijuana processor license.

2 The application fee for a nonhazardous or hazardous medical
3 marijuana processor license shall be paid by the applicant in the
4 amounts provided for in Section 427.14 of this title. A method of
5 payment shall be provided on the website of the Authority. The
6 Authority shall have ninety (90) business days to review the
7 application; approve, reject, or deny the application; and send the
8 approval, rejection, or denial letter stating the reasons for the
9 rejection or denial to the applicant in the same method the
10 application was submitted to the Authority.

11 B. The Authority shall approve all applications which meet the
12 following criteria:

13 1. The applicant must be twenty-five (25) years of age or
14 older;

15 2. The applicant, if applying as an individual, must show
16 residency in this state;

17 3. All applying entities must show that all members, managers,
18 and board members are ~~Oklahoma~~ residents of this state;

19 4. An applying entity may show ownership of nonstate residents,
20 but that percentage ownership may not exceed twenty-five percent
21 (25%);

22 5. All applying individuals or entities must be registered to
23 conduct business in this state; and

1 6. All applicants must disclose all ownership interests in the
2 processing operation.

3 Applicants with a nonviolent felony conviction in the last two
4 (2) years, any other felony conviction in the last five (5) years,
5 inmates in the custody of the Department of Corrections or any
6 person currently incarcerated shall not qualify for a medical
7 marijuana processing license.

8 C. 1. A licensed processor may take marijuana plants and
9 distill or process these plants into concentrates, edibles, and
10 other forms for consumption. No individual edible medical marijuana
11 product shall include more than ten (10) milligrams of
12 tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) per edible and no more than one hundred
13 (100) milligrams of THC per package.

14 2. The Executive Director of the Authority shall make available
15 a set of standards which shall be used by licensed processors in the
16 preparation of edible marijuana products. The standards should be
17 in line with current food preparation guidelines. No excessive or
18 punitive rules may be established by the Executive Director.

19 3. Up to two times a year, the Authority may inspect a
20 processing operation and determine its compliance with the
21 preparation standards. If deficiencies are found, a written report
22 of the deficiency shall be issued to the licensed processor. The
23 licensed processor shall have one (1) month to correct the
24

1 deficiency or be subject to a fine of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00)
2 for each deficiency.

3 4. A licensed processor may sell marijuana products it creates
4 to a licensed dispensary or any other licensed processor. All sales
5 by a licensed processor shall be considered wholesale sales and
6 shall not be subject to taxation.

7 5. Under no circumstances may a licensed processor sell
8 marijuana or any marijuana product directly to a licensed medical
9 marijuana patient or licensed caregiver. However, a licensed
10 processor may process cannabis into a concentrated form for a
11 licensed medical marijuana patient for a fee.

12 6. Licensed processors shall be required to complete a monthly
13 yield and sales report to the Authority. This report shall be due
14 on the fifteenth of each month and shall provide reporting on the
15 previous month. This report shall detail the amount of marijuana
16 and medical marijuana products purchased in pounds, the amount of
17 marijuana cooked or processed in pounds, and the amount of waste in
18 pounds. Additionally, this report shall show total wholesale sales
19 in dollars. The Authority shall have oversight and auditing
20 responsibilities to ensure that all marijuana being processed is
21 accounted for.

22 D. The Authority shall oversee the inspection and compliance of
23 licensed processors producing products with marijuana as an
24

1 additive. If it becomes permissible under federal law, marijuana
2 may be moved across state lines.

3 E. Any device used for the processing or consumption of medical
4 marijuana shall be considered legal to be sold, manufactured,
5 distributed, and possessed. No merchant, wholesaler, manufacturer,
6 or individual may be unduly harassed or prosecuted for selling,
7 manufacturing, or possessing marijuana paraphernalia.

8 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 427.18, as
9 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 272, O.S.L. 2025 (63 O.S. Supp.
10 2025, Section 427.18), is amended to read as follows:

11 Section 427.18. A. A medical marijuana business shall not
12 sell, transfer, or otherwise distribute medical marijuana or medical
13 marijuana product that has not been packaged and labeled in
14 accordance with this section and rules promulgated by the Executive
15 Director of the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority.

16 B. A medical marijuana dispensary shall return medical
17 marijuana and medical marijuana product that does not meet packaging
18 or labeling requirements in this section or rules promulgated
19 pursuant thereto to the entity who transferred it to the dispensary.
20 The medical marijuana dispensary shall document to whom the item was
21 returned, what was returned, and the date of the return, or dispose
22 of any usable marijuana that does not meet these requirements in
23 accordance with the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana and Patient
24 Protection Act.

1 C. 1. Medical marijuana packaging shall be packaged to
2 minimize its appeal to children and shall not depict images other
3 than the business name logo of the medical marijuana producer and
4 image of the product.

5 2. A medical marijuana business shall not place any content on
6 a container in a manner that reasonably appears to target
7 individuals under the age of twenty-one (21) including, but not
8 limited to, cartoon characters or similar images.

9 3. Labels on a container shall not include any false or
10 misleading statements.

11 4. No container shall be intentionally or knowingly labeled so
12 as to cause a reasonable patient confusion as to whether the medical
13 marijuana, medical marijuana concentrate, or medical marijuana
14 product is a trademarked product or labeled in a manner that
15 violates any federal trademark law or regulation. The label on the
16 container shall include a warning that states the following:

- 17 a. "For use by licensed medical marijuana patients only",
- 18 b. "Keep out of reach of children",
- 19 c. "It is illegal to drive a motor vehicle while under
20 the influence of marijuana or marijuana products",
- 21 d. "Women should not use marijuana or marijuana products
22 during pregnancy because of the risk of birth
23 defects", and
- 24 e. "This product has been tested for contaminants".

1 5. The label on the container shall not make any claims
2 regarding health or physical benefits to the patient.

3 6. The container itself may be clear in order to allow licensed
4 medical marijuana patients and licensed medical marijuana caregivers
5 the ability to view the product inside the container but shall be
6 child-resistant, as defined in Section 427.2 of this title.

7 7. At the point of sale and transfer of any medical marijuana,
8 medical marijuana concentrate, or medical marijuana products to a
9 licensed medical marijuana patient or licensed medical marijuana
10 caregiver, the dispensary shall place the medical marijuana, medical
11 marijuana concentrate, or medical marijuana products in an exit
12 package, as such term is defined in Section 427.2 of this title.

13 8. No individual edible medical marijuana product sold shall
14 include more than ten (10) milligrams of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)
15 per edible and no more than one hundred (100) milligrams of THC per
16 package.

17 D. The Executive Director shall develop minimum standards for
18 packaging and labeling of medical marijuana, medical marijuana
19 concentrate, and medical marijuana products. Such standards shall
20 include, but not be limited to, the required contents of labels to
21 be affixed to all medical marijuana, medical marijuana concentrate,
22 and medical marijuana products prior to transfer to a licensed
23 patient or caregiver, which shall include, at a minimum:

24 1. THC and other cannabinoid potency, and terpenoid potency;

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2. A statement indicating that the product has been tested for
contaminants;

3. One or more product warnings to be determined by the
Executive Director; and

4. Any other information the Executive Director deems
necessary.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.

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1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

3 HOUSE BILL 4454

By: Newton

4
5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to medical marijuana; amending 63
8 O.S. 2021, Section 423, as last amended by Section 8,
9 Chapter 182, O.S.L. 2024 (63 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section
10 423), which relates to medical marijuana processors;
11 providing certain restrictions on edible medical
12 marijuana products; providing packaging restrictions
13 for edible medical marijuana products; defining
14 terms; and providing an effective date.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

16 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 423, as last
17 amended by Section 8, Chapter 182, O.S.L. 2024 (63 O.S. Supp. 2025,
18 Section 423), is amended to read as follows:

19 Section 423. A. The Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority shall
20 make available on its website in an easy-to-find location an
21 application for a medical marijuana processing license. The
22 Authority shall be authorized to issue two types of medical
23 marijuana processor licenses based on the level of risk posed by the
24 type of processing conducted:

- 25 1. Nonhazardous medical marijuana processor license; and
- 26 2. Hazardous medical marijuana processor license.

1 The application fee for a nonhazardous or hazardous medical
2 marijuana processor license shall be paid by the applicant in the
3 amounts provided for in Section 427.14 of this title. A method of
4 payment shall be provided on the website of the Authority. The
5 Authority shall have ninety (90) business days to review the
6 application; approve, reject, or deny the application; and send the
7 approval, rejection, or denial letter stating the reasons for the
8 rejection or denial to the applicant in the same method the
9 application was submitted to the Authority.

10 B. The Authority shall approve all applications which meet the
11 following criteria:

12 1. The applicant must be twenty-five (25) years of age or
13 older;

14 2. The applicant, if applying as an individual, must show
15 residency in this state;

16 3. All applying entities must show that all members, managers,
17 and board members are Oklahoma residents of this state;

18 4. An applying entity may show ownership of nonstate residents,
19 but that percentage ownership may not exceed twenty-five percent
20 (25%);

21 5. All applying individuals or entities must be registered to
22 conduct business in this state; and

23 6. All applicants must disclose all ownership interests in the
24 processing operation.

1 Applicants with a nonviolent felony conviction in the last two
2 (2) years, any other felony conviction in the last five (5) years,
3 inmates in the custody of the Department of Corrections or any
4 person currently incarcerated shall not qualify for a medical
5 marijuana processing license.

6 C. 1. A licensed processor may take marijuana plants and
7 distill or process these plants into concentrates, edibles, and
8 other forms for consumption.

9 2. The Executive Director of the Authority shall make available
10 a set of standards which shall be used by licensed processors in the
11 preparation of edible marijuana products. The standards should be
12 in line with current food preparation guidelines. No excessive or
13 punitive rules may be established by the Executive Director.

14 3. Up to two times a year, the Authority may inspect a
15 processing operation and determine its compliance with the
16 preparation standards. If deficiencies are found, a written report
17 of the deficiency shall be issued to the licensed processor. The
18 licensed processor shall have one (1) month to correct the
19 deficiency or be subject to a fine of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00)
20 for each deficiency.

21 4. A licensed processor may sell marijuana products it creates
22 to a licensed dispensary or any other licensed processor. All sales
23 by a licensed processor shall be considered wholesale sales and
24 shall not be subject to taxation.

1 5. Under no circumstances may a licensed processor sell
2 marijuana or any marijuana product directly to a licensed medical
3 marijuana patient or licensed caregiver. However, a licensed
4 processor may process cannabis into a concentrated form for a
5 licensed medical marijuana patient for a fee.

6 6. Licensed processors shall be required to complete a monthly
7 yield and sales report to the Authority. This report shall be due
8 on the fifteenth of each month and shall provide reporting on the
9 previous month. This report shall detail the amount of marijuana
10 and medical marijuana products purchased in pounds, the amount of
11 marijuana cooked or processed in pounds, and the amount of waste in
12 pounds. Additionally, this report shall show total wholesale sales
13 in dollars. The Authority shall have oversight and auditing
14 responsibilities to ensure that all marijuana being processed is
15 accounted for.

16 7. Edible medical marijuana products processed, produced,
17 packaged, or transferred by licensed medical marijuana processors
18 shall not contain more than ten (10) milligrams of any
19 tetrahydrocannabinol and packages shall not contain more than ten
20 (10) servings or one hundred (100) milligrams of any
21 tetrahydrocannabinol per package. Edible medical marijuana products
22 intended to be consumed as a drink or beverage shall not contain
23 more than a total of twenty (20) milligrams of any
24

1 tetrahydrocannabinol in a single container. Edible medical
2 marijuana products shall not:

- 3 a. be attractive to children. As used in this
4 subparagraph "attractive to children" means the use of
5 any image or words designed or likely to appeal to
6 persons younger than eighteen (18) years of age
7 including, but not limited to, cartoons, toys,
8 animals, food, or depictions of persons younger than
9 eighteen (18) years of age, any other likeness to
10 images, characters, or phrases that are popularly used
11 to advertise to persons younger than eighteen (18)
12 years of age, or any reasonable likeness to
13 commercially available candy,
- 14 b. be manufactured in the shape of humans, cartoons, or
15 animals;
- 16 c. be manufactured in a form that bears any reasonable
17 resemblance to products available for consumption as
18 commercially available candy, or
- 19 d. contain any color additives.

20 D. The Authority shall oversee the inspection and compliance of
21 licensed processors producing products with marijuana as an
22 additive. If it becomes permissible under federal law, marijuana
23 may be moved across state lines.

1 E. Any device used for the processing or consumption of medical
2 marijuana shall be considered legal to be sold, manufactured,
3 distributed and possessed. No merchant, wholesaler, manufacturer or
4 individual may be unduly harassed or prosecuted for selling,
5 manufacturing or possessing marijuana paraphernalia.

6 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.

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