2915 N. Classen Boulevard, Suite 300 Oklahoma City, OK 73106

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## STATE POST ADJUDICATION REVIEW ADVISORY BOARD **AGENDA**

Date: 1-28-2022 Time: 10-12

Location: 2915 North Classen, Suite 300 Oklahoma City, OK 73106

| MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA |  |         |   |
|---------------------------|--|---------|---|
| 1                         | Welcome and Introduction of Members and Guests and a Call to Order   | 5 Min.  | Greg Delaney  |
| 2                         | Determination of Quorum and Compliance with Oklahoma<br>Open Meeting Act   | 5 Min.  | Cherra Taylor   |
| 3                         | Review and Approval of the Minutes of October 22, 2021<br>State Post Adjudication Review Advisory Board meeting<br>Discussion and possible action    | 5 Min.  | Greg Delaney  |
| 4                         | Kids Aging out of Child Welfare Custody  | 20 Min. | Daniel Herring  |
| 5                         | Youth in Custody Committee Report  | 15 Min. | Nicole George, Community<br>Planner and<br>Katie Sosanya, Transition<br>Coordinator |
| 6                         | Transition Youth issues as identified by OKSA  | 15 Min. | Program Manager, Jeff<br>Walls  |
| 7                         | PARB Transition and Independent Living Boards  | 15 Min. | Kim Rebsamen and<br>Christina Whatley   |
| 8                         | Call for Actionable Items to Address Transition age Youth in Child Welfare Custody  Discussion and possible action                                   | 15 Min. | Greg Delaney  |
| 9                         | PARB Program Manager's Report  | 10 Min. | Keith Pirtle  |
| 10                        | State PARB Recommendations for 2021 Annual Report  | 10 Min. | Keith Pirtle  |
| 11                        | New Business<br>Business which was not known nor could have been known<br>through exercise of due diligence at the time of posting of this<br>agenda | 5 Min.  | Greg Delaney  |
|                           | Adjournment  |         | Greg Delaney  |

The Board may discuss, vote to approve, vote to disapprove, vote to table, or decide not to discuss any item on the agenda.

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### STATE POST ADJUDICATION REVIEW ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting September 22, 2021 1:00 p.m.

### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Chairperson, Greg Delaney. Determination of quorum was established for members present and the board was in compliance with notice and agenda requirements of the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act. Members present in person: Sarah Herrian, Dr. Carol Bridges, Jonette Dunlap, Lisa Buck, Daniel Herring, Christina Siemens, the Honorable Leah Edwards, Dr. Greg Parks, the Honorable Louis Duel, Greg Delaney, Cindy Nocton, the Honorable Pat VerSteeg, and Melanie Johnson. Members not present: Lou Truitt-Flanagan, David Ross, Paula Cantrell, Deanna Chancellor, Dr. Kalie Kerth, and the Honorable Bill Baze. OCCY staff members present: Keith Pirtle, Christina Whatley, Nicole George, Kim Rebsamen, Mark James, and Cherra Taylor.

### 2. Introduction of Members and Guests, Public Comments

No guests were in attendance. No public comments were made.

# 3. Review and Approval of the Meeting Minutes of August 20, 2021 Discussion and Possible Action

The Honorable Louis Duel motioned, and Cindy Nocton seconded approve the minutes of the August 20, 2021, State Post Adjudication Review Advisory Board Meeting. The majority of members present voted in the affirmative, except Lisa Buck who abstained. Motion passed.

Judge Leah Edwards and Christina Siemens arrived at 10:12am

### 6. Presentation of the PARB Database System and Recommendation Process

Keith Pirtle, Program Manager for the Post Adjudication Review Boards (PARB), provided an overview of the database, how case reviews and recommendations will be viewed and submitted, and how the recommendation forms are created online. Keith reported that some glitches have been discovered and he is working with Lisa White and the E-team to make needed corrections. He also reported starting to see some positive results in obtaining quality data from the new system and the PARBs.

Keith stated that he is working with one Board at a time to migrated to the new system. Kim Rebsamen is working with the Tulsa Boards and Christina is working with the Oklahoma County Boards to do the same.

Handouts of the forms were provided as a reference.

### 7. PARB Program Manager's Report

Keith Pirtle presented on the activities that occurred since the previous board meeting in August. Some of the information discussed included:



- Lana Freeman and Paula Cantrell have resigned their positions on the State Postadjudication Review Advisory Board. Lana will continue chairing the McClain/Garvin County board, and Paula will continue chairing the Mayes County board.
- Brandi Watts, chair for Payne County PARB, will fill one of the vacancies of an Active PARB member for the State Postadjudication Review Advisory Board. Two Active PARB members slots remain vacant. Cindy Humphrey and Lynda Whitney will be applying for those positions. The Judicial membership position remains vacant until the Administrative Office of the Courts appoints a member.
- Keith has trained nine boards in using the new database for reviews.
- Three of the four Tulsa County boards and five of the six Oklahoma County boards have begun entering
  case reviews into the new database.
- Recruitment of new members is an ongoing need.

Handouts of the report were provided.

### 8. Child Welfare Monthly Data Report

Daniel Herring, Assistant Child Welfare Director of Field Operations at the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS), provided an overview of the data provided on OKDHS' website, judicialdashboard.okhs.org. Daniel stated that the dashboard provides information from the previous twelve months, and that there is a 30-day lag time for updates. He also stated that there are several factors that can possibly cause some distortion to the data.

After some requests for a more detailed breakdown of legally free children in the adoption process, Daniel stated that he will investigate it and possibly incorporate the breakdown of the data onto the website.

Handouts on how to use the judicial dashboard were provided.

Judge Louis Duel left the meeting at 11:20am.

# 9. State PARB 2021 Recommendations to Commission: Continued Discussion and Finalization Discussion and Possible Action

Keith reported that the 2020 recommendations to the OCCY Board of Commissioners for 2021 was returned to the State PARB for additional information and clarification. A subcommittee, consisting of Sarah Herrian, Daniel Herring, Christina Siemens, and Judge Pat VerSteeg, reviewed the recommendations and adjusted the language to provide consistency and clarity. The Board reviewed the recommendations and determined that one or two recommendations with the greatest possible effects should be resubmitted. The two recommendations chosen for resubmission were:

- (1) The Supreme Court prioritizing juvenile cases on appeal to reduce delays.
- (3) Eliminating rights to request a jury trail in termination of parental rights procedures. The wording "biological parents" would be struck from the recommendation.

The Honorable Leah Edwards motioned and the Honorable Pat VerSteeg seconded to resubmit the recommendations of number one, "prioritizing juvenile cases," and number three, "eliminating rights to request jury trials" for 2021, striking the wording "biological parents" from number three. The Honorable Leah Edwards amended her motion to only resubmit recommendation number three, "eliminating rights to request



jury trials", striking the wording "biological parents" from the recommendation for 2021. The Honorable Pat VerSteeg seconded the amendment. All members present voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.

Handouts of the recommendations were provided.

Judge Leah Edwards left the meeting at 11:52am.

### 10. State PARB Proposed 2022 Meeting Dates

### Discussion and Possible Action

The dates recommended for the 2022 calendar year are:

- January 28
- April 22
- October 28

Keith stated that determination of quorum has been an issue during the summer months and, therefore, has requested to forego any scheduled meetings during this timeframe.

Greg Delaney motioned, and the Honorable Pat VerSteeg seconded to approve the proposed meeting dates for calendar year 2022. All members present voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.

#### 11. New Business

(Business which was not known nor could have been known through exercise of due diligence at the time of posting of this agenda)

Cindy Nocton reported that addresses and phone numbers of state members need to be updated. Keith informed the board to report any changes to Cherra Taylor or him.

### 12. Adjournment

The next meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2022.

Christina Siemans motioned and the Honorable Pat VerSteeg seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

# PERMANENCY FOR TEENS

JANUARY 2022

# NUMBER OF TEENS AGING OUT

- SFY 18 214 4%
- SFY 19 169 3%
- SFY 20 154 4%
- SFY 21 192 5%
- SFY22 (I<sup>st</sup> 6 months) 96 5%

# WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT THIS POPULATION?

- Youth that experience no moves or only one move following their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, are more likely to achieve permanency. With each subsequent move, the likelihood of achieving permanency significantly decreases.
- A big influence on whether a youth will achieve permanency is based on if part of the removal condition involved Abandonment. Youth with a removal condition of Abandonment are much less likely to achieve permanency than a youth without that removal condition.
- If a youth has either a mental health diagnosis or a disability, this can also strongly impact the likelihood of achieving permanency prior to their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. Having either of these elements will reduce the likelihood of a youth achieving permanency.

# WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT THIS POPULATION?

- A major contributor to a youth achieving permanency is whether or not the youth experienced psychiatric stays while in care. Youth that did not experience inpatient treatment are much more likely to achieve permanency than a youth that has had multiple (more than one) stays.
- There are many factors that will impact a youth achieving permanency. However, there are a few elements that appear to have a stronger influence on whether or not a youth will achieve permanency before reaching adulthood (age 18). Youth that have been removed due to abandonment have a much more difficult time achieving permanency than youth with other removal conditions. As well, when a youth has a mental health diagnosis or disability and has to have residential psychiatric treatment, this increases the likelihood of a youth aging out of the system. These factors likely impact the placement stability of the youth and the more moves the youth experiences in the last 2 years of care, (age 16-18) the less likely they are to achieve permanency.

## EFFORTS TO INCREASE LEGAL PERMANENCY

- District Directors staff all referrals which involve the possible removal of youth 13 years of age and older. (December 2016)
- Higher leadership level reviews are required for denied kinship placements or previously failed kinship placements for <u>all youth</u> ages 15 and 17. (August 2020)
- The case plan goal of Planned Alternative Permanent Placement (PAPP) for any youth ages 16 and 17 approved by the supervisor and district director. For 16 year olds, the Regional Director and Assistant Child Welfare Director must also give approval.
   As of 12/29/2021, 3 youth age 16 and 33 youth age 17 have the CPG of PAPP

## EFFORTS TO INCREASE LEGAL PERMANENCY

- Multi-disciplinary staffing occurs for <u>legally free youth</u>, age 15-17, quarterly until the youth exits care. Team members include the child's specialist(s) and supervisor(s); mental health expert; foster care; adoptions; CW leadership; tribes; etc.
- A Family Meeting is conducted with all <u>legally free</u> youth within 30 days of their 17<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- All legally free youth without a permanency option, are assigned two child welfare specialists (Permanency Planning and Youth Transition Specialist)
- Youth Transition Specialists trained on the Wendy's Wonderful Kids (WWK) evidenced-based model, which focuses on completing diligent searches and case record reviews, network building, child-specific recruitment planning, building a strong relationship with the child, and assessing adoption readiness for both the child and any identified families. (August 2019)

# EFFORTS TO INCREASE LEGAL PERMANENCY

- Mandatory online Permanency for Teens training for all staff with youth 14 and older. (January 2022)
- Why Actively Seeking KINnections (ASK) is so important for teens
- Resources staff can use to identify, locate, and engage a teen's family members and connections
- ➤ Benefits teens may be eligible for as they transition to adulthood and who to contact to determine the youth's benefits
- Reasons why teens may opt against permanency and ways staff can engage them in permanency discussions

# COVID IMPACT

- Youth may be less engaged in virtual therapy based on individual preference
- Youth in congregate care settings less likely to experience consistent in-person caseworker visits
- Youth in congregate care settings experienced less community activities and more restrictions on visitors
- Decreased social contact
- These factors can negatively impact youth's well-being and placement stability, which then impacts legal and relational permanency

# CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, DIVISION X, IN DECEMBER 2020

• CWS did not require a youth in OKDHS custody who is in foster care to leave foster care solely by reason of his or her age before 10/1/2021. Additionally, any youth who left foster care due to age during the COVID-19 pandemic was allowed to voluntarily reenter foster care. As of 12/29/2021, 21 youth are in voluntary custody.

# MONEY, MONEY, MONEY (AKA COVID DOLLARS)

- Rent / Utility Payments (Paid leases for over 200 youth = 6-12 months of housing)
- Unexpected medical Expenses
- Food / Clothing
- Purchase of Vehicles / Car Payments (Over 400 youth)
- Technology Support Cell phones, data cards, laptops
- \$300 Visa gift card for all youth, age 14-17, in out-of-home care (December 2021)
- Ongoing efforts to strengthen partnerships within the community and provide long term solutions to the housing shortage for young adults transitioning out of care. Long term partnership with PIVOT and their "tiny home community."
- OKDHS has until September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to liquidate the remainder of the pandemic funding.

# **NEXT STEPS**

- DHS continues to build a Continuum of Care with community stakeholders (i.e. Department of Mental Health, Community Mental Health Providers, Foster Parents, Department of Education, etc.)
- Enhanced Foster Care
- Continue to explore parental reinstatement and family finding efforts
- Decreased the youth entering DHS custody due to abandonment
- Improve Post Adoption Services for families and youth



# STRENGTHENING YOUTH CUSTODY & TRANSITION SERVICES (SYCTS) STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

## **MENTORING**

- Coordinating evidence based standardized training for mentoring youth transitioning out of state custody
- Identifying needs of special populations (LGBTQIA+, disabilities, juvenile justice involvement, etc.)
- Youth led mentoring: choosing a previously known adult as a mentor
- · Creating a survey for youth input
- Involvement of youth with lived experience

## **ESSENTIAL DOCUMENTS**

- Ensuring essential documents (birth certificates, state ID, drivers license, social security card) for employment, housing, and supportive services are available for all youth transitioning out of state custody
- Uniformity in policy among child welfare regions in how documents are obtained, stored, and tracked
- Original hard copy storage
- Documents obtained before youth's 18th birthday
- Involvement of youth with lived experience

## POLICY

(FOOD SECURITY & FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT)

- Coordinating efforts between AFS, DHS, and OJA and other partners to ensure all transition age youth have applied for SNAP benefits by age18
- Coordinating efforts to secure independent financial accounts for youth in state custody of employment age
- Obtaining financial literacy training materials and Individual Development Accounts matching funds for participants
- Involvement of youth with lived experience

To learn more about SYCTS strategic initiatives email OCCY Community Planner Nicole George at nicole.george@occy.ok.gov

# Stay Connected

<u>oksa.ou.edu</u> I-800-397-2945









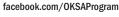






The OKSA mission is to empower youth in and from foster care to lead safer, healthier, more independent, and productive lives.











1-800-397-2945





Funded by The Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Child Welfare Services, Successful Adulthood Program Coordinated by The University of Oklahoma OUTREACH National Resource Center for Youth Services Are you...

a youth in foster care?

an alumni of foster care?

a youth service professional?



We can help.

oksa.ou.edu I-800-397-2945



# Services and resources

for youth in foster care, youth alumni, and youth service professionals

### Who's Eligible:

Youth ages 14 or older in the legal custody of the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (DHS) or a federally recognized tribe and living in an out of home placement.

### **The OKSA Program Provides:**

- Youth Development Funds
- Independent Living Services
- Events
- Alumni Services (Yes I Can!)
- Training and Consultation for Youth Service Professionals

oksa.ou.edu 1-800-397-2945

# TOUTH Services



The OKSA Program can support your plan with **Youth Development (YD) Funds.** YD funds can assist with the purchase of things like:

- Work Clothes
- Driver's Education
- Study Aids
- Senior Photos
- And More

These funds are designed to match your effort and support your plan. You may request funds through your DHS caseworker or through the OKSA website.



**OKSA Education Services** can help you graduate high school, complete your GED, or succeed in higher education, such as college or technology school. Education information,

tutoring, and financial aid programs are all available through DHS and OKSA.



At **OKSA Events** you'll learn life skills, build relationships, and have fun. Conferences, seminars, and life skills groups are scheduled throughout the year in all parts of Oklahoma. Events

can also be scheduled by request. To see a calendar of upcoming events, visit the events section of the OKSA website.



The **National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD)** survey is an opportunity for you to improve OKSA services and earn cash in the process. States use the NYTD survey to

determine if services are helping youth be successful as they transition from foster care. Youth who are selected complete a survey on their 17th birthday and again at age 19 and 21.

# Alumni services



The Oklahoma Youth Alumni Network (Yes I Can!) provides supportive services to young adults who exited DHS or tribal foster care on or after their 18th birthday or entered adoption

or guardianship on or after their 16th birthday. Yes I Can! services are designed to match your efforts as you transition from foster care.

Services may include:

- Education Related Expenses
- Transportation
- Furniture/Appliances
- Work Related Expenses
- Rent/Deposits
- And More

After exiting foster care, call the Yes I Can! helpline at I-800-397-2945 or contact us by email at **oksa@ou.edu.** 



The statewide advocacy group, **Oklahoma Foster Youth Advocates**, gives youth and alumni an opportunity to use their experience to improve the foster care system. For more informa-

tion, visit the OKSA website.

# Adult services



The OKSA program provides consultation to professionals serving OKSA eligible youth. Consultation is provided through a variety of methods including phone, email, written materials, and face-

to-face consultation. Consultation can be requested via phone, email, or through the Contact Us section of the OKSA website.

Want to know more about Oklahoma Successful Adulthood services, best practices, processes, and more? OKSA offers training on all aspects of our program by request through the OKSA website or email us at **oksa@ou.edu** to set up training for your organization.

Visit our website **oksa.ou.edu** for more information about these services and more opportunities or call us at 1-800-397-2945.

## **Tulsa Independent Living Services Board**

Kim Rebsamen-Tulsa PARB Coordinator

### **Members**:

- 1. James "Tony Willis"—Regional Supervisor Youth Villages
- 2. Felicia Pointer—DHS Supervisor; Independent Living Team
- 3. Amanda Hale—foster parent to older teen
- 4. Robbie Wheet-- National Resource Center for Youth Services (NRCYS) as a Program Supervisor for OKSA
- 5. PENDING APPLICATIONS:
  - a. Shandi Campbell--Director of The Landlord/Tenant Resource Center | Housing Solutions
  - b. Beth Syletic--Assistant Executive Director, Youth Services Tulsa
  - c. Lacey Howell—Mental Health Association

### **Purpose:**

Our ILS board reviews cases where children are 14 years of age or older and are either:

- 1. In a permanent home pursuing via adoption or guardianship, OR
- 2. A permanent home has not been identified

The board ensures that all avenues to exhaust permanency have been explored and that pursuant to state and federal laws, the child is being provided all available services as they transition to adulthood.

### Trends/Issues:

- 1. The population of children in custody that receives the least amount of focus; although think trend is changing
- 2. Too much focus on "permanency" instead of safety
- 3. Challenges with getting this population to engage in services available
- 4. DHS disbanded ILS specialty units—reducing focus and widening knowledge gap to work with this specific population

## **Oklahoma County Transition Board**

Christina Whatley, Oklahoma County PARB Coordinator

### **Members**:

- 1. Jeffrey Walls OKDHS Education Specialist, OK Successful Adulthood (OKSA)
- 2. Alex Corbitt Volunteer recruiter for CASA, Retired (still active as a CASA)
- 3. Georgeann Duty OKDHS, Director of Family Tree
- 4. Kim Behrens OKDHS Program Coordinator
- 5. Kim Goodrich Youth Villages Regional Supervisor
- 6. Robert Phillips OK Department of Transportation, former OCCY intern

The Transition board reviews cases of children that are 14 years of age or older and are either in a foster home, adoptive home or a group home placement. While the goal is to find permanency either through adoption, guardianship or reunification with a biological parent, some youths just want to "age out" and the permanency plan is changed to "Planned Alternative Placement".

The board ensures that all avenues to exhaust permanency have been explored and that pursuant to state and federal laws, the child is being provided all available services as they transition to adulthood.

#### Trends/Issues:

- 1. One issue the Board is experiencing in Oklahoma County is the lack of documentation in the court files regarding OKSA services and if the youth are receiving the services they need. Especially in the younger youth.
- 2. Too much focus on "permanency" instead of safety, as we see a possible trend in reconnecting the youth with the previously terminated biological parents for placement, when all other avenues have been exhausted.
- 3. Challenges with getting the youth to engage in services available to them as they get ready to age out of care.
- 4. The focus is to engage the youth in services and giving them the option to sign back into DHS custody after they turn 18, to finish their education.



## **Protect Support Monitor**

## Post Adjudication Review Boards of Oklahoma Program Manager's Report January 28, 2022

## New State PARB Members attending for the first time today

- 1.Brandi Watts, Active PARB. Chair of the Payne County PARB
- 2. Lynda Whitney, Active PARB. Chair of the Delaware County Board and founder of the Ottawa Board
- 3. The Honorable Christine Larson, Judicial Representative, Associate District Judge, Cimarron County.

## **Local Board and Membership Updates**

- 1. There are 42 actively meeting PARB Boards.
- 2. Cleveland County-Back at full force with Millie Carpenter and others
- 3. There are currently 284 local PARB members. Up 11 from last meeting.
- 4. New Counties where outreach has taken place and members have applied
  - A. Pushmataha County
  - B. Logan County- Three new applications
- 5. Stopped Efforts in
  - A. Cherokee County
  - B. Carter County

## **Training**

Kim Rebsamen arranged and coordinated the training, <u>All things Uniform</u> Parenting Act with Brenda Christie.

Kim Rebsamen arranged and coordinated the training, <u>Title 10A & DHS policy update</u> with Bonnie Clift & Larisa Grecu-Radu, DHS Assistant General Counsel

### **Database Roll out and Report**

Keith attended the McClain County PARB, trained a new member and showed the Board how to use the new data system.

Keith attended the Comanche County PARB. He trained a new member and showed the Board how to use the new data system.

Due to the new PARB Database and communication with Judges, Christina is now e-mailing typed, PDF, Oklahoma County PARB recommendations to child welfare staff and deprived Court Judges and bailiffs. This will drastically increase the number of recommendations that are reviewed by Judges and DHS staff.

### **Database Update**

New version coming out in May

### **Community Outreach**

The first Cleveland County PARB meeting since the pandemic and chaired by Lisa Tomas was held in November with another meeting held January 20 with several new members. New members were trained, and steps were taken to begin using the new data system.

Keith presented at a Pushmataha County coalition and met with the local deprived Judge and Child Welfare District Director. Steps are being taken to set up a Pushmataha County PARB Kick Off meeting and training in February.

Keith spoke at a Lincoln County Coalition PARB Presentation to recruit members for the renewal of the Lincoln County PARB.

## **Regular Board Business**

Annual request for 2022 meeting dates and annual reporting were sent out to all local PARB Boards and are still coming in.

## **Special Events**

Keith attended and participated in a volunteer appreciation luncheon for Beckham and Roger Mills County PARB Members in Cheyenne, OK on 11-2-2021. Judge Roper and Judge VerSteeg handed out certificates.

Keith along with Kim Rebsamen, attended the annual Court Improvement Conference in Norman. Keith volunteered during the conference, attended sessions, and met several Judges, including judges from Pawnee, Payne, and Adair Counties.

Kim Rebsamen held volunteer appreciation event for Tulsa PARB Members.

### **Presentations**

Keith presented at the DHS, resource family partnerships, Director's meeting to discuss PARB and connecting with foster parents.

Keith and Cindy Nocton did a presentation for a foster care group in Elgin and another one in Lawton. The purpose was to recruit members to the Comanche County PARB.

Keith presented the State PARB recommendation of, eliminating Jury trials in termination cases, to the OCCY Commissioners during their regular meeting.

## State PARB Findings and Recommendations for 2020 Annual Report

- 1. Eliminate the right to request a jury trial in the termination of parental rights procedures.
  - A. Who has this information?
    - 1. The Jury Trial Subcommittee of the Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee completed a report in October of 2021
  - B. What steps can be taken to address this issue?
    - 1. Support the actions and findings of the Jury Trial Subcommittee
- 2. The Supreme Court to prioritize juvenile cases on appeal to reduce the number of cases waiting for appeals and delaying permanency and resolution.
  - A. Who has this information?
    - 1. Administrative Office of the Courts, Jerri Askins
  - B. What information should be collected to support our position?
    - 1. We want to find out the length of time from appeal to resolution Review any current statutes related to deprived court appeals
  - C. What steps can be taken to address this issue?
    - 1. Reduce the number of appeals
    - 2. Legislative action
- 3. Reduce the number of kids who turn 18 while in DHS custody without the connections and resources to function in society.
  - A. Who has this information?
    - 1. Child Welfare
  - B. What information should be collected to support our position?
    - 1. The number of kids who turn 18 in DHS custody in Oklahoma
  - C. What steps can be taken to address this issue?
    - 1. Kids can sign back into care up until the age of 21
    - 2. Supporting foster families better
    - 3. Better quality assurance on OKSA and independent living plans to ensure requirements had been met and were clear
    - 4. Train PARB members on OKSA and the established timelines
- 4. Address the lack of enrollment in school, school truancy and lack of community involvement that creates a high risk for abuse and neglect of children.
  - A. Who has this information?
    - 1. The State PARB created a task force to address this issue in late 2019 and it lasted until May of 2021. There were seven meetings in total and lots of information was collected and recommendations made.
  - B. What information should be collected to support our position?
    - 1. Several reports were created or collected by the State PARB Task Force and are available for review
  - C. What steps can be taken to address this issue?
    - 1. See reports from the Kids Who are at Risk Due to Community Isolation Task Force

### Goals of the State PARB for further development, definition, and ongoing effort

- 1. A systemic assessment and coordinated effort should take place to develop strategies and identify barriers to achieve child permanency within 12 months of removal.
  - A. Who has this information?
    - 1. DHS through the pinnacle plan
    - 2. Federal and state guidelines
    - 3. OCIS information compared to KIDS data
  - B. What information should be collected to support our position?
    - 1. Length of time until permanency
  - C. What steps can be taken to address this issue?
    - 1. Safety plan improvements
    - 2. Families First activities and roll out
    - 3. Identify what work is currently being done
    - 4. The new Family Time guidelines
    - 5. Workflow analysis of Child Welfare Specialists