

Year One Pinnacle Point 4 – Quarter 4

Date Submitted: July 18, 2013	Pinnacle Point Lead: Millie Carpenter, Programs Administrator
Goal: To use the practice model to achieve timely and appropriate permanency outcomes for all children in out-of-home care.	Applicable Performance Areas: 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14

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				Technical Asst.	KIDS Changes	Research	Workgroup	
1. Upon consultation with the Co-Neutrals, OKDHS may support implementation of the Casey Strategic Plan created by region 3 (Oklahoma County) leadership including judges, attorneys, advocates, child welfare staff, and providers. The focus is on improving relationships and communication between all parties involved in the child welfare system. Strategies from the Casey Strategic Plan include, but are not limited to development of a resource notebook for all members of the court system team, development of ongoing training sessions, development and implementation of pre-trial dockets, and utilization of court system meetings as a forum for routine discussions and resolution of significant issues. Child welfare supervisors will monitor intentional visitation with staff by accompanying child welfare specialists once per month and reviewing random	Calvin Kelley		6/30/13					Monthly luncheon meetings continue to be held with the judges, attorneys, and advocates in Region 3. Recent luncheon included presentations on a treatment program for sex offenders and how OKDHS CW staff can better utilize this service by making appropriate referrals. Additionally, information was shared on The Child's Passport. CASA requested that their staff have access the Passport. It was explained that CASA can access the same information in the Placement Provider Information report. These meetings are informative and build on the relationship between CW staff and contractors. Calvin Kelly assists Judge Kirby in hosting these meetings and addressing any concerns related to CW.

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<p>contacts for sufficiency. Engagement will be clearly defined for all staff and included, as appropriate, in the resource notebook. Additionally, training programs for parents will include development of a calendar at the beginning of involvement with the system. The calendar will include timing, expectations, resources, and contact information for those assigned to the family's case. The region 3 plan reduces barriers to timely permanency and has the necessary buy-in at multiple levels to bring about changes in the system.</p>								
<p>2. As outlined in the Oklahoma Trauma-Informed System Implementation Plan, OKDHS will enhance practice with trauma-informed initiatives, additional screening tools, and a Systems of Care focus. Work will begin in SFY13 but will require five years for full implementation. This effort provides screenings, assessments, and supportive services to help children achieve permanency. During SFY13, strategies will be tested at lab sites; those found to be most successful will be subsequently implemented statewide.</p>	Annette Burleigh	<p>1) Meeting notes 2) Copy of PPT regarding use of referral tool 3) Referral Tool</p>	6/30/13				<p>Trauma Informed Care Steering Committee CWS Team</p>	<p>1) Trauma Screenings are occurring at four of the six lab sites, with use varying from routine to sporadic. Two tools are being used at one site, a shortened tool at shelter admission and the CW Toolkit referral tool, used at the three others sites during case transfer. A change in one of the lab site locations has been proposed. Overall Toolkit retraining is occurring one of the lab sites and Referral tool retraining will occur at the proposed new site. 2) Planning and use of the functional assessment tool continues to be on hold, partially due to activities revolving</p>

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								implementation of the OK-TASCC grant. 3) Quarterly supervisor training was provided to assure continued communication of goals, vision, and supervisor roles in Trauma Informed Care Implementation. 4) Group Home and TFC program staff are reviewing screening and assessment tools.
3. By September 30, 2012, OKDHS will identify children who are legally free but without an identified placement and share the information with the Co-Neutrals. OKDHS commits to making substantial progress in moving these children who have no identified placement toward permanency, with specific targets to be set by the Co-Neutrals.	Linda Foster	1.) Baseline report that list children 2.) Meeting agenda's and Sign in sheets	9/30/12		X			Adoption and KIDS staff have modified reports to reflect these children and it was provided to co-neutrals previously. OKDHS continues to be committed to making substantial progress in moving these children toward permanency. A 'binder' has been developed for these children and has been placed in every OKDHS office for perspective families to view and inquire if interested in these children. Further these binders have been provided to 8 private agencies in Oklahoma to share with their approved families.
4. When a child is identified as legally free without an identified placement, the child will remain assigned to Permanency Planning and will also have an assignment to an Adoption Transition Specialist; the two staff	Linda Foster	Status report Documentation of efforts in the KIDS cases.	6/30/13	X	X			Assignments have been made to the Adoption Transition staff as they continue to work with the identified children face to face. There has also been an increase in the usage of the websites

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members will team together to achieve permanency for the child. By maintaining the Permanency Planning assignment, the child will experience continuity of the staff member making visits. The child will also benefit from the specialized support of an Adoption Transition Specialist to move the case forward to permanency. The Adoption Transition Specialist's function is to focus solely on the actions needed to move forward with the permanency plan. The Permanency Planning staff member will fulfill the responsibilities for the day-to-day work as well as coordinate activities with the Adoption Transition Specialist.								available. Staff will continue to process those inquiries upon receipt.
5. OKDHS will complete a Request for Proposal (RFP) to search for a provider who will assist with intensive case management services for older youth with permanency challenges. The private provider will assist older youth who are placed in a congregate setting by reunification with biological parents or identification of the least restrictive appropriate placement setting possible. This service will target youth in higher levels of care with the greatest risk of not achieving permanency. As caseloads stabilize and staff become more skilled, the	Dawn Carson	Word Document detailing RFP completion timeline	11/01/2012					The new PIP process for completing a Request for Proposal (RFP) is nearly complete. There were two responders to the RFP. Blind evaluations, interviews, identification of potential best-valued respondent meetings have occurred. The final clarification meeting is scheduled for 06-28-13 with an anticipated authorization to proceed with a contract at that time.

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ability to integrate the intensive case management services back into child welfare specialist duties will be evaluated.								
6. Identify youth, 16 years of age and older, legally free, at risk of aging out without permanency, and who will not be served by the RFP identified in initiative 5. Beginning in January 2013, identified youth will be scheduled for a Permanency Roundtable (PRT) meeting. PRTs are designed to facilitate the permanency planning process by identifying realistic solutions to permanency obstacles for youth. Key players convene to create individual permanency plans, which are implemented and monitored until the youth achieves permanency. Oklahoma has successfully conducted several rounds of PRTs focused on different populations of children, including children with the longest lengths of stay with the goal of adoption and children with the goal of reunification longer than 36 months.	Robin Gibson	Request for T/TA	12/31/12					<p>1) New statewide PRT coordinator, Robin Gibson, hired to reintroduce PRTs. Scheduled date to reintroduce PRTs has been deferred based on capacity issues, such as staff turnover and other demands on staff. Projected full rollout date is September 2013. In the interim, PRTs are being supported in areas with more capacity.</p> <p>2) Program staff continues to research the PRT process and examine outcomes and processes in other states in an effort to conduct PRTs in OK. Part of the research includes technical assistance through the National Resource Center on Permanency and Family Connections and Casey Family Programs. This assistance will be partly focused on determining how to best reintroduce PRTs in OK. Gary Mallon with NRC is scheduled to attend a planning session in July 2013 to rollout the preliminary training on permanency values.</p>

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								3) A strategic Planning Summit is scheduled for July 1 and 2, 2013 to examine the best protocol to rollout and implement changes in practice, including PRTs and others in OKDHS and improve communication between programs regarding initiatives.
7. By June 30, 2013, OKDHS will conduct and document an FTM for all new permanency planning cases. The purpose of an FTM is to make decisions with families and involve and engage families of children in OKDHS custody. FTMs include parents, caregivers, children, relatives, family friends, child welfare specialists, service providers, members of community groups, and other appropriate community partners. This initiative will continue in Year Two with adjusted baselines and targets. The focus is achieving timely reunification.	Melissa Jones	Policy Revision/ CWS Numbered Memo/Casey Consultation emails	6/30/13			X	X	<p>1) Policy has been revised to further define the FTM process, pivotal times to conduct FTMs and the manner in which to document FTMs. A CWS numbered memo distributed to inform staff of the expectations related to FTM's.</p> <p>2) Program staff has researched five different methods of models with which to conduct FTMs that will affect the achievement of the outcomes intended to be achieved with this process.</p> <p>3) Program staff has attended FTMs in the field in an effort to observe fidelity to the current model and the typical process used when conducting an FTM.</p> <p>4) Casey Family Programs has consulted on both the FTM and PRT processes on three separate</p>

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								<p>occasions in order to aide OKDHS in examining the best process for CWS.</p> <p>5) Before additional expectations and avenues for accountability are put forth, it seems prudent to continue exploration of a model that yields the outcomes CWS is striving to achieve with this process; develop a plan to document FTMs and develop a method to study the outcomes with a CQI process; update policy to account for the model and fidelity to it; role training out of the process as well as a systematic way to hold staff accountable for conducting them.</p>
<p>8. By June 30, 2013, OKDHS will increase family visitation between biological parents and children when the case plan goal is reunification. Frequent, purposeful visitation contributes to successful placement and reduces the time to reunification. Visitation is the single most predictive factor in whether a child is successfully reunified. In keeping with Bridge, the resource parent may monitor some of the visitation, and the child welfare specialist will</p>	Melissa Jones		6/30/13				X	<p>1) Program staff has added components to level I and II Permanency Planning training that outline the advantages to parent/child visitation and develop the skill in CW staff to use the tools with in the practice model (the visitation plan) to organize and communicate visitation plans with parents and providers.</p> <p>2) Program team has researched</p>

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ensure documentation of the visits. This initiative will continue in Year Two with adjusted baselines and targets. The focus is achieving timely and successful reunification.								longitudinal studies that reflect the advantages of this process in safe reunification and are educating CW staff on this in an effort to assist in 'buying' into why this should be prioritized. The importance of documenting family visitation when it occurs is also being stressed in trainings.
9. On a regular basis, OKDHS will explore the appropriateness of reinstatement of parental rights for youth who remain in runaway status and have been located with biological parents whose rights have been terminated. Efforts will be documented in the youth's case file and discussed with the youth. The focus is older youth with permanency challenges.	Melissa Jones		6/30/13					Seven cases have been staffed with program staff to assess the safety in reinstating parental rights. Two cases have been affected by reinstatement. The Legal Division has been consulted on the most prudent way to execute this process and policy is being revised on how to achieve this process, document it and proceed with it.