

**Year One
Pinnacle Point 6 – Quarter 2**

Date Submitted: January 20, 2013	Pinnacle Point Lead: Cheryl Coponiti, Deputy Director for Programs
Goal: To ensure the safety of children, including children in out-of-home care. We must also ensure children receive regular visitation by the assigned child welfare specialist to ensure safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes.	Applicable Performance Areas: 1, 4, 5

Initiative	Initiative Lead	Evidence of Completion	Target Date	Documentation of Needs				Quarterly Update
				Technical Asst.	KIDS Changes	Research	Workgroup	
<p>1. OKDHS will implement changes in the investigative process to ensure the safety of children in out-of-home care and will ensure consistency in screening, prioritizing, investigating, and reporting findings to the federal government regardless of the level of care.</p> <p>a. OKDHS will centralize the screening process at the Hotline to ensure all calls are answered and screened promptly and thoroughly, and will ensure maltreatment reports are expeditiously assigned to field investigators. OKDHS further commits to track, monitor, and improve its screening processes, improve call wait times, ensure timely field assignment, and ensure consistent screening decisions are made. OKDHS further commits to ensure efforts are made to identify children of Native American heritage during the screening process and utilize screening practices consistent with the ICWA requirements. In light of the Hotline’s expanded duties, OKDHS commits to staff the Hotline adequately to meet its commitments.</p> <p>b. OKDHS will commence and conduct all alleged victims’ interviews in accordance with CPS policy, regardless of the level of care. Alleged victims’ interviews are attempted the same day as the report.</p>	Cheryl Coponiti	11-20-12 OCA/Hotline meeting	11-01-12		X		X	<p>(a) November 1, 2012 all reports sent through the abuse and neglect hotline with prioritization and screening in accordance to CPS guidelines.</p> <p>Protocol established for informing facility licensing agencies, Office of Juvenile Affairs and Oklahoma Child Care Licensing to receive notice of all screened out and assigned on children placed in facilities.</p> <p>Residential care home providers provided training on the new process for reporting and investigation of reports to OCA .</p> <p>(b) 12-01-12 OCA began efforts to initiate all reports according to CPS policy for assigned priority. Process established for CWS – Specialized Placement & Partnership unit (SPPU) to conduct initial safety assessment when initiation timeframes cannot be met by OCA. Facility liaisons previously assigned to Regions were transferred to SPU to assist in coordinating these efforts. Additional staff for OCA and SPU requested. As of 01-01-12 processes in place for timely initiations on OCA investigations involving custody children placed in group home and residential facilities.</p>
		Training Letter and PowerPoint	01-01-13					

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<p>c. The child's assigned child welfare specialist will be notified immediately of the allegation and investigation and will monitor the child's safety in all levels of care. The CPS or OCA investigator will ensure the child's specialist receives information timely about the investigation status and final report or finding. Guidance will be added to Instructions to Staff (ITS).</p> <p>d. In accordance with legislation and rule-making procedures, OKDHS will make changes to OCA policy to conform to CPS substantiation protocols for children in OKDHS custody. The burden of proof is some credible evidence.</p> <p>e. In accordance with legislation and rule-making procedures, OKDHS will initiate and complete all child maltreatment investigations, whether conducted by CPS or OCA, in accordance with the CPS policy timeframe, which is as follows: all investigations are initiated the same day for a Priority One report and within two to five days for a Priority Two report; all interviews are completed within 30 days.</p> <p>f. Until such time data is entered into the KIDS system, OKDHS will manually track and report abuse and neglect in out-of-home care.</p> <p>g. OKDHS will ensure that a private agency that is the subject of an investigation is informed of the outcome of the investigation.</p>		OCA/SPPU Referral Process	01-01-2013					<p>(c) 01-01-13 notification to assigned child welfare specialist being conducted by OCA when report is accepted.</p> <p>(d) Draft policy being developed through OCA and CPS collaboration. Continuation of the collaboration will occur until policy is finalized through the OKDHS rule-making and policy revision process. The policy will go into effect 06-01-2013</p> <p>(e) CWS training for OCA investigative staff regarding initiation and substantiation. Requests for additional OCA and SPU staff to meet this requirement have been made. Monthly meetings occurring with OCA-CPS-SPPU to evaluate and modify interim measures and progress being made to accomplish this initiative.</p> <p>Tracking process refined to assure correct information is being collected in NCANS. Will analyze data when NCANS submission is pulled.</p>
		Draft OCA Policy						
		Appointments 11-13-12 11-16-12 11-20-12 12-11-12 12-21-12	06-01-13					
		Appointment 12-05-12	06-01-13		x			
		Appointment 10-15-12 10-30-13 11-20-12 OCA accused caretaker notification OCA accused caretaker request for review OCA Administrator notification	06-01-13		x			

