

Year Two Pinnacle Point 4 - Quarter 3

Date Submitted: April 18, 2014	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, 4, 8, 9, 13, 14

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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,	Calvin Kelley Millie Carpenter	N/A	6/30/13					Monthly luncheon meetings have been discontinued as Judge Kirby has been replaced by Judge Davis. Three juvenile court case managers have been hired and it is anticipated that these meetings will resume. Dockets have been reassigned, so a period of stability is anticipated to take some months.

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<p>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</p>	<p>Annette Burleigh Millie Carpenter</p>	<p>EOC filed in Pinnacle Point 7.1</p>	<p>6/30/13</p>				<p>Trauma Informed Care Steering Committee CWS Team</p>	<p>A vacancy in the Trauma Services Coordinator position has impacted activities in year 2, quarter 3. Some of the duties from this position will be assumed by the Grant Coordinator for the OK Trauma Assessment and Service Center Collaborative (OK-TASCC).</p> <p>Advanced TF-CBT training for OKDHS-identified clinicians was completed 2/19-21, 2014. The next training sessions will be in SFY 15.</p> <p>The SuperCommunity work in Custer County is ongoing with</p>

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<p>permanency. During SFY13, strategies will be tested at lab sites; those found to be most successful will be subsequently implemented statewide.</p>								<p>Chadwick. The Trauma System Readiness Tool was released to assess community level of Trauma Informed knowledge and results will be forthcoming.</p> <p>Reviewed CANS Trauma for recommendation to 'Above Foster Care' group, another meeting to recommend a similar screener proposed in the OK-TASCC will be discussed with this group next quarter.</p> <p>Collaboration continued with Oklahoma Trauma Informed Care Statewide Steering Committee on statewide strategic plan, program coordination and direction, and recommendations during a wrap-up call in January 2014. The Steering Committee activities are under consideration with the OK-TASCC Grant Coordinator.</p>
<p>3. By September 30, 2012, OKDHS will identify children who are legally free but without an identified placement</p>	Linda Foster	KIDS documentation in cases; Consent information; and Partnership	9/30/12		X			<p>1) A new list of children 'legally free cohort' report was provided to the Co-Neutrals in 2/2014, along with an update being provided this month by KIDS.</p>

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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.		Responsibilities document						<p>Of the 289 children still in care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 in adoptive homes • 69 in group homes or above • 204 in Foster Care • 1 AWOL <p>Current case plan goals for these children:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 270 Adoption ✓ 1 Guardianship ✓ 13 Adoption Prep ✓ 5 Planned Alt. Perm. Placement <p>2) Adoption staff liaison for Internet and Special Recruitment has developed a 'side by side' report to assist Field Managers and staff noting efforts being made for each child via the Binder, websites, heart gallery, etc.</p> <p>3) Quarterly meetings continue with private partners who may have families available. This quarter DHS began extending invitations to families to the adoption events for this population of children/youth; where 1 family attended on 3/29/2014.</p> <p>4) Since Oklahoma is a consenting state, work is being</p>

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								done to assure children 12 and older have provided consent for adoption efforts.
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 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	Linda Foster	KIDS documentation in cases and Job Specific information for the CW Assistant	6/30/13	X	X			<p>1) In Regions 3 and 5 Adoption Transition units, there are currently 119 open assignments to Adoption Transition staff. Staff continues to work face-to-face with identified children.</p> <p>2) In Regions 1, 2, 4, and Rural 5, a new ATU unit has been designated, staff has been hired in R 1 and 4; with interviews pending in R 2 and waiting on the log for RR 5. The two staff in R1 & 4 is new to child welfare and both will have to complete CORE and pass hands-on training (HOT) prior to assuming a caseload. These staff has initiated job-specific hands on training.</p> <p>3) Based on the Q2 monthly report, run date 4/7/2014 for 3/2014 data, 17 children/youth in this population are currently in Trial Adoption status. 28 children are currently authorized and either going through the disclosure process or visiting potential families</p>

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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.								4) The CW Assistant has been onboard for 4 months. This staff will assist in managing the photo listing websites and other child-specific recruitment events to assure all efforts are made to find forever families for the targeted youth.
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	Dawn Carson		11/01/2012					The Request for Proposal (RFP) was completed in 07/13, and one vendor, Eckerd, was secured to provide extensive case management services for youth. The project is at full capacity with 40 referrals. Early successes with the program have already been reported.

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in higher levels of care with the greatest risk of not achieving permanency. As caseloads stabilize and staff become more skilled, the 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	Robin Gibson	PRT schedule	12/31/12					From 2/18 to 3/14/2014, 47 cases with 48 children were roundtabled within the 5 regions throughout the state. While this set of PRTs included youth from the Pinnacle Plan's directed cases, 5 cases were regionally selected to be roundtabled above that expectation. Two regions have completed their Pinnacle Plan cases, so PRT efforts will continue in those regions with 100% regionally selected cases from this point forward. 30-day reviews have been sent regarding all PRTs completed in February and March. Regions are working diligently to build

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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.								capacity to facilitate and independently manage the PRT process. A planning meeting has been set tentatively for 4/18 to further strategize on the best ways to build capacity, create a strong and supportive message regarding PRTs, and build PRTs into a normative business practice over the coming year.
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	Melissa Jones	Baseline report for FTM; Diligent Search How To; and email from Paul Vincent	6/30/13			X	X	1) Segments in the training power point have been added to the Supervisor Academy, and Level courses that reach Child Protective Services, Permanency Planning (PP), and Bridge staffs. PP staff continues to stress the importance of FTMs throughout the duration of the case in order to make decisions, including case plan development,

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<p>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.</p>								<p>Individualized Service Plan, placement, visitation, and sibling placement / separation. 2) These trainings allow PP staff to continue to stress the importance of early and ongoing diligent search for every case, in order to identify, locate, notify, contact, and engage relatives. Stressing how engaging relatives can be a win-win for families and workers. Staff is also training on how to complete Diligent Searches effectively and has developed a one page 'How To' on diligent searches. 3) Seven different methods of FTM meetings have been studied and considered at this point for the CWS Practice model. A federal grant is being considered for funding to implement a model in OK and fund its conception. A meeting has been held with the Office of Planning, Research and Statistics to negotiate the application for the grant. PP staff consulted with Paul Vincent on his model and we are continuing to assess if this would be a good model</p>

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								<p>for DHS.</p> <p>4) PP staff conducted additional meetings in 1/2014. with KIDS programing staff to further communicate articulating how to document and pull proper reports to ensure tracking FTM data in the most efficient and accurate manner. A baseline report was created and reflects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1065 FTMs for 'Placement cannot meet the child's behavioral treatment needs' • 89 FTMs for 'Placement cannot meet the child's medical treatment needs' • 2248 FTMs for 'Provider Requested Change of Placement'
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	Melissa Jones	Baseline Report	6/30/13				X	Advanced Level training for programs, including Child Protective Services, Bridge, PP and Family Centered Services, continues to outline the advantages of consistent and frequent parent/child visitation and develop the skills in CW staff to use the tools within the Practice Model (the visitation plan) to organize and

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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 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.								<p>communicate visitation plans with parents and providers. This training continues to be offered a minimum of monthly to Level I and II staff and the schedule to teach this 41 times in state fiscal year 2015 was just finalized.</p> <p>Data baseline report for family visitation was discussed with KIDS program staff in 1/2014. A worker order was submitted to create this report. This report should be ready by next quarter.</p>
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	Melissa Jones		6/30/13					<p>Program staff was approached about two case consultations which occurred this quarter regarding reinstating parental rights. In one case, it was not safe to do so and in the other case reinstatement occurred and the case closed. A detailed account of this staffing was documented in the KIDS case Contacts screen. A new spreadsheet has been created and posted online for all</p>

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discussed with the youth. The focus is older youth with permanency challenges.								program staff to access. Each time a case is staffed for this purpose, it will be noted on this spreadsheet and a case contact will be put into KIDS. Reinstatement will continue to be discussed and taught in the Level II PP training so staff is aware that this is an option, the parameters of the law around it, and what the process includes.
10. OKDHS will request the Oklahoma House of Representatives conduct an interim study exploring the agency representation model (OKDHS attorneys) and the prosecutorial model (district attorneys) currently in place in Oklahoma. OKDHS will make a specific recommendation for addressing the needs of children whose permanency is delayed by district attorneys who do not timely file for termination of	Scott Rayburn	N/A						No change from previous quarter. An interim study request to explore the agency representation model and the prosecutorial model is scheduled for the CW Executive Team meeting in 11/13. Time frame for interim study requests is early spring. A formal request may be made for an interim study at that time.

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parental rights (TPR). The Co-Neutrals will also evaluate the compatibility of the existing representation model with positive permanency outcomes for children.								
11. OKDHS will conduct an analysis of cases involving children where a request for TPR has been made but a petition has not been filed in the deprived court. Based on the analysis, OKDHS will make specific recommendations for addressing the needs of children whose permanency is delayed by district attorneys who have not timely filed and prosecuted the TPR. Recommendations may include requesting the State Court Improvement Program (CIP) to hold a summit	Melissa Jones	T/TA OK Call Notes						Training/Technical Assistance with Gary Mallon in October 2013 furthered discussion to include the judiciary in training on permanency values. This training has been scheduled for October 2014.

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between OKDHS, judges, district attorneys, and child attorneys to develop an action plan to address this issue.								
12. OKDHS will implement a new process to prevent disruption of trial adoptive placements and when disruption cannot be prevented, provide more information to the child's next adoptive placement. This process will require an FTM including the trial adoptive resource parents, the assigned permanency planning and adoption child welfare specialist, and supervisors in order to assess the needs of the child and the trial adoptive resource parents.	Deborah Goodman	N/A as information is detailed in the child's KIDS case						<p>The adoption specialist for the child is to notify the FTM group within the county of a pending disruption at the earliest time to assist.</p> <p>During this past quarter: <u>Region 1</u> - 2 FTM held to prevent disruption. <u>Region 2</u> - 4 FTM held and services put in place to prevent disruption. <u>Region 3</u> - 1 FTM held to prevent disruptions but failed. <u>Region 4</u> - 5 FTMs; 1 family experienced disruption with 3 children. <u>Region 5</u> - 2 FTMs held to prevent a disruption with services put in and one placement salvaged.</p>
13. By July 1, 2013, OKDHS will conduct a data analysis of region 3	Deborah Goodman	N/A as information is detailed in the	7-1-13					Quad reviews are held with each county Permanency Planning Unit and resource specialists

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(Oklahoma County) and region 5 (Tulsa County only) adoption cases in order to understand trends and issues related to timeliness of adoption after TPR. Within 90 days, OKDHS will create and implement strategies to shorten the length of time to adoption finalization.		child's KIDS case						<p>within the state quarterly, which has contributed to the improved time to finalization. The District Director and Field Managers are present at these reviews, which place a high level of importance for movement.</p> <p>Region3 – Issues identified include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Timeliness of reassessments; significant progress made with foster care in this area. 2) Child Profiles; worked with Shadow Mountain and great progress was made. 3) Criteria staffing to child profile referral time. In assessing this process, efforts to reduce time between these two activities. On 12-1-13 the EDS (child profile) request will happen at the time of CONSULTATION; change in this process will allow for completion of that process prior to criteria staffing. Limited progress made this quarter. <p>Region 5 plan covers four main areas:</p>

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								<p>1) Pursuing the involvement and active participation of Tribal partners as early as possible. Greatly improved with notification and involvement.</p> <p>2) Effectively using timeframes for approving home assessments from foster care for children who are legally free and placed in an identified placement. Limited improvement in this area.</p> <p>3) Minimizing delays between completion of consultation/criteria staffing and child profile referrals and completion.</p> <p>4) Completing receipt and/or redaction of child profile information for disclosure of information to families. The ultimate goal is for staff to receive an authorization request within 90 days of the child's case plan goal change to adoption. Temporary staff secured to assist with de-identifying of profile.</p>
14. The Center on Child Abuse and Neglect (CCAN) and OKDHS will	Deborah Goodman	Email on MCBM training status						All counties sites have been trained in the Managing Child Behavior Model, which is based

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conduct a pilot project for a parenting curriculum and support model for adoptive families for both trial and finalized adoptions. The pilot project will be modeled after an evidenced-based program and will address adoption dissolutions. This is also described in Pinnacle Point 1 – Initiative 21.d, but it is specific to resource parents in that section.								on an evidenced-based model to be used with children ages 3 to 13. Bridge Family Solution Training started in Oklahoma and Tulsa Counties and progressed to the rest of the state. Training occurred during SFY 13; however, the implementation pilot is on hold at this time due to the funding restraints.
15. By December 31, 2013, OKDHS will incorporate the use of research-based tools to evaluate the engagement and collaboration of families by child welfare specialists. As staff improve their engagement and collaboration skills, their effectiveness in moving children to permanency will also	Melissa Jones	Research-based tools used	12-31-13					A pilot evaluation is currently in progress to assess a new engagement evaluation process for CWS. This pilot evaluation will assess the feasibility of using such a tool on a larger scale within all of CWS programs. The tool was developed by Diane Yatchmenoff, and with the assistance of Casey Family Programs, and modified to be used on a larger scale by state agencies to look at client receptivity, buy-in, working

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<p>improve. For example, staff will be able to more quickly engage parents in treatment planning and assist them in changing behaviors that caused children to be unsafe in order to enable more timely reunification. These skills are also translated to kinship families, extended family members, and youth.</p> <p>a. Research-based tools are completed by a random sample of families and provide feedback to the individual child welfare specialist, supervisor, district director, deputy director, and program staff as part of ongoing quality assurance.</p> <p>b. The information will be used by</p>							<p>relationship, and level of mistrust. The current evaluation will assess PP staff's ability to engage parents with a research based tool.</p> <p>The survey tool entitled "Family-Worker Collaboration" is being used. Evaluators are contacting parents by phone and asking them to complete the survey with the evaluator. Following a successful survey conducted on a parent the worker assigned to the case is sent a survey via email link entitled "worker's view" and asked to complete this survey within one week. The phone surveys will be completed by 4/22 and worker surveys will be completed by 4/28/2014. Currently there are 30 parent surveys and 17 worker surveys noted as completed.</p>	

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<p>program staff as part of an overall evaluation of practice, training, and policy implementation.</p> <p>c. The information will be used as part of an overall evaluation and training plan for individuals, units, counties, districts, and/or regions.</p>								
<p>16. OKDHS will expand the use of court-approved mediation in region 3 (Oklahoma County) so it occurs earlier in the process of court involvement. Careful consideration will be given to other locations for expansion and will focus on those districts with permanency challenges related to reunification.</p>	<p>Millie Carpenter</p>							<p>Three juvenile court case managers have been added in region 3 who will be the primary referral sources for Child Permanency Mediation. A fifth judge was appointed in December 2013 to support the juvenile docket. The CIP court improvement plan states the judges will send cases to mediation whenever possible; however, until there is a period of stability with the court dockets, mediation is not likely to increase. There continues to be a challenge in representation by contract attorneys since</p>

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								there is no pay to attend the mediations.