

Year Two Pinnacle Point 6- Quarter 2

Date Submitted: January 17, 2014	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	
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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	Cheryl Coponiti		11-1-12					(a) Completed Year One Q1

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<p>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> <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,</p>			1-01-13					b) Completed Year One Q2.	
			6-01-13						(c) Completed Year One Q2.
			06-1-13						(d) Completed Year One Q4

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<p>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>		<p>Appointment 05-16-2013 E-mail from E. Roberts 10-10-13</p>	6-01-13					<p>(e) Completed Year 2 Quarter 1</p> <p>f) Completed Year 2 Quarter 1</p> <p>(g) Completed Year 1 Quarter 4</p>

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2. 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.			7-1-13					This is reported on under PP4.16. Same initiative. (Completed Year 2 Q1)
3. By December 1, 2013, OKDHS will require each child in out-of-home care to be visited at least two times by the child welfare specialist during the child's first two months in placement and at least one time per month thereafter.		Revised Policy Staff Training Agenda	12-1-13					(Completed Year 2 Q1)