

Year Two Pinnacle Point 7 – Quarter 3

Date Submitted: April 18, 2014	Pinnacle Point Lead: Joani Webster
Goal: To engage community partners, other state agencies, the private sector, and Tribes in supporting children and families involved with the child welfare system. OKDHS cannot do it alone.	Applicable Performance Areas: 9, 10, 11, 12

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1. 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 Year One but will require five years for full implementation. This effort will enhance all aspects of the child welfare system so that it is trauma-informed and will provide screenings, assessments, and supportive services to help children achieve permanency.	Millie Carpenter		6/30/13					<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 February 19-21, 2014. The next training sessions will be in SFY 15.</p> <p>The SuperCommunity work in Custer County is ongoing with 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</p>

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2. In collaboration with the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS), OKDHS will increase the number of children involved in child welfare services who are also served through Systems of Care. This effort will focus on maintaining children safely in their own homes, timely reunifying children, and improving placement stability by supporting biological, adoptive, and resource parents in caring for children with behavioral health needs. Systems of Care is nearly available statewide, and this expansion will focus on children in the child welfare system. Although work will begin in Year One, full implementation will require at least five years.	Millie Carpenter		6/30/13					<p>A vacancy in the Trauma Services Coordinator position has impacted activities in year 2, quarter 3.</p> <p>Activities this quarter have focused on enhancing mental and behavioral health services/supports in Region 4. Region 4 has established a protocol to look at group home diversions and placement stability. The next steps will entail data mining and tracking outcomes.</p>
3. In collaboration with the OKDHS office supporting faith-based and community initiatives and other external partners, the Child Welfare Division will finalize a two-year strategic plan focused on recruitment and support of resource families. An existing group including OKDHS staff and faith-based leaders has continued to grow and gain momentum in supporting children in care and the families who care for them.	Joani Webster Karen Jacobs		6/30/13					<p>With the new hiring of staff in September, this office is in the process developing a community engagement strategic plan.</p> <p>The 111 Project continues as well as the Count Me In 4 Kids. However, this office hasn't been the key contact for several months. Deb Smith and Director Lake has been the primary contact for Count Me In 4 Kids. We made an</p>

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								<p>outreach to the 111 Project to assist. We attend the Foster Care Forums in OKC and Tulsa each year</p> <p>We attended a CWLA foster recruitment webinar and the potential implementation of the Rainbow Rooms. I have discussed with Deb Smith the opportunity to appoint a community partner to the CWLA Faith-Based Initiative National Advisory Committee. Michael Hanegan, Programs Field Coordinator, Faith Engagement, is the designee to serve on the CA Prevention Task Force with the OK State Department of Health.</p> <p>We are attending the Preparing for a Lifetime, It's Everyone's Responsibility task force meetings at the OK State Department of Health to address reduction of infant mortality and safe sleep issues.</p> <p>We attended the CW Diligent Recruitment Training last week. Many service gaps were identified and will be working to fulfill with community</p>

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								partners, if possible.
4. OKDHS will create and annually distribute an online survey to child welfare staff at all levels in order to assess possible service and quality gaps for particular districts and regions. This will ensure information is collected in a systematic way. From the collected information, service and quality gaps will be analyzed and prioritized, and strategies will be developed as appropriate. Strategies to address service and quality gaps may include improving existing partnerships, creating new partnerships, requesting additional funding, and/or adjusting current budget expenditures. District directors, deputy directors, and program staff have critical roles in helping evaluate and craft solutions to address service and quality gaps.	Shannon Rios		6/30/13					Survey will be sent again in June, 2014.
5. OKDHS will collaborate with youth services agencies and other private foster care, residential and therapeutic agencies in creating a statewide plan to identify more effective, quality services for families involved in child welfare. Where appropriate, OKDHS will work with these agencies to determine whether and how their business models might shift or supplement shelter and	Mendy Thomas		6/30/14					OKDHS/ CW Shelter Liaison, Mendy Thomas and Shawn Black, Oklahoma Association of Youth Services (OAYS) Director , have met monthly to collaborate and discuss the array of services that are available through the shelters statewide. We have completed the surveys and await compiled

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residential care with more comprehensive, community-based services. Youth services and other private agencies are important stakeholders in the child welfare system providing not only for shelter, residential and therapeutic services, but for many other services in the community. They know the communities and are dedicated to serving children and families.								data for review.
6. Annually, OKDHS will assess the need to expand Comprehensive Home-Based Services (CHBS). These services are currently available statewide; however, as more families are referred to prevent removal of children, stabilize families for reunification, and support resource parents in caring for children, an assessment of the need to expand services should be completed. This assessment must occur with input from deputy directors, district directors, and front-line staff; their input is critical to effectively monitoring provider compliance and positive outcomes.	Charlotte Kendrick							The OCS Contracts were awarded this quarter for state fiscal year 2014 with the option of four additional renewal years as long as the scope of work remains the same. OCS contractors are: NorthCare Center in regions 1 through 3 and Family and Children's Services in regions 4 and 5. Comprehensive Home Based Services will continue to the same populations (voluntary, reunifying, foster and adoptive) utilizing the same evidence based parenting practice (SafeCare), and incorporating the new discipline module, Managing Child Behavior, with biological families and, to a smaller degree, Bridge Resource Families, although due to funding shortages, the foster and adoptive families to be served in

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								the Pinnacle Plan pilot project for placement stabilization has been limited. Both contractors have seen increases in referrals and both have had waiting lists periodically. The OCS liaisons work very closely with the contractors and front line child welfare workers on a continuous basis to prioritize referrals and help reduce waiting lists. A new tracking mechanism is being developed to better ascertain the timeframes between when the referral is made and the contractor receives it. The new contract also allows for the contractor to do the intake with the family without child welfare in an effort to get the work started with the families as soon as possible. Staffing between the contractor and child welfare then occurs at a later date. Deputy and district directors are kept abreast of any issues that arise.
7. OKDHS will partner with the Oklahoma Child Welfare Stakeholder Collaboration State Advisory Board for Improving Services, a statewide advisory board focused on building local community partnerships to improve outcomes and services available for children and families	Brandy Smith		6/30/13					The OCWSSC continues to meet every other month to monitor the progress of the Pottawatomie and Lincoln County pilot projects. The DHS coordinator for the initiative completed a formal proposal for statewide expansion of the community partnership model to

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<p>involved in the child welfare system. During Year One, two communities of focus will conduct a study to determine existing service and quality gaps. District directors have a critical role in supporting this effort, and OKDHS has dedicated a full-time staff person to support the state advisory board efforts. Sites will be selected at the discretion of the statewide advisory board and dependent upon the interest of the local community. OKDHS will recommend districts with the greatest service needs.</p>								<p>strengthen child welfare services array locally. The proposal is currently being reviewed internally and a draft will be submitted to the OCWSSC in the third quarter for review.</p> <p>Progress continues in Pottawatomie County, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) successful submission of a funding request to Avedis Foundation, with assistance from the Coordinator, to implement their Child Health and Well Being Initiative, 2) received notice that they were awarded the \$410,084.00 request to hire staff to form a Coordinated School Health Team, which will serve four rural schools in Southern Pottawatomie County and include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. a DHS School Based Service b. a school nurse through the Health Department c. an LPC through Red Rock Behavioral Health d. an LDAC through Gateway to Prevention and Recovery e. a Parent Child Interaction Therapist through Gateway f. Parents as Teacher Workers through Asher Schools, 3) in addition, the group also

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								<p>received funding to hire a Pottawatomie County Child Welfare Collaborative Program Manager to which will assisting the group in managing and sustaining the Collaborative's initiatives. The Program Coordinator position is a partnership with Youth and Family Resource Center in Shawnee and the DHS Community Coordinator will be training and providing field supervision to the new Program Manager for one year. The Program Coordinator position is critical to sustain as the efforts of the Collaborative, as professional staff support and volunteer leadership are both critical components of the model, and finally</p> <p>4) a Self Study of Pottawatomie County Child Welfare Unit was conducted, with assistance from the coordinator, to respond to the community study, which strongly indicated a need to improve the DHS office.</p> <p>Progress is also underway in Lincoln County. Efforts to conduct a Self Study of the Lincoln County, Child Welfare System as a total of seven Key Informant Interviews</p>

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								have been completed. In addition, staff is exploring whether a new group is needed to improve the service array, or an existing group in the county, such as Turning Point, is interested in taking on the responsibility.
8. By June 30, 2013, OKDHS will review and update the joint response protocols with law enforcement to ensure continued emphasis on working together as a team for the purpose of ensuring children's safety. This effort will be especially critical after child welfare restructuring.	Charlotte Kendrick	Folder of all protocols located in the W drive in the Pinnacle Plan Folder	6/30/13					Completed in Year 2 Quarter 2
9. OKDHS, in collaboration with the Oklahoma Indian Child Welfare Association (OICWA) and the existing Tribal/State Workgroup, will finalize an annual strategic plan for improving outcomes for Native American children. OKDHS will recommend: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. expanding the focus on case reviews for Native American children, including the use of a new instrument to ensure ICWA-compliant placements and positive outcomes for children protected by ICWA; b. designating a tribal coordinator for each region; and c. increasing the number of OKDHS staff who participate in tribal trainings 	Rita Hart							<p>The ICWA case review Snapshot pilot is near completion. Data compilation of the 14 22 counties in Region 5 4 includes 264 cases 556 children with 12 16 tribes identified. The estimated project completion date is March July. DHS is partnering with Casey Family</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The ICWA case review Snapshot pilot is near completion. Data compilation of the 14 22 counties in Region 5 4 includes 264 cases 556 children with 12 16 tribes identified. The estimated project completion date is </div>

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								<p>March July. DHS is partnering with Casey Family Programs in the project and final data analysis will be provided in a report. The pilot is expected to be expanded to other Regions in the state.</p> <p>Part 2 of this initiative will be to implement a Regional Indian Child Welfare Advisory Committee for case review, staff development, and increased tribal collaboration. A two day strategic thinking meeting was held on March 6 & 7th, 2014 in Norman. All tribes were invited with key members of the Workgroup and Regional Field staff. . Each region provided a overview of their recommendations. A follow up meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2014 for the participants.</p> <p>b. Four Tribal Coordinator positions were announced and interviews held on January 7 and 8, 2014. Two applicants were selected from 10 interviewees. Both Tribal Coordinators began duty on February 16, 2015 for Region 2 and Region 5. Two</p>

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								<p>vacant positions were announced and closed March 17, 2014. Interviews to be scheduled.</p> <p>c. OKDHS staff attend regular meetings and/or trainings in different locations across the State. The meetings and/or trainings include Southern Plains Child Protection Team (Anadarko area), Shawnee Area Child Protection Team meeting, Osage Nation Practice Model implementation, Choctaw Nation Practice/Policy implementation, and Chickasaw Nation IV-E program implementation.</p> <p>Bridge Adoption held an adoption staffing for tribes on March 12th. Children in which ICWA applies, I legally free and with the goal of adoption were staffed between Bridge workers and Tribal ICW workers to identify placements.</p>
10. OKDHS will finalize agency protocols to engage and coordinate services for victims of domestic violence and share these protocols with partner agencies including law enforcement, domestic violence service providers, and mental health agencies as appropriate.	Charlotte Kendrick							<p>CPS program staff participate in the Domestic Violence Task Force and the Domestic Fatality Review Board. Online Domestic violence training is now available for Child Welfare staff. The Oklahoma Coalition Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault has</p>

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								reviewed this training and approved. The Board of Licensed Social Workers is being approached about approving the training for CEUs. CPS program staff is partnering with Dept. of Mental Health to encourage providers to utilize training that will be available, on the Dept. of Mental Health's website, in 2014.
11. OKDHS will explore the possibility of responding to screened-out Hotline referrals by offering community services to those families. OKDHS may partner with another state agency, such as the Oklahoma State Department of Health, private agencies, and/or OKDHS staff to provide services in order to prevent an additional Hotline referral from becoming necessary. Services would be voluntary on the part of the family.			06/30/14		X			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hotline staff ask the reporter if the child victim(s) are American Indian and, if so, what tribe the child(ren) is a member of. 2. Reports that indicate the child victim(s) is located on tribal land are forwarded to the tribe. 3. When Hotline staff receive reports that indicate the child victim(s) is a tribal member and does not fall within the scope of a CPS investigation by DHS CW, if we can verify the tribal membership through our records, the report is forwarded to the tribe.

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12. OKDHS will collaborate with Oklahoma Schools of Social Work to increase the number of social work students enrolled in the CWPEP.	Guy Willis							<p>February 14, 2014 – Child Welfare Orientation for undergraduates at East Central University in Ada, OK</p> <p>March 11, 2014 – BSW/CWPEP recruitment presentation to Introduction to Social Work Classes at Rose State College, Midwest City, OK</p> <p>March 11, 2014 CWPEP recruitment event for OU juniors at the NASW Day at the Legislature</p> <p>March 13, 2014 Child Welfare Orientation for OU juniors</p> <p>March 2014 CWPEP information provided to all students accepted into the BSW program (OU Norman) and the MSW program (OU Norman and OU Tulsa)</p>