



OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

# Director's Comments



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January 24, 2012



OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

# Outline of Director's Comments

- Site Visits
- Good News Sharing
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Update
- Characteristics of Expenditures by Type
- Child Welfare Update
- Future Plans for Southern Oklahoma Resource Center and Northern Oklahoma Resource Center
- Information Technology
- Thank you



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# Site Visits



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# Site Visits

- Area III Continuous Quality Improvement meeting at Rockwell Office – OKC, OK
- Creek County Office Visit – Bristow, OK
- Tulsa County Office Visit – Skyline Office, Tulsa, OK
- DDS Waiting List meeting – Tulsa, OK
- Oklahoma Society of Certified Public Managers Honors banquet
- Annual meeting of the Research Advisory Group for the Oklahoma Marriage Initiative and Family Expectations – OKC, OK



# Site Visits

- OKDHS Live status report and planning sessions
- Policy and Practice Lecture Series: Paul Amato Lecture: The effects of divorce on children
- ADvantage Waiver providers meeting
- Adult Day Care providers meeting
- Therapeutic Foster Care Association providers meeting
- Health and Human Services Cabinet Meeting
- Workforce Oklahoma Portal Agency Directors Meeting
- Sequoyah building Christmas Event
- SORC/NORCE/OPEA representative review of the plan for the future of SORC/NORCE.



# Site Visits

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- Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth
- Monthly case reviews
- Foster Care and Adoption Association of Oklahoma
- Deborah Roth Group Home Christmas Open House
- Multiple Pre and Post Settlement Meetings and Commission Meetings regarding the D.G. litigation.
- Moore Norman Career Tech Annual Client Celebration
- Compensation and Unclassified Positions Review Board Organizational Meeting
- Policy Review Sessions for Child Welfare
- Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Strategic Planning Sessions



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# Site Visits

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program coordination
- Meeting with the Co-Neutrals
- OKDHS Budget Overview with Legislative Committee
- Meeting with Federal Region VI leaders to discuss the status of various programs
- Policy Review Session for Child Support Services
- Compensation and Unclassified Positions Review Board Recommendation Meeting
- Legislative Meetings to discuss Settlement of Case
- OCCY Planning Coordination Committee Meeting
- OCCY Task Force on substance exposed babies.



# Site Visits

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- Multiple 90 day reviews
- Foster and Adoptive parents and youth participating in new DMHSAS systems of care grant.
- Information Technology Governance Board Quarterly meeting
- Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness meeting
- Legislative Briefing regarding IT Consolidation
- Tulsa Metropolitan Human Services Council presentation regarding the funding of different programs.



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# Good News Sharing



# Good News Sharing

- On track for another record year in adopting children out of foster care. As of yesterday, 1,009 finalized adoptions have been completed since July 1, 2011.
- First stress test for OKDHS Live with about 27,000 January SNAP recertification recipients was completed in December with mixed results. The test identified code that needed to be made more efficient, all changes were made and we have already distributed the approx. 27,000 February recertification recipients.



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# Good News



- Another incredible year of generosity for children coordinated by our Office of Volunteerism, our Warehouse staff, local child welfare workers and a host of churches and community organizations.



# Good News

- Thanks to Karen Jacobs and her volunteer coordinators and the incredible numbers of employees throughout the agency and the families who adopted children for the Christmas holidays.
- More than 6,000 children received their requested gift lists.





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# Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly Food Stamp) Update



# OKDHS Agency Overview

## SNAP – A Brief Analysis

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### Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Persons:

|     | 2011    | 2010    | 2009    | 2008    | 2007    | 2006    | 2005    | 1 Yr % Inc. |
|-----|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|
| Jan | 614,267 | 567,669 | 442,299 | 415,162 | 421,685 | 438,130 | 426,004 | + 8.2       |
| Feb | 605,130 | 570,668 | 444,184 | 417,624 | 416,422 | 433,693 | 420,044 | + 6.0       |
| Mar | 607,397 | 575,898 | 450,057 | 410,440 | 414,514 | 430,354 | 419,346 | + 5.5       |
| Apr | 608,497 | 582,051 | 463,426 | 411,789 | 413,450 | 427,584 | 418,199 | + 4.5       |
| May | 611,285 | 586,536 | 474,971 | 413,183 | 414,412 | 429,026 | 417,953 | + 4.2       |
| Jun | 612,285 | 588,334 | 491,914 | 414,843 | 414,777 | 431,261 | 420,309 | + 4.1       |
| Jul | 614,076 | 598,126 | 509,627 | 417,551 | 415,600 | 428,594 | 419,613 | + 2.7       |
| Aug | 622,911 | 606,700 | 524,536 | 423,444 | 420,705 | 434,330 | 429,303 | + 2.7       |
| Sep | 625,004 | 612,347 | 535,880 | 426,114 | 417,763 | 432,697 | 436,585 | + 1.9       |
| Oct | 622,675 | 610,995 | 546,988 | 432,642 | 419,604 | 431,117 | 440,107 | + 1.8       |
| Nov | 622,172 | 613,914 | 561,111 | 435,564 | 417,973 | 428,557 | 441,707 | + 1.3       |
| Dec | 620,791 | 615,664 | 566,122 | 442,140 | 415,026 | 426,454 | 443,045 | + 0.8       |

( up 40.4% from 36 months ago)

Oct. children: 278,663 (30% of all children in Oklahoma)

Oct. adults: 344,012 August to December, 2011 – five largest months ever

Oct. total: 622,675 December, 2011 is third consecutive month with a drop



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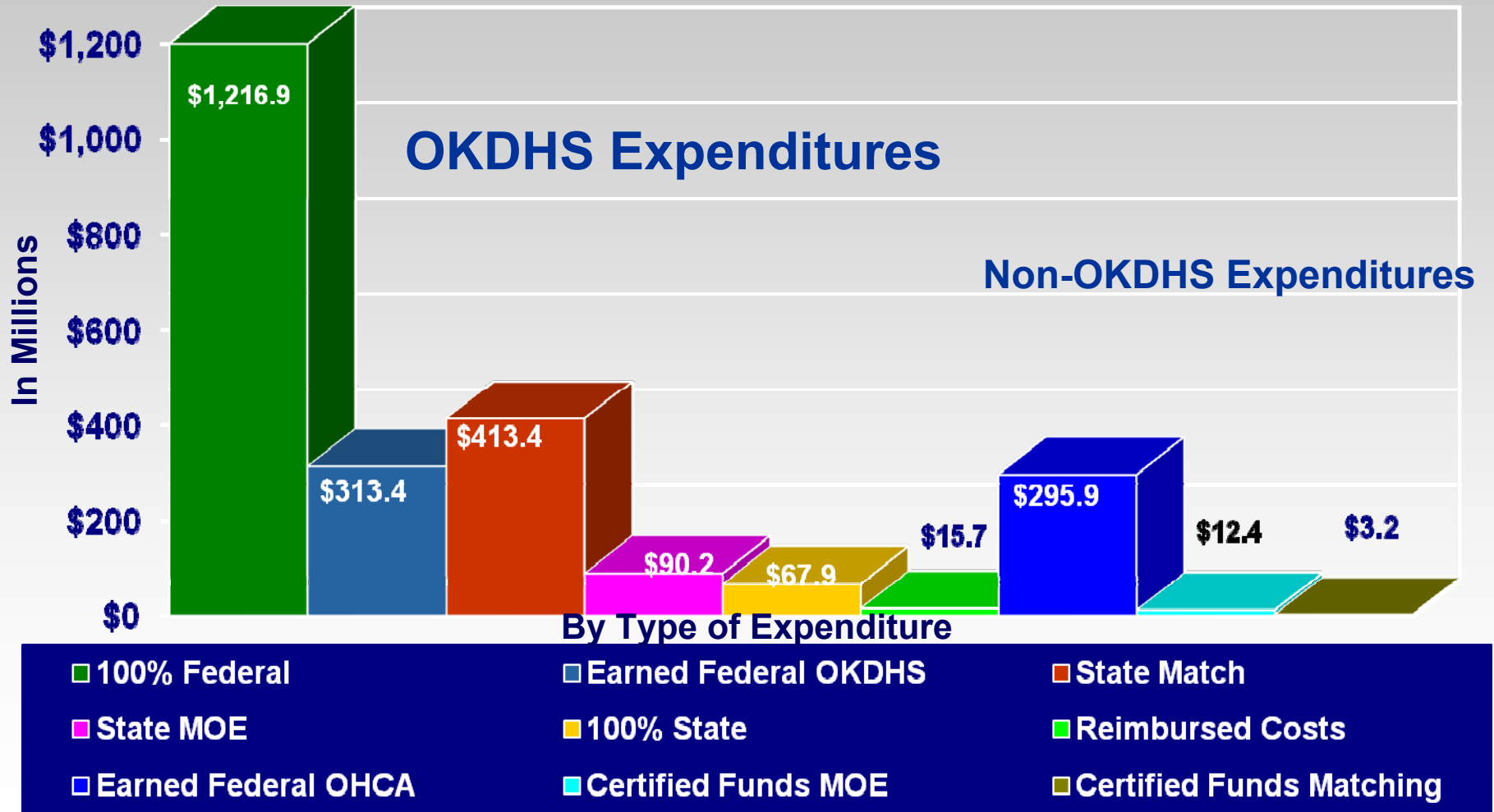
# Characteristics of Expenditures by Type



# Allocation of Expenditures

FY2012 as of 09/30/11

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• Includes Commission action to restore selected budget reductions on 10/25/11



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# Child Welfare Update



# Child Welfare Update

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- A settlement agreement of the D.G. litigation was signed by all parties. Last night, Judge Frizzell signed an order preliminarily approving the settlement agreement and setting a “fairness hearing” for February 29, 2012.
- Two meetings with the Co-Neutrals have been held since the signing of the agreement.
- Plan development deadline is March 31, 2012.



# Child Welfare Update

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- The second round of the federal child and family services reviews (CFSR) of the states were begun in 2006-2008. No state has ever “passed” a CFSR, but all states then enter into Program Improvement Plans (PIP) with the federal government with certain detailed efforts and targeted performance measures.
- Oklahoma completed its second child and family services review (CFSR) with the federal government and entered into its Program Improvement Plan (PIP) effective October 1, 2009. Quarterly reports are filed each quarter showing progress on performance measures and compliance with certain required action steps



# Child Welfare Update

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- Each quarter beginning on October 1, 2009, OKDHS has filed with the regional office of ACF a progress report on the PIP with detailed data and documenting certain tasks and performance measures.
- On January 17 2012, we received confirmation from ACF of its receipt and of our passing all action step portions of the PIP through the eight and final quarter (September 30, 2011).



# Child Welfare Update

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- As was reported last month, with regard to National Standards and CFSR Item Measurements, Oklahoma has achieved the improvement goals negotiated for the CFSR items specific measures. The only National Standard remaining unmet is for Permanency Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification. The negotiated improved goal for Permanency Composite 1 is 118. Oklahoma did not reach 118 because of a change in practice which brought less children into care. So, children who previously had short lengths of stay avoided removals but had the effect of increasing the time to reunification because these children were never removed.
- The Children's Bureau has expressed an openness to additional discussions and proposals for alternative measures. Those discussions have started.



# Child Welfare Update

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- We are optimistic that the final point in the PIP can be resolved because the change in practice is better for children.
- We have a year to work out the details on the final point.
- The process contemplates a continuation of data reporting from October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012.
- In the unlikely event something is not worked out, the children's bureau is required to assess a penalty, but the amount and method is unknown . Our relationship with the bureau is good and we expect this to be resolved.



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# Future Plans for Southern Oklahoma Resource Center and Northern Oklahoma Resource Center



# Future Plans for SORC and NORCE

## Key Vision Points:

- Avoid major capital costs for both sites
- Listen to the desires of the residents and their family members
- Listen to staff regarding their vision for the care of the residents
- Develop a plan that is feasible for what is foreseeable, not necessarily for every future contingency.
- Recognize that the situation is difficult for all involved and that preferences are mutually exclusive (i.e. we cannot avoid major capital costs and continue the same level of operations)



# Future Plans for SORC and NORCE

## ● Plan Modification Process:

- After last Commission meeting I met with representatives of OPEA and the parent guardian association from both facilities to be sure we were hearing their concerns.
- Two observations:
  - An irreconcilable difference exists on whether capital expenditures should be made or not. Neither the original plan nor the modified plan contemplate capital expenditures for maintenance in excess of \$5,000.
  - Some parents expressed a willingness to actually visit multiple community sites and staff have agreed to make those visits. Some parents were unwilling to make the visits.



# Future Plans for SORC and NORCE

## Final Plan Modifications since December Commission:

- Clarifies that the final combined populations of both sites will be reduced from 245 to 120 (previously 112) by August 13, 2013.
- A new express description of the individualized planning process is included which directs attention to Appendix 3 for more specific information.
- Removes reference to OCA staff changes since they will provide advocacy services on a regular basis, not a time limited basis (previously 90 days)
- Creates a detailed description of the “Transition Safeguards”



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# Information Technology



# Information Technology

## Information Technology Consolidation

- Received a letter deferring any transfer of staff until adequate due diligence can be resolved to address our continuing concerns about cost allocation and the high risk of loss of federal funds if OSF were to proceed with consolidation
- Conversations to continue with the CIO for more clarification on the deferral of a consolidation decision due to federal cost allocation issues.



# Information Technology

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## Information Technology Consolidation

- Some pending IT initiatives improved and some are moving slowly due to uncertainty internally, at DCS or at OSF:
  - Fingerprinting service – some progress with an RFP
  - Child Care monitoring information service (good progress after the purchasing approval)
  - The family support imaging initiative has been completed
  - Completing OKDHS Live (statewide notices sent in December and January)
  - Personnel guidance – status is deferred
  - Maintaining network equipment, etc. – status is unclear



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Thank you