

## Child Death Review Board

The Child Death Review Board Program (CDRB) is responsible for reviewing the deaths and near deaths of children, birth through age 17, in Oklahoma. Statistical data and systems information is collected in order to identify trends and develop recommendations for policies, procedures, and practices that will prevent future deaths. The reviews are completed by one State Board or one of the four regional boards (known as teams in administrative code).

### State Fiscal Year 2023 Data

**355** Number of child death cases reviewed and closed

**39** Number of child near-death cases reviewed and closed

### Total Staff

**4** Full-time Employees

## Postadjudication Review Boards

Postadjudication Review Boards (PARB) consist of citizen volunteers who review deprived and delinquent case information and make recommendations to the district court. They review case files and child welfare reports in addition to interviewing individuals knowledgeable about these cases to inform their recommendations. Their purpose is to assure that the best interests of children are being served by scrutinizing treatment, permanency, and service plans. In addition to their work on individual cases, they make systems-level recommendations through the State Postadjudication Review Advisory Board. There are 44 local PARBs and one state advisory board.

### State Fiscal Year 2023 Data

**1,448** Number of cases reviewed

**2,586** Number of children involved in the reviews

**300** Number of PARB volunteers

### Total Staff

**2** Full-time Employees

**1** Part-time Contractor

## Freestanding Multidisciplinary Teams

There are 38 Freestanding Multidisciplinary Teams (FSMDT) across the state providing interagency and comprehensive responses to child maltreatment. The FSMDTs' membership consists of law enforcement, child welfare workers, prosecutors, mental health providers, and health care professionals. The purposes of the FSMDTs are to assure that child victims of abuse or neglect receive appropriate and necessary assistance and that the investigation is proceeding as smoothly as possible. OCCY staff provide training and technical assistance for the FSMDT members as well as administer the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Account funds.

### State Fiscal Year 2023 Data

**2,655** Number of cases reviewed

**4,677** Number of children involved in FSMDT reviews

### Total Staff

**2** Full-time Employees

## Child Abuse Examiner Program

By statute, OCCY is to provide support for the Board of Child Abuse Examiners. This entity is charged with developing a network of child abuse examiners as well as work with universities and others to provide training for the network.

OCCY is also tasked to contract with a physician who has experience in child abuse and neglect to serve as the state's Chief Child Abuse Examiner. The Chief Child Abuse Examiner is to assist the Board of Child Abuse Examiners in their duties and review child deaths to aid in determining if maltreatment occurred.

### State Fiscal Year 2023 Data

**15** Number of Child Death Reviews

**4** Number of Child Abuse Examiners Trained

### Total Staff

No Dedicated Staff

## Office of Juvenile System Oversight

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) is charged with investigating complaints related to services and systems designed for children. The OJSO also investigates complaints about publicly and privately-run children's institutions and facilities. The OJSO is only allowed to conduct unannounced inspections of state-operated institutions and facilities. The purpose of such investigations and inspections is to assure that providers are following relevant policies and laws. Information gathered is also used when making recommendations for systems-level improvements.

Lastly, the OJSO coordinates with the Office of Client Advocacy within Oklahoma Human Services to assure that foster parent or foster child complaints are appropriately resolved in a timely manner.

### State Fiscal Year 2023 Data

**427** Number of new complaints

**13** Number of facility inspections

**437** Number of Foster Care Children/ Youth Complaints

**165** Number of Foster Care Parent Complaints

### Total Staff

**8** Full-time Employees

**2** Part-time Contractors

## Office of Planning and Coordination

The Office of Planning and Coordination (P&C) convenes and facilitates strategic partnerships among public and private agencies and strives to include persons with lived experiences. The Office's purpose is to improve outcomes for children, families, and communities by working across systems. It facilitates joint planning and service coordination, makes recommendations for policies, practices, and laws, and supports professionals as well as youth and parent leaders. Contingent upon funding, it may also pilot and/or fund evidence-based programs.

The Office is responsible for the following groups and/or efforts:

- The Children of Incarcerated Parents Advisory Committee
- The State Plan for Services to Children and Youth
- The Oklahoma Mentoring Children of Incarcerated Parents Program
- The OCCY Parent Partnership Board
- Parent Engagement for the federal Preschool Development Grant
- The Children's State Advisory Workgroup
- The Homeless Children and Youth Steering Committee
- The Strengthening Youth Custody and Transition Services Advisory Committee

### Total Staff

**6** Full-time Employees

## Juvenile Competency Evaluations Program

OCCY is charged with establishing the credentialing standards for those who conduct juvenile competency evaluations. In addition, OCCY accepts judicial orders for these evaluations and assigns evaluators to the cases. These evaluations determine if a youth is capable of aiding in their defense and/or understanding basic court processes. OCCY pays evaluators \$1,250 for each completed evaluation. The number of court orders has steadily increased since the inception of the program. Completed evaluations: SFY 17 (19), SFY 18 (29), SFY 19 (38), SFY 20 (32), SFY 21 (34), SFY 22 (44), SFY 23 (62).

### State Fiscal Year 2023 Data

**62** Number of Completed Evaluations

**28** Number of Juveniles Found Competent

**34** Number of Juveniles Found Not Competent

### Total Staff

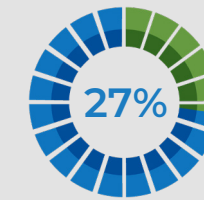
No Dedicated Staff

State Fiscal Year 2024  
**\$5,280,144**  
Total Budget



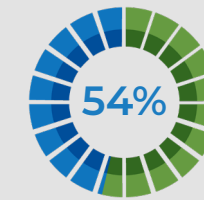
**\$861,479**

- Revolving Fund - Funding from other sources.
- OSDH Grant, Title IV-E, CJA Grant, OPSR



**\$1,436,668**

- Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Account
- \$35,916.72 goes to each FSMDT
- 95% pass through to 38 FSMDTs



**\$2,869,414**

- Appropriations
- 94% agency personnel costs
- 30 full-time staff



## OCCY Commissioners

**John Schneider, Chair**  
Statewide Association of Youth Services

**Deborah Shropshire**  
Director of the Oklahoma Department of Human Services

**Vacant**  
Commissioner of the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

**Melinda Freundt**  
Director of the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services

**Keith Reed**  
Commissioner of Health

**Kalie Kerth, Vice Chair**  
Postadjudication Review Boards

**Ellen Buettner**  
Chief Executive Officer of the Oklahoma Health Care Authority

**Judge W. Mike Warren**  
SJR 13 Oversight Committee

**Jeffrey Cartmell**  
Executive Director of the Office of Juvenile Affairs

**Bradley Wilson**  
Oklahoma Bar Association

**Ryan Walters**  
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

**Jonathan Hall, Secretary**  
Representing Business or Industry

**Vacant**  
A member who represents a community partnership board.

**Ginarie Harrington**  
Oklahoma Children's Agencies and Residential Enterprises

**Jason M. Hicks**  
Oklahoma District Attorneys Council

**Lindsay Laird**  
A member with a demonstrated interest in improving children services who is not employed by a state agency or a private organization that receives state funds

**Jaqueline Aaron**  
Statewide Court-Appointed Special Advocate Association

**Vacant**  
A parent of a child with special needs



2024



## AGENCY OVERVIEW

Since 1982, OCCY has helped create quality systems for children, youth, and families by bringing accountability and oversight into the child and youth service system.



**OKLAHOMA COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

### Important Phone Numbers and Resources

To file a complaint regarding wrongful or unlawful acts (willingly or unwillingly) conducted by a private or state-managed child/youth-based system, please call the Office of Juvenile System Oversight:

**405.606.4936**

#### Foster Parents Grievance Line

Oklahoma Foster Parent Voices  
okfosterparentvoices.org  
405 522-2720

#### Foster Children Grievance Line

Oklahoma Foster Youth Matters  
okfosteryouthmatters.org  
405 982-3842

#### Oklahoma Child Abuse Hotline

Every person in Oklahoma who has reason to believe that a child under 18 has been abused or neglected (or is in danger of being abused or neglected) is required by law to promptly make a report. If you suspect abuse, please call:

**1.800.522.3511**

**Annette Wisk Jacobi**  
OCCY Executive Director  
Annette.Jacobi@occy.ok.gov  
(405) 606-4921

**Mark James**  
OCCY Assistant Director  
Mark.James@occy.ok.gov  
(405) 606-4916

**Marcia Johnson**  
OCCY Legislative Liaison  
Marcia.Johnson@occy.ok.gov  
(405) 898-7915

2915 N. Classen Blvd. Ste. 300, OKC, OK 73106 | 405.606.4900  
www.oklahoma.gov/occy

#### About OCCY

In the early 1980s, a lawsuit was brought forward by seven teenage plaintiffs in the custody of the Department of Human Services. Known as the "Terry D. Case," the lawsuit discovered instances of abuse and generally horrific conditions faced by Oklahoma children in state custody and cared for by institutions. Along with the lawsuit, local Gannett News aired a series of reports called 'Oklahoma's Shame,' which helped lead to massive changes in the child welfare system.

Part of the changes included the creation of the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth – an independent agency charged with overseeing and supporting Oklahoma's child-serving systems.

Many years later, the "Terry D. Case" was dismissed, federal judicial oversight ended, and significant improvements were made. Yet, the role that OCCY plays in the protection and well-being of children is as important as ever.

#### OCCY is charged generally in statute with:

- Improving services to children by facilitating joint planning and service coordination among public and private agencies.
- Providing independent oversight and monitoring of the children and youth service system.

In conjunction with other state agencies,

- Testing models and pilot programs for effectiveness.
- Providing professional education and training for those serving children.