

Oklahoma Senate Committee on Appropriations

2013-14 Performance Report

OFFICE OF DISABILITY CONCERNS

AGENCY MISSION STATEMENT:

The Office of Disability Concerns provides accurate and timely information, technical assistance, referral and advocacy. We act as an intermediary for persons with disabilities and provide services for those with disabilities. The agency involves all staff in its development and its process is ongoing.

LEAD ADMINISTRATOR:

Steve Stokes, Director
2401 NW 23rd, Ste 90, Oklahoma City, OK 73107
Phone: (405) 521-3756

GOVERNANCE:

The director of the agency is appointed the Governor of the State of Oklahoma. This agency does not have a governing board but it has two advisory committees. They are the Advisory Committee to the Office of Disability Concerns and the Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. Both committees are compiled of Governor's appointments.

GOVERNANCE ACCOUNTABILITY:

The Office of Disability Concerns has no governing board or commission. We are accountable to the Governor's Office and abide by the rules and regulations set by the legislature.

MODERNIZATION EFFORTS:

The agency has fulfilled its duties to merge IT services with OSF by using a Reduction in Force of the IT position. We have cut costs on all agency outreach services such as printing, mailing and travel. Trainings have been reduced to mission critical only.

CORE MISSION:

We are not required to provide any services outside our core mission. This agency is unique in that we have no qualifiers for services. We provide service to all that ask regardless of their I.Q., age, disability type, financial status, or veteran's status. Our services have not been reduced even with budget cuts. We have maintained our essential, mission critical functions with existing staff.

PRIVATE ALTERNATIVES:

The services of this office could not provided by a private or a non-profit entity. To my knowledge, all other states in the nation have equivalent agencies. The State of Oklahoma was one of the first states in the nation to authorize such services and has been a national leader.