



## FFY 2021 Annual Report

*Oklahomans with Disabilities WANT to Work!*



**Mission:** The Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council (ORC) is to facilitate consumer education and empowerment, to assure services are of high quality and lead to employment of individuals with disabilities within Oklahoma.



Dear Colleagues,

This Annual Report represents all the Members' of the Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council (ORC) hard work and dedication during 2021. It has been an honor and privilege to experience firsthand the impact that the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services (OKDRS) have on the Oklahoma Residents' lives.

The ORC continues to support and participate in the planning and execution of various statewide initiatives like Oklahoma Works and ACCESS for All, promoting quality employment for all Oklahomans, including individuals with disabilities. On a national level, the ORC continues to monitor the implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) to ensure Oklahoma Residents receive the highest quality services.

In addition, the ORC assisted with planning various conferences and activities during 2021, including the ORC Virtual Advocacy Training, the OKDRS/ORC Needs Assessment Focus Group, the 15th Annual Oklahoma Transition Institute, and the OKDRS Business Summit.

The ORC's mission to advocate and lead individuals with disabilities to a better future continues, and we are honored to be a partner and supporter of OKDRS, its staff, and all Oklahoma Residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carolina Colclasure", written over a faint, circular, scribbled background.

Carolina Colclasure  
ORC Program Manager

**Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council**

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# Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council FFY 2021

*We are the Voice of the Consumer!*

## Council Structure

The Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services (OKDRS) contracts with the Department of Wellness at Oklahoma State University (OSU) for the provision of the staff support services for the Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council (ORC) as set forth in Section 105 and Section 4.2 of the State Plan of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. The Director of Sponsored Programs at the Department of Wellness hires, supervises, and evaluates a full-time Program Manager (PM) position for the daily operations of the Council. In addition, OSU manages all contractual financial obligations of the Council. In turn, OKDRS provides in-kind services of storage space, phone, and computer access to the council staff.

During FFY21, the ORC fulfilled all membership requirements of Section 105 of the Rehabilitation Act with appointments by the Governor. ORC had 18 members, 3 being ex-officio nonvoting members from the Designated State Agency (DSA). Of the voting members, 60% of the Council is represented by persons with disabilities. The council members are a cross-section of individuals with disabilities who have a stake in vocational rehabilitation services. Members serve for two (2) consecutive terms of three (3) years each, with the exception of the Director of the Section 121 projects.

ORC's structure includes a Chair, Vice-Chair, and three Members-at-Large as Executive Committee members. Each Member-at-Large of the Executive Committee holds the position of Chair on a Committee. At the request of ORC, the DSA has assigned a staff liaison to each ORC Committee that acts as a content specialist to that committee; and is identified as an Associate Member. The Associate Members are vital due to the importance of the work of each committee.





## Quarterly Meetings FFY21

In compliance with the Rehabilitation Act, the Council scheduled four Quarterly Meetings in FFY21 and had an annual strategic planning meeting.

The meeting dates were:

- November 19, 2020
- February 18, 2021, via Zoom
- May 21, 2021, via Zoom
- August 19, 2021
- September 9, 2021 (FFY22 Strategic Planning Meeting), via Zoom

The Council had to cancel the November and August Quarterly Meetings due to COVID-19 and the inability to hold virtual meetings because of Oklahoma's Open Meeting Act.

This year, the Sub-committees met three times to complete the Goals, Objectives, and Activities outlined in the ORC Strategic Plan.

## Strategic Plan for FFY21

ORC complies with the federal Rehabilitation Act mandates through its strategic plan process utilizing the following functions and related tasks.

During FFY21, the work of the ORC was impacted by COVID-19. Some of the strategic plan objectives and activities had to be postponed or will be continued in FFY22. Details will be included in each committee report.

## Program and Planning (P&P) Committee

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**Chairperson – Shelley Gladden**

**OKDRS Liaison – Tiffany Davis and Stephanie Roe**

Review, analyze, and advise the (DSA) on the performance measures as laid out by Section 106 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. Active participation on the OKDRS State Plan meetings. Active participation on the OKDRS Statewide Assessment Development initiative. Analyze the trends of the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired (SBVI) Open Case Survey.

**Goal 1:** In accordance with Section 105 (A)(c)(i) of the Rehabilitation Act, the Program and Planning Committee will quarterly, or as necessary, review, analyze and advise the Designated State Agency (DSA) on the performance measurements, customer satisfaction, statewide assessment, and other relevant data.

**Goal 2:** The Program and Planning Committee will support quality customer services, career planning, and effective employment.

### COMMITTEE REPORT

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During FFY21, the P&P Committee and the entire Council received quarterly updates from OKDRS Field Coordinators during the Quarterly Meetings. The reports included an update on the waiting list, current case status, service activity, transition clients served, and active cases.

OKDRS continues to be under an Order of Selection, and all three Priority Groups are closed. The DSA released clients monthly, based on the budget, and ORC was updated on the waiting list's progress during each Quarterly Meeting.

The Committee worked with the OKDRS Process Improvement (PI) Unit to create two new surveys to implement the Open Case Milestone Survey pilot. The first focused on Assistive Technology (AT) services and knowledge and was sent to OKDRS clients who requested or needed an AT evaluation. The second survey was for the Hispanic Unit. It included all five surveys created in FFY20 translated to Spanish:

- Initial interview
- Signing of the Individualized Plan of Employment (IPE)
- Plan amendment
- Annual review
- Supported employment stabilization meeting (if applicable)

The Open Case Milestone Survey pilot was put on hold because of the pandemic, but the PI Unit plans to restart the pilot in FFY22.

The Committee partnered with the PI Unit to host a 2017-2019 Needs Assessment Focus Group on May 17, 2021. The brainstorming session focused on how to meet the report's pending needs. There were 15 attendees, including ORC members, and some of the comments/suggestions included:

- Helping transition students develop critical thinking skills as they do not always know how to process the decisions they have to make. There is a need to work through scenarios with youth to help them develop these skills.
- Developing a guide for clients on how to dress for work.

- Ways to communicate including the use of cell phones and social media and information on what content is appropriate. Sometimes, students post social media content that keeps them from getting/keeping a job or getting scholarships.
- Transportation has always been a barrier for people with disabilities, so work with churches to use their buses during the week. Possibly work with cities and towns to work with the churches to offer some transportation during the week.
- There is a need for counselors to work with homeless adults and youth after hours (4-7 pm) in shelters closed during the mid-day.

The input received during the ORC Focus Group was included in the PI Unit final report. The report was shared with the OKDRS Executive Team to assist with the decision-making of future strategies or projects.

Tiffany Davis, the OKDRS Program Standards Supervisor from the PI Unit, shared with the Council the OKDRS COVID-19 Client Survey results. Highlights included:

- Survey's target populations :
  - Open adult cases with a signed Individualized Plan of Employment (IPE) as of September 29, 2020
  - Adult cases in delayed status as of September 29, 2020
  - Former clients whose cases were closed successfully between October 1, 2019, and June 30, 2020
- The survey was distributed via e-mail, mail (included a pre-paid postage envelope), and phone.
- Response rate(s):
  - The closed case survey was sent to 829; OKDRS received 90 responses. The response rate was 10.86%.
  - The delayed status survey was sent to 1,030; OKDRS received 119 responses. The response rate was 11.55%.
  - The adult IPE survey was sent to 6,129; OKDRS received 569 responses. The response rate was 9.28%.
- Survey results:
  - 62.07% of respondents to the successfully closed case survey reported they still had the same job as when their case closed.
  - 25.93% of the clients, who had the same job since COVID started, reported a reduction in work hours.
  - 37.93% of respondents to the successfully closed case survey reported they did not have the same job as when their case closed.
  - 55.17% of those who lost or left their jobs, reported leaving was due to COVID-19.
  - 43.75% of those clients who lost or left their jobs reported finding a new job at the time of the survey.
  - 22.58% of those clients who lost or left their jobs reported reapplying for OKDRS services.
  - 85.19% of those with the same job at closure reported being happy with the job.
  - 71.43% of those who had found new jobs reported being happy with their employment.
  - Across all three surveys, the most frequently reported negative impact during COVID-19 was the limited contact with family and friends.
- In conclusion, OKDRS reported the majority of clients were still pursuing employment or keeping their current jobs during COVID-19.



## Executive Committee

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**Chairperson – Tim Yeahquo**

**OKDRS Liaison – Melinda Fruendt - OKDRS Executive Director**

The Executive Committee is comprised of the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) Chair, Vice-Chair, and 3 Members-at-Large. The Executive Committee also consists of the Associate Director and Director of Sponsored Programs of OSU's Department of Wellness, who oversees the contractual administration of the ORC and the ORC PM. The Executive Committee ensures that all other ORC committees are assigned to meet the requirements of Section 105 of the Rehabilitation Act with regard to Public Hearings, State Plan, Comprehensive Needs Assessment, Customer Satisfaction, and the Annual Report.

**Goal 3:** Maintain standing committees that address the goals and objectives outlined by the ORC, the DSA State Plan, and the Rehabilitation Act (i.e., Policy and Legislative Committee, Program and Planning Committee, Transition Committee, and Employment Committee). Every ORC member serves on a committee(s).

### COMMITTEE REPORT

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The Executive Committee worked closely and in direct collaboration with the OKDRS Executive Team during FFY21. This committee's goals, objectives, and activities were met, starting with the Annual Report submitted to the Governor and Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) on December 18, 2020.

The Council's resources were reviewed every month, and a plan was followed.

The OKDRS Executive Team, including Director Fruendt, Mark Kinnison – VR Division Administrator, and Tracy Brigham – Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired (SBVI) Division Administrator, participated in all Executive Committee meetings and ORC Quarterly Meetings. The Council received timely updates from OKDRS, and the OKDRS Executive Team addressed all questions and comments from the Council.

During FFY21, the Council had three resignations:

- Two Business, Industry, and Labor representatives
- The Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) representative

One position was filled; the new member's term started on September 2, 2021:

- Scott Mullins - Representative of Business, Industry, and Labor

Aside from the resignations, ORC had two positions that expired on September 1, 2021:

- Jen Randle – Representative of a Disability Advocacy Group
- Steven Shepelwich - Representative of the Workforce Development Board. Steve was reappointed for a second term.





One member was appointed; the new member's term started on September 2, 2021:

- **Fatos Floyd - Representative of a Disability Advocacy Group**

The Executive Committee met on September 15, 2020, to approve the final version of the ORC FFY21 Strategic Plan.

Lastly, in FFY21, the ORC PM attended all ORC Committee meetings, ABLE Tech Advisory Council meetings, Oklahoma Transition Council (OTC) meetings, and the Governor's Council for Workforce and Economic Development meetings.

## Policy and Legislative (P&L) Committee

**Chairperson – Jeff Newton**

**OKDRS Liaisons – Tina Calloway and Tonya Garman**

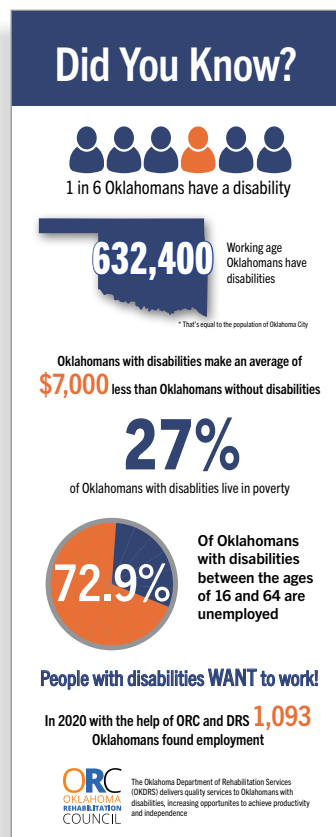
Activities include, but are not limited to, advocacy and education, policy and State Plan review, State Plan Public Hearings, and Success Stories. Also, responsible for the reviewing/monitoring of pending and current disability-related legislation, particularly with respect to impact on OKDRS funding; suggest/develop legislation as needed. Active participation on the OKDRS Policy Re-engineering Committee. Support OKDRS with both national and state efforts to enhance advocacy activities and services for VR/SBVI clientele.

**Goal 4:** ORC will build capacity for consumer education and empowerment to showcase awareness and education for both consumers and employers.

### COMMITTEE REPORT

The Committee has continued its participation on various Councils during FFY21. The Client Assistance Program (CAP) representative, William Ginn, represented ORC and shared updates at the SILC meetings. On behalf of the P&L Committee, the ORC PM participated in the Governor's Council for Workforce and Economic Development meetings, the ABLE Tech Advisory Council meetings, and the Behavioral Health Advisory Council meetings.

In FFY21, the P&L Committee created a new ORC Legislative Primer that showcased the FFY20 OKDRS indicators. The ORC Primer and the OKDRS Programs and Services Flyers were disseminated to all State Legislators and the State District Staff of the Oklahoma Congressional members.



The ORC continues to support People with Disabilities Awareness Day (PWDAD). The FFY21 was a virtual event that included social media. The Council created a Facebook page to support the event and shared information with its members and partners.

The P&L Committee reviewed the 2021 policy changes provided by OKDRS. The ORC PM attended the virtual Oklahoma City Public Hearing on February 8 and shared a letter of support.

The Committee provided a letter of support for House Bill 1792. This bill changed the term “handicapped” to “disabled,” “a person with disability,” “visually impaired” or related language.

During FFY21, the National Coalition of State Rehabilitation Councils (NCSRC) cancelled its regular Spring and Fall Conferences. NCSRC decided to continue with bi-monthly National Zoom meetings and used the opportunity to discuss different topics with the states that participated.

The Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR) hosted a virtual Spring Conference. ORC was represented by its officers and the Council Staff, including Lori Chesnut, Jeff Newton, Tim Yeahquo, Shelley Gladden, Linda Jaco, and Carolina Colclasure.



## Trainings

The Committee hosted a Virtual Advocacy Training on May 24, 2021. The presenter, Sanho Steele-Louchart, included information on advocacy. Twenty-two individuals attended the webinar and participated in the Questions & Answers (Q&A) portion.

The ORC partnered with the OKDRS Professional Development Unit and supported the attendance of eight OKDRS Staff at the 2021 Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA) Virtual Conference. This event occurred on July 7-9, 2021.

The RESNA Conference showcased AT professionals from various disciplines that exchanged ideas about the latest innovations and research helping people with disabilities lead independent, healthy lives.

## Quotes from OKDRS staff:

Magan Rowan, SBVI AT Specialist:

*"I really enjoyed the RESNA conference. I missed one day due to working with clients, so I'm glad there are available recordings. I've never been to a RESNA conference before, so I wasn't sure what to expect. But the information was refreshing. I attended one session that had to do with agriculture and AT. I found this to be so interesting, the ways that farming equipment can be adapted. There was even an adapted flatbed truck that has a lift system on the back that could put a wheelchair user into most tractors and other farming equipment. I know there are very specialized fields of study, just like blindness. So it was eye-opening to see the variety AT specialties out there. There was a really good session where individuals explained the various accommodations they had come up with. It's amazing how creative many individuals are. There were also several presentations about remote learning; and with COVID, it's nice to know how others are meeting these needs. Thank you so much!"*

Hollie LaSyone, OKDRS AT Intern:

*"I attended The RESNA conference this year for the first time, and I was impressed with the amount of information put forth. I enjoyed becoming more familiar with the inner working of the rehabilitation field, especially the assistive technology portion. It was great to see how far reaching this field is and how measures are taken allowing countries less fortunate than the U.S. to participate in programs enabling their citizens with disabilities to receive assistive technology. I would have loved to see more presentations that were of the demonstrative nature such as was Aucuro Dynamic Shower Holder and not so academically formatted as they are geared more toward our focus here in AT. That being said, RESNA is a wealth of knowledge presented to us in an easy to follow format with flexible times to fit all of our busy schedules."*

Tanya Skelly, OKDRS AT Specialist:

*"I would like to say thank you for allowing me to attend this conference. This was my first RESNA conference, and I was not disappointed. I learned progress on making AT more standardized, networked with other professionals who work in AT and heard from a wonderful speaker about the process of adjusting to a disability and how AT made her life more fulfilling. I would absolutely attend this conference again."*

## Transition Committee

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**Chairperson – Lori Chesnut**

**OKDRS Liaison – Renee Sansom**

Active participation on the Oklahoma Transition Council. Support OKDRS with statewide efforts to enhance transition activities and services for youth in secondary settings to increase successful employment outcomes.

**Goal 5:** Facilitate the communication of transition services information between Tribal VR, OKDRS, Oklahoma Department of Education (OSDE), Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS), Career Tech, and other agencies/partners.

**Goal 6:** Continue to work with the DSA on the needs assessment of individuals with disabilities for transition career services and pre-employment transition services. This goal will satisfy the final requirement listed in the VR Services portion of the Unified State Plan – Description – Statewide Assessment.

**Goal 7:** Promote self-advocacy and self-determination resources for youth and their families to increase future opportunities for success.

## COMMITTEE REPORT

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During FFY21, the Transition Committee supported the OKDRS Transition Unit and the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) to promote self-advocacy and self-determination resources for youth and their families to increase future opportunities for success sharing valuable resources with all its members. There were a total of 22 resources shared with the Council, that included invitations to webinars and conferences such as:

- OSDE Online Professional Development Trainings – Transition Assessments, Transition Planning for Students with Significant Support Needs, and Transition Planning for Students with Mild to Moderate Disabilities
- Virtual Youth Town Hall – Engaging through and beyond COVID-19
- OK-AHEAD Fall 2020 Student Panel
- Secondary Transition Webinars: Students Involvement in the IEP, Transition 101 for IEP Stakeholders
- Pre-ETS trainings: Intro to Pre-ETS, Self Advocacy, Job Exploration and Work-based Learning, Workplace Readiness and Post-Secondary Counseling
- Inclusive Education Collaboration Webinar
- Charting the Life Course
- Joining Forces – Family and Professional Partnership Conference

The ORC partnered with Sooner SUCCESS and OKDRS to disseminate information about its programs and events in FFY21. Sooner SUCCESS had two Share Fairs.

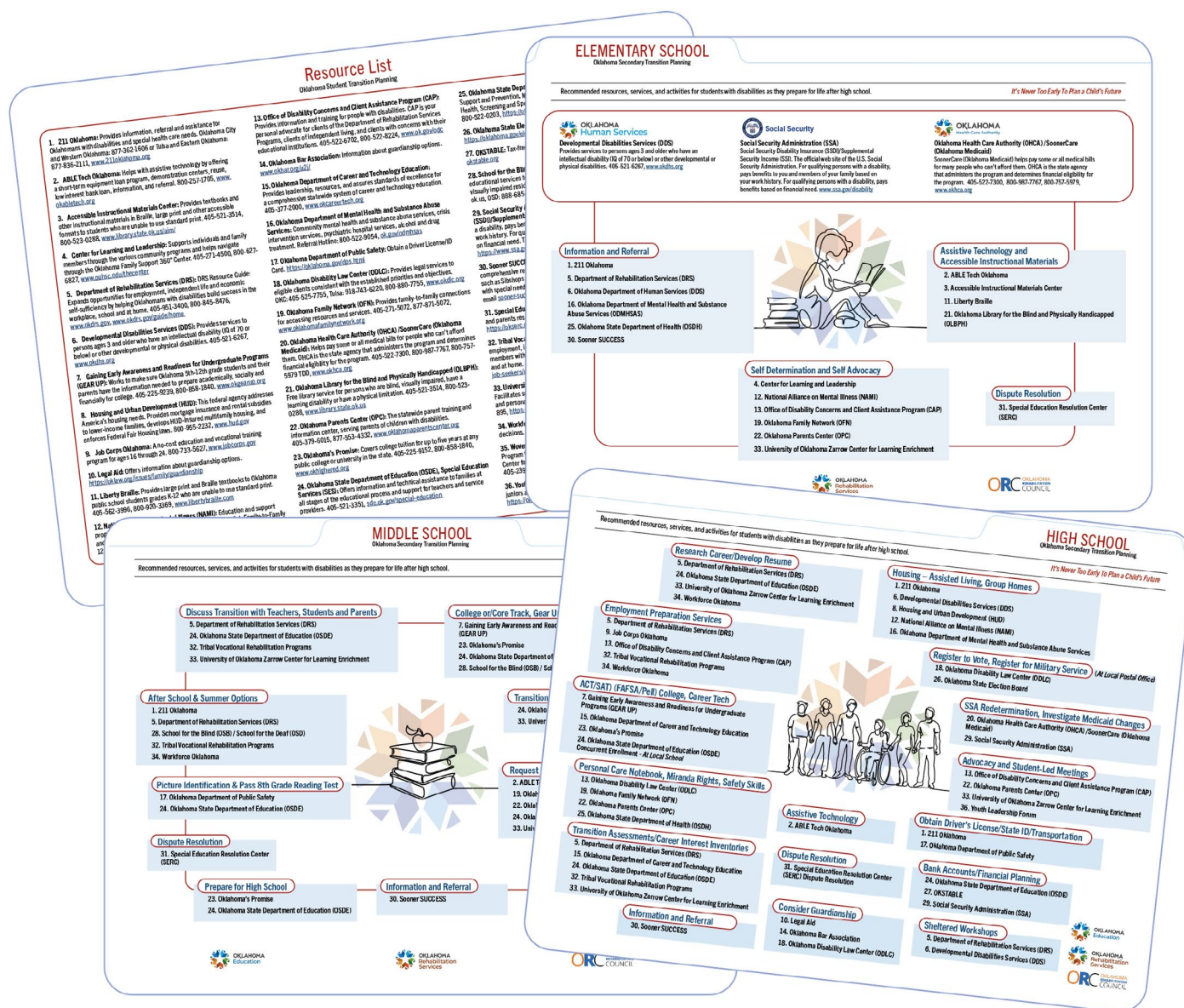
The first Share Fair occurred on December 3, 2020, and there were four presentations including:

- Sooner SUCCESS Services presented by Erin Strayhorn
- OKDRS Services presented by Renee Sansom
- Department of Human Services, Developmental Disabilities Services information presented by Jennifer Upshaw
- Central Technology Center Services presented by Shelly Rentz



Lori Chesnut presented Special Education Child Count Data during the March Committee meeting; the OKDRS PI Unit compares this data with OKDRS data to make informed programmatic decisions for transitioning youth.

The Transition Committee, along with OKDRS and OSDE, completed the revision of the Transition Folder. It included both English and Spanish versions; ABLE Tech designed the new folders and ensured the accessibility of both digital and print versions. The ORC supported the cost associated with printing 54,150 folders to be disseminated statewide by OKDRS, OSDE, and the Oklahoma Transition Council (OTC).



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## Employment Committee

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**Chairperson – Jen Randle and Kelli Bates**

**OKDRS Liaison – Fatos Floyd and Yasmin Avila**

With an increased emphasis on employment under the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), this committee will work to strengthen coordination with employment and training services for individuals with disabilities who are job seekers.

**Goal 8:** The ORC will collaborate with DSA to proactively promote Job Readiness and evidence-based supported employment and education to increase employment and education rates.

### COMMITTEE REPORT

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The Employment Committee supported the OKDRS Business Services Program (BSP) and the Business Advisory Council (BAC) objectives and activities during FFY21.

The Committee helped BSP with the following:

- The virtual Job Readiness Training on February 22-25, 2021
  - Kelli Bates presented Galt's "How Not to Get Fired Training."
  - The ORC PM assisted in planning the event.
- OKDRS – ORC – Critical Occupations Training presented by Sharon Harrison
- Participation in the BAC meetings in Oklahoma City and Tulsa

ORC continued to support the Individual Placement and Supports (IPS) model in FFY21. The Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS) was awarded a grant that allowed IPS to join the ASPIRE initiative. It included another six states implementing IPS; the focus was to share experiences on how IPS is conducted in the state to maximize outreach and help remove barriers.

The ORC was a part of the Oklahoma ASPIRE Steering Committee and provided assistance and feedback when needed.

Sharon Harrison, an Employment Committee member, shared a PowerPoint about On-Demand Occupations and the Industry Ecosystems in Oklahoma. During the Strategic Planning Meeting, the Committee used this information to plan its activities for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2022.

The ORC members and its partners shared valuable employment resources throughout the year.

## FFY21 in Numbers

The DSA reported the following information for FFY21:

- **1,018** cases had successful closures
- **3,980** new applications were received
- **2,769** plans were written in the year
- **12,774** total Individuals with an open case
- **4,183** individuals were released from the Waiting List
- **3,277** individuals were determined Eligible

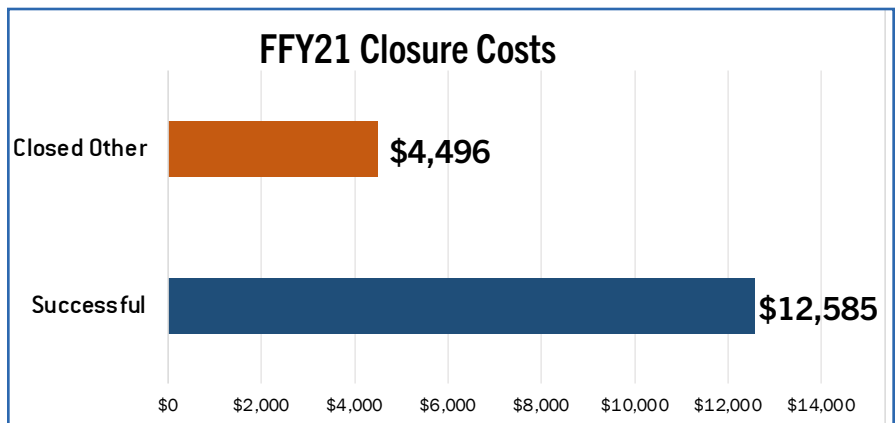
## Successful Closures 1,018

- Average days in Application Status: **32 days**
- Average months in eligibility: **1.9 months**
- Average months receiving services: **26.7 months**
- Average months in Delayed Status: **4.5 months**

## Cost Per Closure Type

In FFY21 the OKDRS Vocational Reimbursement Program faced the same challenges the world did in battling the COVID-19 pandemic.

OKDRS has always championed the resolve of people with significant disabilities, and this year was no exception as 245 Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and/or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) beneficiaries were able to achieve competitive gainful employment at a level that triggers benefit cessation. This resulted in program revenue of **\$3,024,755.05!**



This was due to the incredibly focused statewide staff from both the division of VR and SBVI. This focus on the Oklahomans who have been deemed too disabled to work will bear fruit for years to come through the tax revenue created by these former beneficiaries who are now enjoying employment at the Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) level!

This is no easy task as it requires at least 9 months of SGA level earnings to qualify for VR reimbursement from the Social Security Administration. It is a testament to the willingness of OKDRS counselors as well as technicians to go above and beyond in the service of these consumers.

### Order of Selection Information

The DSA was under an Order of Selection for the FFY21.



## Appendix A: Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council Members

### ORC MEMBERS



**Matt Barnes**

Business, Industry and Labor Member



**Kelli Bates**

Business, Industry and Labor Member



**Lori Chesnut**

Oklahoma State Department of Education Member



**Fatos Floyd**

Advocacy Group Member



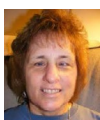
**Melinda Freundt**

Department of Rehabilitation Services Executive Director



**William Ginn**

Client Assistance Program Member



**Vicky Golightly**

Advocacy Group Member



**Shelley Gladden**

Advocacy Group Member



**Jerod Gleason**

OKDRS SBVI Counselor



**Sharon Harrison**

Business, Industry and Labor Member



**Angelamarie Jaworski**

OKDRS VR Counselor



**Scott Mullins**

Business, Industry and Labor Member



**Jeff Newton**

Former Recipient of VR Services



**Shelly Rentz**

Community Rehabilitation Program Member



**Steven Shepelwich**

Workforce Development Board Member



**Amy Synar**

Parent Training and Information Center Member



**Tim Yeahquo**

Section 121 Project Director Member

### OKLAHOMA REHABILITATION STAFF



**Carolina Colclasure**

Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council Program Manager



**Linda Jaco**

Associate Director and Director of Sponsored Programs, Department of Wellness, OSU



**Allyson Robinson**

Assistant Director Oklahoma ABLE Tech, Department of Wellness, OSU

## Appendix B: Cost Breakdown by County

County	DVR Transition Cases	DVR Transition Avg. Case Costs	DVR Adult Cases	DVR Adult Avg. Case Costs	SBVI Transition Cases	SBVI Transition Avg. Case Costs	SBVI Adult Cases	SBVI Adult Avg. Case Costs
Adair	1	\$4,409	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alfalfa	0	0	1	\$5,161	0	0	1	\$6,256
Atoka	5	\$11,307	1	\$61,712	0	0	1	\$43,862
Beckham	3	\$10,983	10	\$12,753	0	0	1	\$59,649
Blaine	1	\$4,478	2	\$33,295	0	0	0	0
Bryan	4	\$6,031	4	\$11,170	0	0	0	0
Caddo	5	\$19,636	2	\$7,579	0	0	2	\$2,896
Canadian	1	\$6,025	9	\$12,186	1	\$13,285	3	\$13,805
Carter	3	\$12,254	9	\$16,448	0	0	4	\$14,441
Cherokee	3	\$7,897	1	\$25,170	0	0	2	\$19,694
Choctaw	0	0	1	\$3,731	0	0	1	\$21,085
Cleveland	28	\$11,911	32	\$9,568	1	\$290	7	\$8,535
Coal	8	\$5,611	1	\$5,700	0	0	0	0
Comanche	8	\$8,083	16	\$14,200	1	\$16,599	3	\$8,571
Cotton	1	\$7,443	0	0	0	0	0	0
Craig	0	0	1	\$12,199	0	0	0	0
Creek	9	\$12,885	4	\$7,881			4	\$4,248
Custer	2	\$25,203	10	\$9,399	1	\$30,713	2	\$4,118
Delaware	1	\$1,512	4	\$18,744	1	\$8,862	0	0
Dewey	2	\$17,423	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ellis	0	0	1	\$5,669	0	0	0	0
Garfield	9	\$15,136	17	\$10,529	0	0	3	\$7,241
Garvin	4	\$26,780	13	\$27,287	0	0	0	0
Grady	1	\$200	2	\$1,321	2	\$7,902	3	\$2,348
Greer	1	\$250	3	\$10,811	0	0	0	0
Harmon	0	0	0	0	1	\$36,335	0	0
Haskell	3	\$7,835	5	\$14,145	0	0	0	0
Hughes	2	\$5,463	1	\$4,770	0	0	0	0
Jackson	2	\$528	8	\$27,513	0	0	0	0
Jefferson	1	\$2,691	1	\$5,535	0	0	0	0
Johnston	2	\$5,412	2	\$16,257	0	0	0	0
Kay	4	\$14,463	16	\$7,167	2	\$14,560	1	\$14,726
Kingfisher	1	\$15,652	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kiowa	4	\$6,436	1	\$27,702	0	0	0	0
Latimer	1	\$56,465	3	\$26,054	0	0	0	0
Le Flore	3	\$14,234	15	\$17,453	0	0	4	\$7,532
Lincoln	3	\$7,848	5	\$7,926	0	0	0	0

County	DVR Transition Cases	DVR Transition Avg. Case Costs	DVR Adult Cases	DVR Adult Avg. Case Costs	SBVI Transition Cases	SBVI Transition Avg. Case Costs	SBVI Adult Cases	SBVI Adult Avg. Case Costs
Logan	3	\$14,203	4	\$8,959	0	0	0	0
Love	0	0	2	\$2,094	0	0	0	0
Major	1	\$20,017	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marshall	2	\$29,567	2	\$2,828	0	0	0	0
Mayes	11	\$4,981	3	\$22,444	0	0	1	\$4,124
McClain	4	\$10,858	2	\$28,831	0	0	2	\$55,427
McCurtain	2	\$3,697	9	\$15,685	0	0	0	0
McIntosh	1	\$2,154	4	\$3,560	1	\$43,252	2	\$7,028
Murray	3	\$5,961	4	\$13,600	0	0	3	\$17,859
Muskogee	1	\$3,804	8	\$2,774	1	\$197,391	9	\$8,326
Noble	0	0	1	\$13,488	0	0	0	0
Nowata	0	0	1	\$4,649	0	0	0	0
Okfuskee	3	\$13,833	2	\$4,499	0	0	1	\$4,740
Oklahoma	46	\$15,741	123	\$13,812	6	\$17,586	18	\$16,228
Okmulgee	0	0	18	\$2,773	0	0	0	0
Osage	5	\$3,815	4	\$9,900	0	0	0	0
Ottawa	0	0	2	\$8,643	0	0	0	0
Pawnee	1	\$6,528	1	\$4,876	0	0	0	0
Payne	3	\$12,411	3	\$28,925	0	0	2	\$10,116
Pittsburg	8	\$24,453	18	\$22,301	0	0	0	0
Pontotoc	9	\$8,479	12	\$12,459	2	\$1,719	3	\$5,013
Pottawatomie	4	\$14,450	1	\$4,374	0	0	4	\$7,069
Pushmataha	0	0	0	0	1	\$17,718	1	\$3,224
Roger Mills	1	\$34,793	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rogers	9	\$8,763	9	\$11,236	0	0	1	\$9,666
Seminole	6	\$5,480	5	\$5,672	1	\$2,234	0	0
Sequoyah	2	\$2,993	3	\$12,738	1	\$0	1	\$2,800
Stephens	1	\$81,615	3	\$1,542	1	\$103,776	5	\$4,531
Texas	0	0	1	\$2,508	0	0	0	0
Tillman	0	0	0	0	1	\$11,534	0	0
Tulsa	51	\$11,201	86	\$8,051	0	0	4	\$26,878
Wagoner	4	\$12,997	6	\$10,677	0	0	2	\$3,412
Washington	1	\$22,669	11	\$8,295	0	0	0	0
Washita	1	\$1,285	5	\$10,394	0	0	1	\$6,941
Woods	5	\$24,076	1	\$600	0	0	1	\$3,945
Woodward	2	\$5,696	5	\$4,284	0	0	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>\$12,271</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>\$12,086</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>\$25,435</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>\$12,049</b>

## Appendix C: Support Letters



November 15, 2021

On behalf of the Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council (ORC), we proudly present you with this 2021 Annual Report. The Council intends to have this annual report be a summary of the activities undertaken by the ORC during the past year. Council members are extremely proud to work with and advise the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services (OKDRS) and represent the consumer's voice.

During FFY21, the OKDRS received 3,980 new applications, and 2,769 people completed Individual Plans for Employment and were successfully rehabilitated. The ORC would like to congratulate OKDRS (which includes both Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired) for providing superior services statewide to individuals with disabilities. These accomplishments would not have been achieved without the entire OKDRS staff's dedication, who worked diligently to provide quality services that enhance Oklahomans with disabilities' excellent career opportunities.

The ORC's five standing committees (Program and Planning, Executive, Employment, Policy & Legislative and Transition) continue to work with OKDRS on major program issues expressed in this report. Several ORC members continue to grow their understanding of disability concerns by attending national training and education opportunities, which increases the knowledge, skills, and abilities to improve the overall effectiveness of the Council. The Council continues to focus on understanding the law and appreciates all the support OKDRS provides to ensure we are more aware of how this law will impact consumers.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as Chair of the Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council in the past year. The ORC members are a diverse and dedicated group who take their advocacy role seriously and are honored to partner and provide leadership to the OKDRS and its consumers.

Respectfully,

A blue ink signature of Tim Yeahquo, written in a cursive style.

Tim Yeahquo, Chair

**Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council**

3535 NW 58th St., Suite 500  
Oklahoma City, OK 73112  
Phone: 405-951-3579  
Toll Free: 1-800-569-7974  
Fax: 405-951-3532  
ORC@okstate.edu



## OKLAHOMA Rehabilitation Services

### Executive Services

October 20, 2021

Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council  
3535 NW 58th Street Suite 300  
Oklahoma City, OK 73112

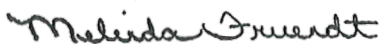
Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council Members:

Reflecting on the business of the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services (OKDRS), this year has been about adapting the customer experience of service provisions in the time of a pandemic. The pandemic forced a rethinking of delivery of customer services throughout the agency, while remaining committed to service quality and excellence. This commitment requires building successful relationships and a system of performance.

The long-standing partnership our agency has with the Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council remains crucial to our agency vision, mission, and values by providing guidance, input and recommendations to vocational rehabilitation services that maximize employment opportunities and reflect the needs of consumers with disabilities.

On behalf of the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services, thank you for your continued collaboration, support, and advocacy for Oklahoma consumers with disabilities.

Sincerely,

  
Melinda Fruendt,  
Executive Director

3535 N.W. 58th Street, Suite 500, Oklahoma City, OK 73112  
o: 405-951-3400 | f: 405 951-3529 | [Oklahoma.gov](http://Oklahoma.gov) | [okdrs.gov](http://okdrs.gov)

Executive Director Melinda Fruendt  
Commissioners Theresa Flannery, Wes Hilliard, Jace Wolfe



## **OKLAHOMA Rehabilitation Services**



### **Executive Services**

October 25, 2021

Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council  
3535 NW 58th Street, Suite 500  
Oklahoma City, OK 73112

Dear Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council Members,

I want to express my appreciation to the Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council (ORC) for its positive support, collaboration, input, and partnership with Oklahoma Rehabilitation Services (ORS), which is one of the strongest in the nation.

During the past year, the ORC has been actively involved in the improvement of quality services leading to employment for Oklahomans with disabilities and has continued to be a strong advocate in many areas.

The ORC stood with ORS during trying times as a result of the pandemic, and stayed true to its mission, of improving the quality of life for Oklahomans with disabilities.

In closing, I want to acknowledge Carolina Colclasure for her leadership and involvement with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. I look forward to what next years brings and to the many benefits that will come to Oklahomans with disabilities seeking employment.

Sincerely,

Mark Kinnison, M.Ed., CRC, LPC-S  
Division Administrator, Vocational Rehabilitation

3535 N.W. 58th Street, Suite 500, Oklahoma City, OK 73112  
o: 405-951-3400 | f: 405 951-3529 | [Oklahoma.gov](http://Oklahoma.gov) | [okdrs.gov](http://okdrs.gov)

Executive Director Melinda Fruendt  
Commissioners Theresa Flannery, Wes Hilliard, Jace Wolfe



## **OKLAHOMA Rehabilitation Services**

### **Executive Services**

October 17, 2021

Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council  
Attn: Carolina Colclasure

Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council Members:  
The Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council (ORC) is to be commended for your contributions to Oklahoma Rehabilitation Services (ORS) programs to ensure only the highest quality services are being provided for Oklahoman's with disabilities.

It is only through a positive, collaborative partnership and effort that events such as the Oklahoma Rehabilitation Services Career Opportunity Expo and the Oklahoma Transition Institute can occur with great success! In addition to assisting with events, we are grateful for training opportunities the ORC provided to our employees. One notable training in this year was RESNA, which is a top training in the nation for assistive technology. It is vitally important to always stay in the forefront of technology needs for Oklahoman's with disabilities to provide the best opportunities for independence and employment.

As a partner, I value ORC as a voice for individuals with disabilities in Oklahoma and specifically blindness and low vision. It is my pleasure to support the Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council, the past year of accomplishments and look toward the future of advocacy together.

Sincerely,



Tracy Brigham, LPC  
Division Administrator,  
Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired

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o: 405-951-3400 | f: 405 951-3529 | [Oklahoma.gov](http://Oklahoma.gov) | [okdrs.gov](http://okdrs.gov)

Executive Director Melinda Fruendt  
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