



# **Metropolitan Human Services Commission**

**2006 Mid-Year Progress Report**

**MHSC Priority Issues**

## **Tulsa's Metropolitan Human Services Commission (MHSC):**

- Coordinates funding, planning and policy decisions affecting human services in Tulsa County
- Provides overall leadership in guiding the use of partners' resources in addressing major community issues and concerns
- Promotes public policy action needed for prevention and effective service delivery

MHSC was formed in 1981. Its roles include developing information to guide policy and resource decisions, advocating at the state legislature, researching best practice approaches, and maintaining formal communications with major state agency leaders on MHSC priorities and engaging their support.

# MHSC Priority 1

## Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect

### CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION FUND PROGRAMS (CAPF) AND CHILDREN FIRST NURSE FAMILY PARTNERSHIP (C1)

**Objective:** Increase funding by \$2,543,000 for FY 2007 (\$1,343,000 for Child Abuse Prevention Fund and \$1,200,000 for Children First) and extend services to 1,265 families (CAPF 645 and C1 620)

#### **Outcomes:**

- ☑ **Governor signed the FY 2007 Oklahoma State Department Health appropriations bill with an increase of \$1,300,000**, a 9.6% increase in funding from FY 2006.

Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) received an additional \$1.3 million and allocated \$650,000 to each program. Overall, the two programs plan to serve 560-660 additional families statewide in FY 2007. In FY 2005 over 6,260 families were served with 66,125 home visits.

- CAPF plans to increase the number of new families served by 310-325 with the 24.2% increase in funding.  
In FY 2005, 475 new families were enrolled state-wide and a total of 1,075 families were served, including 20,292 home visits
  - Tulsa County's Parent Child Center of Tulsa has received an **increase of \$76,300** over FY 2006, or an 18% increase for a total of \$503,868 (16% of the state total).  
In FY 2005, PCCT enrolled 43 new families, 9% of the state total.
- The Children First Nurse Family Partnership, using the additional funding (+6%), plans to add 10 nurses and increase the caseload by 250-335. In FY 2005, 2,262 women were enrolled in C1 of the 5,188 families that received services statewide. 45,833 home visits were delivered.
  - Tulsa Health Department received a FY 2007 contract in the amount of \$1,766,185 (15.3% of the state appropriation). This is an **increase of \$99,196** a 6% increase over FY 2006.  
In FY 2005, the Tulsa Health Department enrolled 444 new women in C1 of the total 876 families served (16.9% of the state total). 8,018 home visits (17.5% of state total) were provided in Tulsa County.

## MHSC Priority 2

### Promotion of Child Well-Being

**ADOPTION** - permanent placement of children

**Objective:** Increase funding for adoption related services

- Adoption assistance increase - \$906,600
- Foster care rate increase - \$1,795,538
- Adoption rate increase - \$1,293,499
- Foster care growth - \$4,484,815

**Outcomes:**

- ☑ **OKDHS received an increase of over \$8.3 million**, a significant increase in funding for foster care and adoptions, with only about 11% actually going to expand adoption support services
  - Adoption assistance increase - \$907,000
  - Foster care & adoption rate increases (request total \$3,089,037) - \$3,000,000
  - Foster care increase - \$4,400,000

### EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE SHELTER

**Objective:** Replace existing Emergency Children's Shelter (Laura Dester). OKDHS requested state funds in the amount of \$818,447, with an additional \$818,447 coming from Federal funding, to pay the debt serve on a bond for replacement of the Laura Dester Emergency Shelter in Tulsa.

**Outcome:**

- ☑ **\$907,611 was appropriated for the new Laura Dester Emergency Shelter in Tulsa.** This amount is now built into the OKDHS base budget to pay-off the bond over a fifteen year period. A like amount will be provided through Federal funds.

## MHSC Priority 3

### Early Childhood Education and Development

*Focus on children under age 3 years  
and on screening and early intervention*

#### CHILD CARE SUBSIDY

**Objective:** Replace lost Federal funding in the amount of \$18,468,682, Child Care Subsidy Rate Adjustment to the 75th Percentile for \$3,500,734, and a 10% increase in child care provider rates for \$14,414,968.

#### Outcomes:

- \$9,200,000** of the \$18.5 million needed was appropriated for replacing Federal funds in FY 2007.
- No additional funding was provided for "Child Care Subsidy Rate Adjustment to the 75th Percentile."
- No additional funding was provided for a "10% increase in child care provider rates."

#### OKLAHOMA PARTNERSHIP FOR SCHOOL READINESS (OPSR)

**Objective:** Increase state funding by \$500,000 to expand the existing programs and cover additional counties.

#### Outcomes:

- The Oklahoma State Department of Human Services requested no increase in funding for OPSR.
- The legislature did not approve additional funds for OPSR in FY 2007.
- Chesapeake Energy Corporation donated \$500,000 to OPSR to help develop (over a five year period) three new partnerships in rural communities with a significant Chesapeake presence.
- Other private and public grants are being sought by OPSR to expand and enhance the work of the sixteen current local early childhood partnerships in conjunction with the OPSR Foundation.

## MHSC Priority 4

### Development of Community Schools

**Objective:** Further develop existing community schools and expand the "Community School" concept to other schools (initial focus on Tulsa and Union Public Schools with additional school districts added as appropriate).

#### **Outcomes:**

- ☑ **MHSC joins National Coalition for Community Schools Partnership**  
MHSC approved joining the National Coalition for Community Schools Partnership at its May meeting. The Partnership is an alliance of more than 160 national, state and local organizations with a mission to mobilize the assets of schools, families and communities to create a movement for community schools.
- ☑ **Large, Broad Based Tulsa Team Attends Community Schools National Forum**  
Thirty Tulsa area officials representing education, philanthropy, community development, business, health providers, and social service providers attended the National Forum in Baltimore from June 14-16. A reception was sponsored by MHSC with the National Coalition's Urban Network, a leadership "think group," the day before the conference to bring together Tulsa representatives with knowledgeable persons in like roles in communities across the country
- ☑ **"Baltimore Group" Works to Develop Mission, Goals, and Other Organizational Pieces for Local Community School Initiative**  
On return from the national conference most all members of the "Baltimore Group" began a series of meetings to create background organizational materials for the local community schools initiative. The materials will be submitted to MHSC for approval and used in creating the local steering committee and work with StepUp Tulsa and other groups to obtain financial and other support.
- ☑ **StepUp Tulsa Supports Community Schools Initiative**  
Step-Up Tulsa Education Trendbender Team selected "developing community schools" as a top focus area. StepUp Tulsa is a metro area planning process initiated by the Funders Roundtable and the Tulsa Community Foundation to enhance quality of life to be more strongly supported by the philanthropic sector.
- ☑ **Tulsa Public Schools...Up To Eleven Beginning Sites, Including Four Mentor Schools**  
Dr. David Sawyer, Superintendent, selected six elementary schools, Addams, Bryant, Celia Clinton, Cooper, Hawthorne, and McKinley, to be the initial community schools sites for next year. They join Kendall-Whittier, Mark

Twain, Marshall, and McClure that are serving as mentor elementary schools. Eugene Field, a past participant in the Tulsa Alliance for Families, also likely will be a priority site as planning moves forward. Readiness assessments are being conducted, needs are being identified, and school community teams are being established. There are other TPS elementary and middle schools that will receive technical assistance to guide future implementation. Some meetings with individual schools and the larger group will continue.

**Union Public Schools...Six Sites, Including One Mentor**

Clark Elementary School has been functioning as a community school this year with a Bedlam Clinic and other efforts. Union Superintendent Dr. Cathy Burden selected Boevers, McAuliffe, Briarglen, Grove, and the new elementary school, Rosa Parks, to become community schools moving into next year. Readiness assessments have been conducted, needs are being identified, and community teams are being established. This initial organizational work will continue into early fall.

**Objective:** Expand the existing Tulsa Health Department School Health Education Program that focuses on healthy attitudes and behaviors, and smart choices, including "*It's All About Kids*," by increasing state funding by \$500,000 to expand the existing programs and cover additional counties.

**Outcomes:**

- Oklahoma State Department of Health requested \$502,000 for School/Community Health projects that would reduce obesity in children by addressing behavioral issues through providing health education and physical fitness programs in the schools.
- The legislature did not approve funding for expanding school based health services.

## MHSC Priority 5

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### Government Function and Role: Promote and Inform

*Initial focus on educating the public on the purpose and role of education, health, mental health, personal and family development, and human services as critical community capital essential to our quality of life, and on the role of all sectors in providing support*

**Objective:** Specific objectives have not been determined at mid-year.

- Government provides for the "Common Good" for the benefit of all, regardless of their status, abilities, and resources.
- Government has the capacity to affect community-wide problems that cross-cut societal and geographic territory, in cooperation with the private sector.
- Services delivered through government can:
  - Provide savings and reduce losses
  - Be effective in improving the infra-structure of the community
  - Provide an efficiency that no other organizations can accomplish

## MHSC Priority 6

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### Ongoing State/Local Decision Making to Enhance Local Funding Base to Address MHSC and Other Critical Community Priorities

#### Objectives:

- Monitor proposed policy and legislative actions
- Communicate with policy officials to inform them of positive and negative aspects of proposed policy and funding changes
- Advocate for MHSC priorities

#### Outcomes:

- Maintained contact information for all state and local policy officials.
- Monitored state agency budget requests for FY 2007 and final appropriations for the State entities:
  - Education
  - Health
  - Human Services
  - Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
  - Regents for Higher Education
- Communicated with policy-makers in person and through written and electronic means concerning proposed policy changes and legislation concerning MHSC priorities.
- Advocated for the defeat of TABOR, the Tax Payer Bill of Rights, that would have limited state expenditures to a combination of population growth and inflation.
- Worked to ensure adequate investment in Oklahoma's public services by educating members of the Alliance for Oklahoma's Future, policy-makers, and the broader public about tax and budget issues through MHSC staff involvement in the work of the Alliance for Oklahoma's Future.
- Worked on common priorities, including child abuse prevention, early childhood education/development, and promoting child well-being and safety, with local and state coalitions including:
  - Children's Consortium in Tulsa
  - Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy
  - Alliance for Oklahoma's Future
  - Oklahoma State School Boards Association
  - Organization of Rural Oklahoma Schools
  - United Suburban School Association
  - Cooperative Council of Oklahoma School Administrators
  - Oklahoma Association of Career Technical Education
  - Oklahoma Education Association
  - Citizens Policy Center
  - Oklahoma Hospital Association
  - Oklahoma Public Employees Association



# MHSC OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

January 1-June 30, 2006

## Officers:

MHSC Chairperson – Dr. David Sawyer, Superintendent, Tulsa Public Schools  
Secretary/Treasurer – Phil Dessauer, Jr.

## Member Organizations:

Union Public Schools  
Tulsa Public Schools  
Tulsa Community College  
Tulsa County  
Tulsa Health Department  
Tulsa Area United Way  
  
Oklahoma Dept. of Human Services  
City of Tulsa

## Representatives:

Cathy Burden, Ed.D, Superintendent  
Dr. David Sawyer, Superintendent  
Tom McKeon, President  
Commissioner Wilbert Collins, Sr.  
Nancy Keithline, Chairman of the Board of Health  
Bob LaFortune, Former Chairman, Tulsa Area United  
Way Board of Directors  
Steve Scott, Area Director  
Cathy Taylor, JD, Mayor  
Brenda Miller, Director, Urban Development Dept.

## Ad Hoc Member Organizations:

Tulsa Metropolitan Ministry  
Metro Tulsa Chamber  
Founders & Associates Foundation

## Representatives:

Jim Mishler, Director  
Susan Harris, Vice-President, Community Betterment  
Herbert Orr, MD, Trustee, Board of Directors

## At Large Member:

Bill Doenges, JD, Past Chairman of the Board, Metro Tulsa Chamber

## Staff Support for the MHSC is provided by the Community Service Council of Greater Tulsa:

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