



Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy 2007 Legislative Agenda for Children and Youth

FINAL REPORT - 6/6/07

SAFETY

Protect Children from Abuse – Appropriations request for Health, Education and Human Services

1) Expand child abuse prevention / intervention and parent education services to more at-risk families by increasing funding to targeted programs:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Oklahoma Department of Health FY'08 Budget request:</u>	NOT FUNDED	\$000
	\$2,036,000 Office of Child Abuse Prevention (to expand program statewide)		
	\$1,750,000 Children First (to hire 29 new nurses for county health departments to conduct home visitation for new parents)		
	\$ 387,000 Child Guidance Services		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>State Department of Education FY '08 Budget request:</u>	NOT FUNDED	\$000
	\$3,000,000 Parents as Teachers Program (to expand statewide)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Department of Human Services FY '08 Budget request:</u>	NOT FUNDED	\$000
	\$3,251,000 Comprehensive Home-Based Services (to meet increase need)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$ 300,000 SafeCare for High-Risk Families	FUNDED	\$300,000

HEALTH CARE

Enhance Prenatal Care – Rule change signed by the Governor on Feb. 5

2) Enhance quality of prenatal care by supporting the OHCA budget request for prenatal support systems, including developing outreach services, expanding SoonerCare benefits to include oral health and social work services, and providing pay-for-performance incentives to improve early and on-going care.

Oklahoma Health Care Authority determined there are sufficient funds in the current budget to underwrite these efforts without a new budget request, requiring only a rule change that was signed by the Governor on February 5, 2007. The Perinatal Dental Access Program was implemented on May 1st for pregnant women enrolled in the SoonerCare (Traditional, Choice or O-EPIC Individual Plan) programs.

Additional bills addressing Maternal and Child Health:

SB 424 (Adelson/Cox) Expands health care coverage to children in households with incomes up to 300% of FPL, and expands the Postponing Sexual Involvement program. *Passed Senate and House. Signed by Governor.*

HB 1303 (Enns/Adelson) Expands Medicaid coverage to provide prenatal care for pregnant immigrant women. *Not heard – DORMANT.*

EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION

Enhance Quality of Childcare through Increased Provider Rates – Appropriations request- DHS

3) Increase childcare provider reimbursement rates to respond to new market rate data, enhanced quality criteria and the need for improved teacher salaries.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Department of Human Services FY'08 budget request</u>	NOT FUNDED	\$000
	\$ 3,501,000	Adjust Child Care Subsidy rate to 75 th percentile	
	\$14,300,000	Increase Child Care Subsidy rate by 10% to providers	

FITNESS AND NUTRITION

School-aged Health Needs – Appropriations request - OSDH

4) Provide funds to implement the CDC's coordinated school health model, which includes comprehensive school health education, physical education, school health services, nutrition services, counseling services, healthy school environment, health promotion for staff, and family and community involvement.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Oklahoma State Department of Health FY '08 Budget Request</u>	NOT FUNDED	\$000
	\$1,365,000	Promote Health, Physical Fitness and Nutrition, including expansion of the Strong and Healthy Oklahoma Initiative, contracts with Tulsa and Oklahoma City/County Health Dept's, and mini-grants and additional training for schools.	

Additional bill addressing childhood obesity:

- HB 1601** (Hickman/Jolley) Clarifies that school recess cannot count toward the 60 minutes of required physical education in K-5. *Passed House and Senate. Signed by Governor.*

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Expand Children's Behavioral Health Services – Appropriations request – DMHSAS and OHCA

5) Expand implementation of Systems of Care statewide by funding new communities and through effective partnerships, including positive behavioral intervention services (PBIS), early intervention through child guidance services, and wraparound services.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services FY'08 Budget Request</u>		\$1,646,874
	\$ 771,874	Replace federal funding to maintain existing Systems of Care programs	FUNDED
	\$ 875,000	Annualize 2007 appropriations for services to children and youth	FUNDED
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Oklahoma Health Care Authority FY'08 Budget Request</u>	NOT FUNDED	\$ 000
	\$ 5,562,310	Expand Medicaid benefit package for children to include partial hospitalization, intensive outpatient and day treatment	
	\$ 417,122	Integrate and coordinate services between Medicaid and ODMHSAS	

Increase Workforce for Children’s Behavioral Health – Appropriations request – OHCA and DMHSAS

6) Provide financial and educational incentives to increase the workforce specializing in children’s behavioral health, with an emphasis on underserved areas.

- Oklahoma Health Care Authority NOT FUNDED \$ 000
\$2,788,470 Contract directly with Masters Level Behavioral Health clinicians
\$4,001,590 Increase provider rates to 75-80% of Medicare for behavioral health providers
- Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services NOT FUNDED \$ 000
\$4,310,587 Adjust rates for mental health and substance abuse contracts to equal current Medicaid reimbursement rates.

YOUTH ACCESS TO ALCOHOL

Restrict Youth Access to Alcohol

7) Reduce youth exposure to alcohol by restricting placement and access in retail establishments and requiring clerks selling alcohol to be 18 years of age.

- SB 1099** (Rabon) Requires sellers of beer to be 18. Withdrawn- DORMANT

Additional bill addressing underage drinking:

- SB 1078** (Nichols/Worthen) Amended to add 3.2 beer to Social Host laws and provided graduated penalties for repeat offenders. *But this amendment was stripped out of the bill in conference. The final version did not add 3.2 beer, but did add a provision that anyone who violates the current social host law by providing alcohol or a controlled dangerous substance to a minor, where such actions cause great bodily injury (instead of only when such actions caused a death), that person shall be guilty of a felony. Signed by Governor.*

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT

Target Substance Abuse – Appropriations request DMHSAS and OHCA

8) Provide substance abuse treatment services for juvenile justice youth, including residential substance abuse treatment facilities, substance abuse outpatient services, and substance abuse prevention services.

- Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services FY’08 Budget Request \$ 500,000
\$ 500,000 **Annualize funding for Residential Adolescent Treatment FUNDED**
- Oklahoma Health Care Authority FY’08 Budget Request NOT FUNDED \$ 000
Behavioral Health Collaborative – substance abuse treatment for children

RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

Oppose the so-called Taxpayer's Bill of Rights – SJR 11 (Brogdon) – Dormant. HJR 1024 (Miller) – Dormant. SB 861 (Barrington/Blackwell) – SIGNED BY GOVERNOR

9) Oppose measures to restrict the growth of state revenues and expenditures that would have negative consequences on the health, education and social services for Oklahoma's children, youth and families.

SJR 11 – Not heard in committee – Dormant.

HJR 1024 – Not heard in full House – Dormant.

SB 861 (Barrington / Blackwell) – Contains entire tax reduction package, reducing available state revenue to fund vital services by \$11.5 million in FY 08, and \$75 million in FY 09.

- Eliminates franchise tax on small businesses
- Accelerates income tax cuts
- Provides tax credit for stay-at-home parents
- Creates a sales tax holiday in August for school clothes and supplies
Signed by Governor.