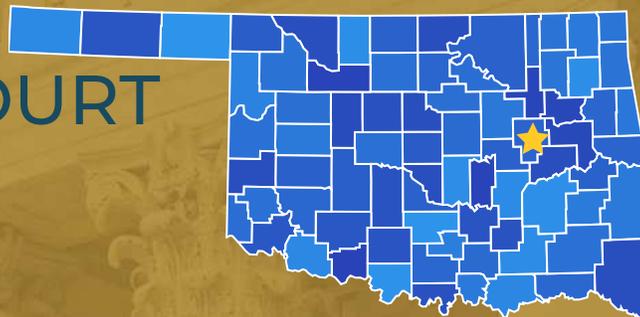


# BEYOND FAMILIES & OKMULGEE COUNTY FAMILY TREATMENT COURT

Okmulgee County, Oklahoma



Pathway 1 Agency: Oklahoma Department of Mental Health  
and Substance Abuse Services

Lead Local Agency: CREOKS Health Services

Program Model: Parallel Family Treatment Court

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Beyond Families is a family preservation program through CREOKS Health Services, a Substance Use Disorder treatment agency with staff who are also dedicated to the Okmulgee County Family Treatment Court. The program was developed to meet the needs of families with substance-exposed children from conception to the age of five years by allowing the children to remain in the home while the family receives intensive substance abuse and family wellness services. The Okmulgee County Family Treatment Court aims to provide the appropriate structure and support for participants to become responsible and caring parents and citizens and return children home to a safe, nurturing environment. By partnering with a treatment provider, they offer court-supervised, strengths-based treatment and services.

## TARGET POPULATION

Pregnant women experiencing substance use disorder and families with children between the ages of birth to five years who are substance exposed in the home, including pregnant women and families with children in an out-of-home placement as well pregnant women involved in the criminal justice system.

## OKMULGEE COUNTY QUICK FACTS



Since program launch in February 2019, 91% of the infants (10 out of 11) born to families participating in the Beyond Families program at the time of birth have gone home with their parent(s) after being discharged from the hospital.



The Okmulgee County Family Treatment Court served 85 adults and 137 children from October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2019.



Families in the Okmulgee Family Treatment Court are 292% more likely to be reunified than similarly matched families on the Okmulgee County regular child welfare deprived docket.

# PROJECT GOALS

Goal 1: Build Beyond Families program capacity to serve a total of at least 35 unduplicated women/families over the course of the grant period.

Goal 2: Decrease recommended levels of child welfare intervention and improve prenatal, maternal/fetal, and family wellness outcomes in the program's population by increasing access to and engagement in substance use treatment through developing, implementing, and monitoring holistic plans of safe care at the prenatal, neonatal, and/or childhood points of intervention.

Goal 3: Beyond Families will establish a multidisciplinary Executive Committee that includes members from substance use treatment, the medical community, child welfare, law enforcement, Tribal representatives, and other community service providers and agencies.

Goal 4: The Okmulgee County QIC-CCCT will increase the number of Plans of Safe Care implemented for infants in open deprived cases with identified prenatal substance exposure, NAS, or FASD diagnoses and their parents/caregivers in Okmulgee County by at least 25% and show improvement in the substance use treatment and permanency outcomes for OCFTC participants (graduates, neutral discharges, and unsuccessful discharges) and their qualifying infants or children under the age of 5 by working to improve the Plan of Safe Care development and implementation process.

# LEVERAGING PARTNERSHIPS

CREOKS Health Services

Ascension Medical Group St. John Women's Health Okmulgee

Ahearn Green & Associates

Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Oklahoma Department of Human Services

Okmulgee County Court Appointed Special Advocates

Okmulgee County Judges and Attorneys

Okmulgee County District Attorney

# PROGRAM SUCCESS STORY

A family consisting of a mother, father, and four children under the age of 5 years old was admitted to the Okmulgee County Family Treatment Court (OCFTC) in May 2019. When the family first started in the program, the children were placed in out-of-home care. The father immediately engaged in services and did well with his treatment and recovery, including maintaining employment. However, the mother continued to struggle with treatment and recovery for several months, and she did not consistently engage in services or maintain sobriety. A few months into the program, the mother experienced housing instability. The OCFTC Coordinator and Treatment Liaison were able to help her leave a dangerous situation and connect her to the local

homeless shelter. When the mother found out she was expecting a new baby, she became motivated to change. Through the support of OCFTC and Beyond Families, she stopped using substances, started participating in program services, and returned to the home with her husband. The parents and children were reunified in March 2020. Shortly after, the mother gave birth to her fifth child, who was able to go home with the parents after being discharged from the hospital. Through the support and services offered in OCFTC and Beyond Families, the family was able to reunite, grow stronger and make significant changes in the lives of all seven family members.

# PROJECT CONTACTS

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