

Oklahoma County Juvenile Bureau

Fiscal Year 2024

Annual Report

July 1, 2023 — June 30, 2024

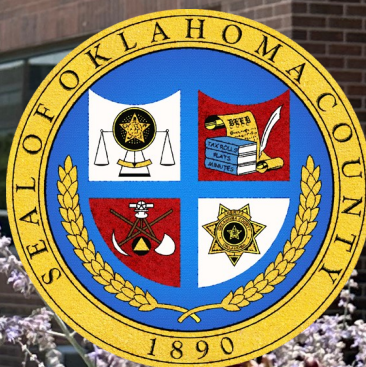


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On September 21, 2022, the Honorable Judge Kaitlyn Allen appointed Hannah Whipp to lead the Oklahoma County Juvenile Bureau (OCJB).

Director Whipp was born in East Gadsden, Alabama where she spent all of ten days before becoming a permanent resident of Oklahoma County, Oklahoma. She was homeschooled until the fifth grade, and her mother must have been a great teacher, because in 2008 Director Whipp was named valedictorian of Edmond Christian Academy's graduating class. She went on to attend Southern Nazarene University, where she earned her Bachelor's in Sociology in 2013 and Master's in Business Administration in 2015. Director Whipp took her education a step further in 2022 when she earned her Society for Human Resources Management Senior Certified Professional (SHRM-SCP) certification, the highest national certification for Human Resources Professionals.

Director Whipp is an animal lover and has been known to adopt new pets on a whim. She is the proud mother of an English Bulldog named Beans. When she's not taking care of her family and animals, Director Whipp enjoys all kinds of crafts and projects. For her, the joy is in the trip to Hobby Lobby and teaching herself the new skill; the follow-through is less important. In her spare time, Director Whipp spends the majority of her days camping, fishing, and enjoying the outdoors. Whether she's spending time with friends next to a campfire or on vacation with her family at the beach, Director Whipp loves to be outside doing something fun.

Growing up, Director Whipp aspired to be a Department of Human Services (DHS) worker. After working for a criminal defense attorney and immigration law firm through college, she accepted the position of Detention Officer at the Oklahoma County Juvenile Detention Center in July 2013 to get a foot in the door to the field. She quickly promoted to Probation Officer, and knew she found a long-term career at the OCJB in 2014 when she promoted to the Internal Affairs Division, where her love for the OCJB staff and investigative work began. In 2017, Director Whipp promoted to Human Resources Manager, where she thought she would stay forever, until the Director position became available in 2022. When asked which job was her favorite, Director Whipp says each position had highs and lows, but being the Director has hands-down been the most challenging and rewarding.

Over ten years of working at the OCJB has taught Director Whipp many things. She has learned to have fun with it, establish a good work-life balance, trust her staff, and value people above all else. She is a highly motivated person, and nothing motivates her more than seeing her staff find fulfillment in their work. "What motivates me is people enjoying being at work," she says. "Seeing employees catch fire is what makes me catch fire; when they're motivated, so am I." Director Whipp says she sees this often at community outreach events, and thus has made these events a priority for the OCJB. When asked what she would like to tell anyone reading our Annual Report, Director Whipp says, "I would like to thank every employee of the OCJB for their hard work and dedication in an often-times thankless field of work. What you do every day makes a difference. We don't always get to see the end results of our efforts, but know that I see the difference that you make. I see you, I stand with you, and I appreciate you. Thank you for making this the very best place to work."

Director Whipp would also like to give a special thank-you to the families of Kim Everly-Boston and Christopher Smith, two employees who lost their lives during FY 2024. Ms. Everly was the Lead Culinary Arts Specialist who succumbed to an acute illness. Mr. Smith was a Detention Officer who was killed in an auto accident. Both employees were dear to Director Whipp and she wanted to ensure they had a special place in her biography, along with our Annual Report. A special thank-you goes out to both families for sharing them with us. All employees are a part of the OCJB family, and we continue to grieve their loss along with you.

ABOUT THE OKLAHOMA COUNTY JUVENILE BUREAU

The Oklahoma County Juvenile Bureau (OCJB) is a juvenile justice agency comprised of six departments: Business, Court Services (Intake and Diversion Services Unit and Probation Services Unit), Detention, Human Resources, Janitorial, and Maintenance.

The Court Services and Detention departments provide high-quality services directly to our clientele. Both departments adhere to the agreed upon best practices in juvenile corrections, as evidenced by their ability to maintain American Correctional Association (ACA) accreditation for decades. The OCJB works closely with the Juvenile Division of the Oklahoma County District Court to provide intake and diversion services, probation supervision, and secure detention for at-risk youth within Oklahoma County. The OCJB serves the community twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

As a juvenile justice agency, our focus lies in public safety and rehabilitation. *Their Success is Our Success!* The Executive Team, as it was organized on June 30, 2024, is pictured below.



HAJR BROWN

Deputy Director



BRUCE HENLEY

Deputy Director



GRANT BILLINGSLEY

Business Manager

OUR JUDGES



District Judge
Kaitlyn Allen

The Honorable Judge Kaitlyn Allen was raised in Richardson, Texas, and received her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Kansas State University. Judge Allen received her Juris Doctorate from the Oklahoma City University School of Law in 2011.

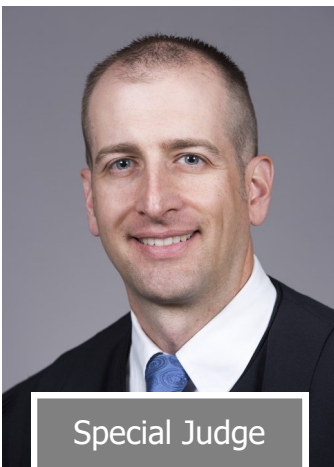
After joining the Oklahoma Bar in 2011, Judge Allen worked at Chris Smith Law, Cordell and Cordell, Smith Simmons, and Henry + Dow + Masters + Aycock + Allen. Her practice focused primarily on domestic litigation, including divorce, custody, paternity, child support, guardianship, and adoption. She devoted much of her work to Guardian ad Litem work and mediation.

Judge Allen has served as a Member of the Board of Directors for Sharing Tree and is a former member of the Junior League of Oklahoma City. She is also a former volunteer for the Oklahoma County Courthouse Access Clinic, and a former volunteer with the Alzheimer's Association. She is a current member of the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Inn of Court. Judge Allen has received the honor of being named Oklahoma Bar Association's Family Law Section Citizen Lawyer of the year in 2020, Super Lawyer's Rising Star in 2019, 2020, and 2021, and 405 Top Attorney for 2021.

After graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Biology with a minor in Chemistry from Texas Tech University, the Honorable Lydia Green earned her Juris Doctorate from Oklahoma City University School of Law. Judge Green then went into private practice with a focus in the areas of family law, juvenile law, and criminal defense. She has served as the staff attorney for the Metropolitan Fair Housing Council of Oklahoma Inc., with an emphasis on civil rights discrimination. During her tenure with Metropolitan Fair Housing, Judge Green partnered with the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to advocate for victims of housing discrimination. From 2014 — 2017, Judge Green served as vice president of the Association of Black Lawyers. Judge Green was appointed as a Special District Judge for Oklahoma County in February 2017.



Special Judge
Lydia Green



Special Judge
Mark McCormick

The Honorable Mark McCormick is a native Oklahoman and graduate of Westmoore High School, where he played baseball. He continued his baseball career at OCU until he graduated in 2004. After graduation, Judge McCormick played baseball for the Schaumburg Flyers in Illinois, who were a Class A team in the "Northern League" baseball association. His decision to leave baseball was based on several decisions, including his desire to return to school. Judge McCormick graduated from Oklahoma City University School of Law in 2007 and worked for the Oklahoma County Public Defender's Office from 2007 — 2017. In 2017, Judge McCormick was sworn in as Special District Judge by Judge Patrick Wyrick of the Oklahoma Supreme Court.

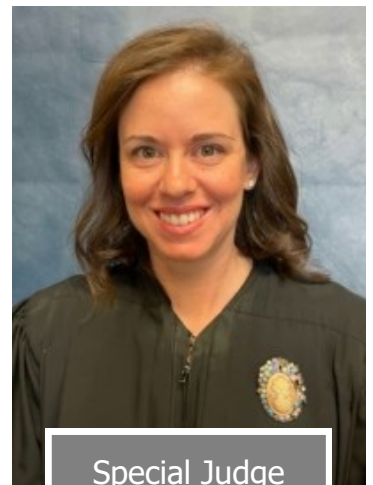
Judge McCormick enjoys spending time with his wife and children. In his free time, he also enjoys building, painting, and racing model R/C airplanes, and flying planes around the south end of Lake Hefner.

OUR JUDGES



Associate District
Judge Angela
Singleton

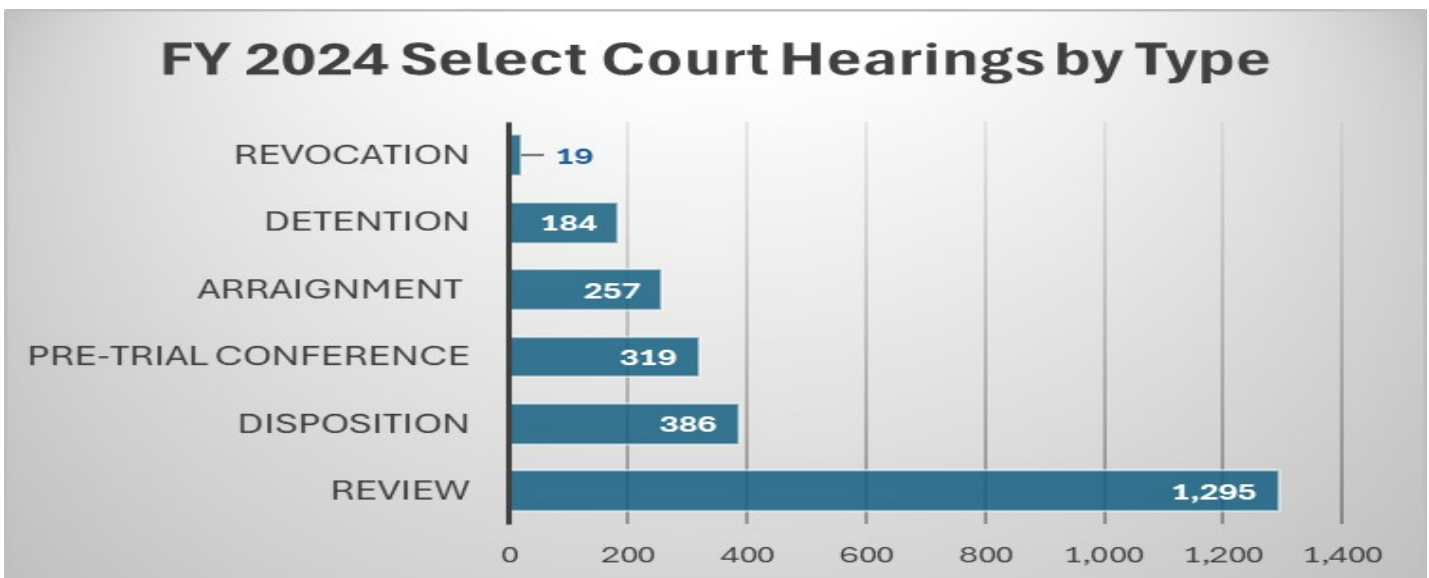
The Honorable Judge Angela Singleton grew up in Oklahoma County and graduated from the University of Central Oklahoma. After completing law school, Judge Singleton became a volunteer at the Oklahoma County District Attorney's Office and was hired as an Assistant District Attorney a few months later. In 2016, Judge Singleton opened her own practice and continued to serve the citizens of Oklahoma County. Being an attorney and a small business owner gave Judge Singleton new experience in the importance of perseverance and being responsible for all outcomes. Judge Singleton was elected an Oklahoma County Associate District Judge in November 2022.



Special Judge
Nichole Gillett

The Honorable Judge Nichole Gillett grew up in Oklahoma City and holds two undergraduate degrees from the University of Oklahoma. Judge Gillett graduated from the Oklahoma City University Law School and later established Banks, Gillett and Gillett, PLLC. Outside of the Courtroom, Judge Gillett is passionate about volunteering with local charities and non-profits, such as Ignite OKC, Junior Achievement of Oklahoma, and YWCA of Oklahoma City. She previously sat on the Board of Directors for the Sharing Tree, as well as the Board of Directors for Let's Fix This.

The graph below depicts select court hearings the judges of the Oklahoma County Juvenile Justice Center held during Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 for youth served by the OCJB. Review Hearings were the most common type of hearing; an average of one-hundred and eight Review Hearings were conducted each month in FY 2024.



CITIZENS FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY BOARD

Citizens for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) is a non-profit citizen's advisory committee established by 10A O.S. § 2-4-109 to aid in the more effective administration of law relating to youth. CJJ provides counsel, advice, and assistance to the Oklahoma County Juvenile Bureau (OCJB) for the purpose of enhancing services to at-risk youth, in part by managing grants to help fund projects and programs that will benefit the community and the cause of juvenile justice. CJJ aims to enhance services for at-risk youth, including applying for grants to fund projects and programs that benefit the community and juvenile justice.

This fiscal year's grants awarded to the CJJ include the *Connect to Redirect Initiative* funded by the Oklahoma Bar Foundation, which assisted the OCJB's efforts to provide trauma-informed and responsive services to youth involved in Oklahoma County's juvenile justice system. CJJ was awarded a second grant from the Oklahoma Bar Foundation in support of the OCJB's *Literacy Initiative*, which provides literacy enhancement services to youth who are reading at a level below their current grade level. The success of CJJ and the OCJB is largely attributed to the generosity of our partners in the community and their commitment to helping at-risk youth succeed.

Tim Baker, Treasurer, joined CJJ in 1995, followed by Frank Turner, President, in 2013. CJJ was founded in 1992 under the name Public Private Partnership for Juvenile Justice. The name was changed to CJJ in 1999 to better communicate the mission and purpose of the committee to the citizens of Oklahoma County. CJJ is comprised of an employee of the public schools of Oklahoma County, a professional social worker, a member of the Board of County Commissioners, an attorney licensed to practice in the State of Oklahoma to be selected by the members of the Oklahoma County Bar Association, and three other members selected, at will, by the Chief Judge of the Juvenile Division. All members serve on a voluntary basis and bring their unique perspectives together to enhance the services available for the at-risk youth of Oklahoma County. CJJ met during Fiscal Year 2024 on the following dates: October 4, 2023, December 6, 2023, April 3, 2024, and June 5, 2024.



FRANK TURNER

President



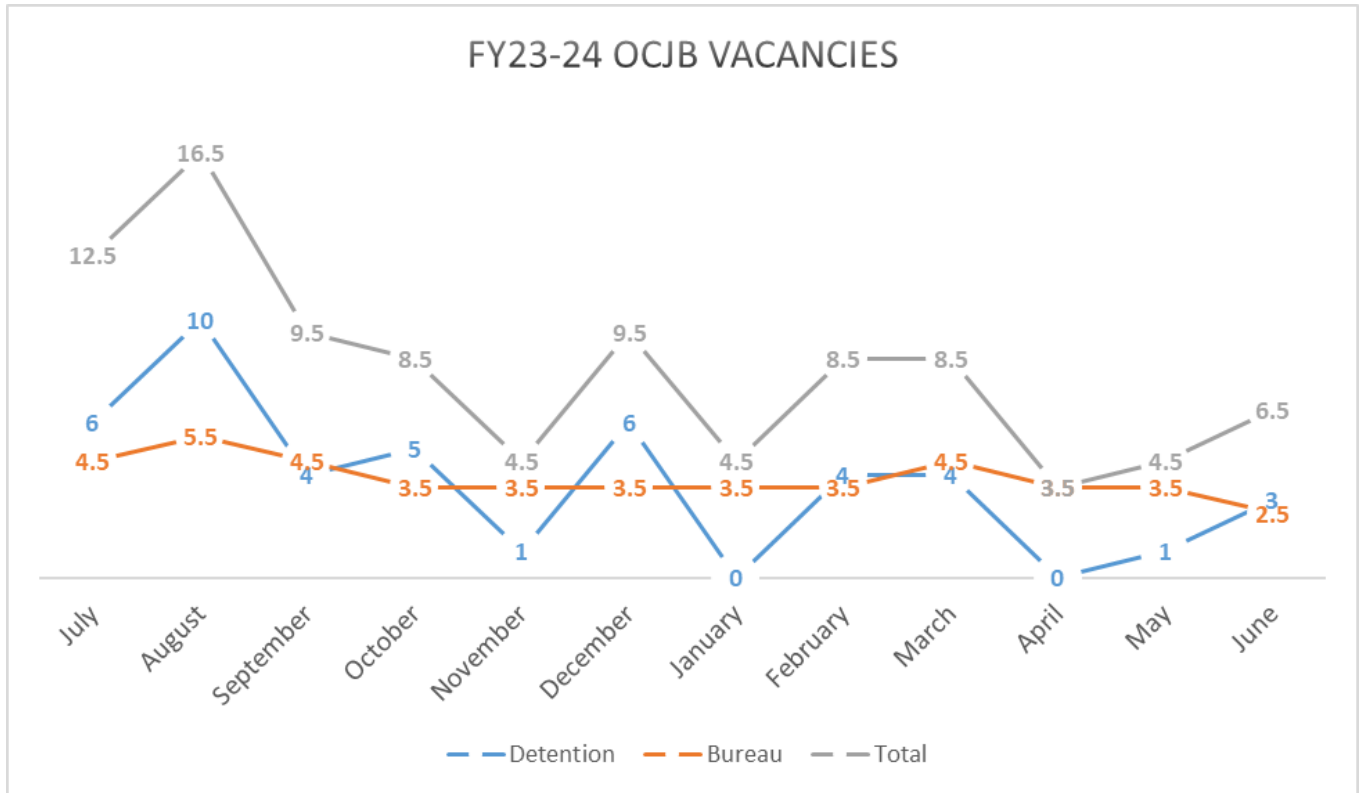
TIM BAKER

Treasurer

The OCJB operates on Fiscal Years (FY) from July 1st through June 30th. The OCJB began FY 2024 with an initial appropriation of \$10,007,874.00. Our budget is divided into two separate funds: Detention (\$8,502,224.00) and Juvenile Bureau (\$2,765,447.00). This brought the total combined General Fund budget for FY 2024 to \$11,267,671.00, not counting our three (3) special revenue accounts.

The largest area of expenditures each year is "Salaries and Wages," followed by "Fringe," which covers employee benefits. During FY 2024, \$7,033,977.00 (62%) was appropriated for Salaries. \$3,276,090.00 (29%) was appropriated for Fringe Benefits. Both accounts make up over 91% of our Annual General Fund Budget.

During FY 2024, the OCJB was approved to fill one-hundred and sixty-four positions: one-hundred and sixty full-time and four part-time. The average number of employees on payroll was one-hundred and fifty-two, giving the OCJB a 93% staffing rate on average. This is the same staffing rate as FY 2023.



As of June 30, 2024, the average tenure of an OCJB employee was 5.9 years. Employees working in support services (Administration, Business, Human Resources, and Maintenance) had the highest tenure with fourteen years on average, followed by Court Services with 6.6 years on average. Detention had the lowest average tenure with 4.2 years. We would like to recognize our Detention Officers with the greatest lengths of tenure: Corporal Larry McGowen (16 years of service), Corporal Victor Nickelberry (16 years of service), and Corporal Andre Smith (12 years of service), as of June 30, 2024.

BREAKDOWN OF POSITIONS FOR DETENTION, SUPPORT SERVICES, AND COURT SERVICES			
Detention:	103 FT	3 PT	108
Support:	19 FT	-0-	19
Court Services:	31 FT	1 PT	36 *
	156 FT	4 PT	164 TOTAL
* Includes four (4) Title IV positions.			

A 2.5% Merit Raise was awarded during FY 2024 to all Oklahoma County employees. A merit raise is a performance-based raised, which is different than in years past, when a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) raise was award to all employees, regardless of performance and raised the starting salaries for each position. Only current and eligible employees received the Merit Raise.

OCJB HIGHLIGHTS

Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training — The OCJB facilitated two forty (40) hour CIT Trainings during FY 2024: August 21 — 25, 2023 and November 27 — December 1, 2023, which included numerous law enforcement agencies from around the Oklahoma City metro area. CIT partners law enforcement officers and the community for common goals of safety, understanding, and service to individuals with mental illness and their families. The training consists of several classes taught by a variety of instructors including a psychiatrist, substance abuse specialist, social worker, police officers, and representatives from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). Panel discussions with service providers from the Community Mental Health Centers are also included. CIT Training prepares the officer to safely de-escalate a crisis, determine the need for emergency treatment, and get the consumer to professional treatment as quickly as possible.



GPS Ankle Monitoring Program — On December 19, 2023, the OCJB launched the GPS Ankle Monitoring Program as an alternative to youth being detained in the Oklahoma County Juvenile Detention Center (OCJDC). OCJB Director Whipp, Deputy Director Brown, Court Services Supervisor Matthew Hankins, and other Court Services employees, met with Lisa Adent with Allied Universal Technology Services to facilitate training on the GPS devices and Allied Universal Monitoring system. During this training, the first youth was placed on a GPS Ankle Monitoring Program agreement.

The GPS Ankle Monitoring Program allows low-level offenders to be released from the OCJDC at their initial appearance, which takes place within twenty-four (24) business hours of being detained. Each morning, Miracle Bailey, Community Supervision Specialist, and Erik Deloera, Intake and Community Specialist, begin their day by reviewing the youth admitted into the OCJDC to verify if any of the youth qualify to be placed on a GPS Ankle Monitoring Program agreement. To qualify for the GPS Ankle Monitoring Program agreement the youth must have a stable and suitable residence, be absent of the victim, have a parent/legal guardian/custodian/caretaker(s) willing to participate in the program, not present an immediate threat to the community, not in the custody of the Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA), and does not currently have pending charges as a Youthful Offender (YO) or Murder in the First Degree. Once a youth is placed on a GPS Ankle Monitoring Program agreement, Ms. Bailey and Mr. Deloera review the Allied Universal Monitoring system three (3) times a day to check for any violations that may have occurred.

The GPS Ankle Monitoring Program was met with learning curves as GPS devices were being terminated by the youth or damaged; however, once it was discovered that criminal charges could be pressed if the youth terminated their own device without permission of the court, the number of youths terminating their devices sharply decreased. It was then established that if a device is removed without the permission of the court, then the youth would face restitution between the amounts of \$500.00 (if the device was returned in working order) up to \$1,050.00 (if the device is not returned or it is no longer functional). Restitution is applied once the charges are filed against the youth.

Overall, the GPS program has proven to be a successful alternative in the replacement of secure detention. The OCJDC average population when the GPS Ankle Monitoring Program started was steadily around 70 – 75 youth; post GPS Ankle Monitoring agreement has seen the population remain around 55 – 65 youth, which allows more space for the increasing youth being detained for YO charges. As we learn more about the program it will become even more successful and we strive to continue to make an impact in these youth's lives.

OCJB HIGHLIGHTS

Bridging the Gap — The OCJB hosted Bridging the Gap on March 21, 2024, which included forty first-responders, school officials, previous Oklahoma County Commissioner Carrie Blumert, and other individuals who play an important role in our youth's lives. This Bridging the Gap event was the largest to date with ninety-nine youth present, not including siblings or family members. During the event, first responders visited residents detained in the OCJDC and youth on community supervision to play games and share a meal.



American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) — During FY 2024, the OCJB continued with several projects supported by ARPA funding. This funding provided a violence and gang prevention and intervention program for OCJDC residents (TASK), mental health services for OCJDC residents, a 2024 Chevy 1500 4WD Tahoe, a full roof replacement, and major renovations to the first-floor court room lobby, which was opened during FY 2025. These projects are underway and will continue to progress through 2026.

Oklahoma Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) — On May 14, 2024, Deputy Director Brown and Community and Programs Manager, Crystal Ramirez, represented the OCJB by participating in the Oklahoma LETR, alongside other law enforcement agencies in support of Special Olympics. Deputy Director Brown was honored to hold the torch, the "Flame of Hope," along side LETR Athlete Representative, Chris Paynter.



COURT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The Court Services Department consists of thirty-four total staff led by Deputy Director Hajr Brown. In FY 2024, the department was composed of ten Intake and Diversion staff, fifteen Probation staff, and nine administrative and support staff.

The department operates three-hundred and sixty-five days a year, twenty-four hours per day. Each time an officer makes contact with a client or has another significant interaction regarding his or her case, the officer documents the event in the Juvenile On-Line Tracking System (JOLTS) using a "case note." The department also collected \$24,043.06 in restitution that was returned to victims who suffered financial losses in FY 2024.



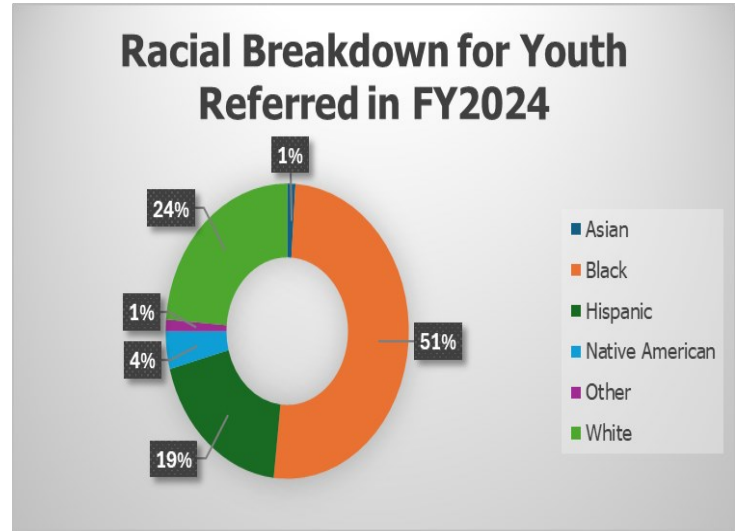
Back Row (Standing) From Left to Right: Intake Officer Skyler Smith, Intake Officer Adrian Perez, Probation Officer II Kayley Durocher, Probation Officer Susan Hackett, Probation Officer DeShayla Gordon, Intake Officer Tiara Bills, Intake Officer III Aylin De Loera, Administrative Assistant IDSU Chloe Butler, Probation Officer II Kaycee King, Community Supervision Specialist Miracle Bailey, Probation Officer Alana Brown, Probation Officer Mayte Lopez, Probation Officer II Lee Gonzalez, Intake Officer II Migel Garcia

Front Row (Sitting) From Left to Right: Administrative Assistant Margie Byrd-Dean, Executive Assistant Chase McCain, Community and Programs Manager Crystal Ramirez, Probation Supervisor Crystal Pierce, Probation Supervisor Elizabeth Vega, Deputy Director Hajr Brown, Court Services Supervisor Matthew Hankins, Intake Supervisor Laura Willow, Training Manager Alicia Colbert, Community Coordinator Michelle Boivin, Receptionist Mary Prince

Not Pictured: Probation Officer II David Mugisha, Probation Officer Ja'Neshia Robinson, Probation Officer Nieva Whitney-Arriaga, Probation Officer Kiana Baker, Intake Officer Jennifer Phillips, Intake Officer Anthony Knight, and Training Specialist Thomas Earsom

The Intake and Diversion Services Unit's (IDSU) primary responsibilities are screening all youth prior to admission into the Oklahoma County Juvenile Detention Center (OCJDC), collecting information to aid in determining appropriate action, and supervising non-adjudicated youth. The average caseload of an Intake Officer as of June 1, 2024 was fifty-two youth.

Intake Officers (IO) are available twenty-four hours per day to receive and screen calls from law enforcement agencies who are requesting admission of a youth into the OCJDC. Upon receipt of this request, the IO begins the Pre-Adjudication Detention Screening process. The IO ensures the youth meets the legal criteria for detention, set forth in 10A § 2-3-101, and evaluates his/her age, current offense, past history, potential threat to himself and the community, and the likelihood that he/she would return to court when ordered. Based on this criteria, a decision is made to detain the youth or make him/her releasable to a parent, other responsible adult, or the Crisis Intervention Center.



Following receipt of each new referral, the assigned IO arranges an appointment with the youth and his/her parent/legal guardian/custodian/caretaker to conduct a Preliminary Inquiry interview. Based on this interview and other pertinent information, the IO makes a recommendation to the District Attorney's (DA) Office for appropriate action. The IDSU conducted six hundred and ninety-

one intakes during FY 2024, which is down from seven-hundred and sixty-two during FY 2023.

Another major responsibility of the IDSU is the supervision of non-adjudicated youth, which is commonly known as "diversion." There are two types of diversion plans: Informal Adjustment without Petition (IAWP), which is the lowest level of supervision, and Defer Delinquency Adjudication Proceeding (DDAP). As an alternative to filing a charge against a youth, the IO may monitor and supervise a diversion program when agreed upon by the youth, the parent/legal guardian/custodian/caretaker, the DA, and in some cases, the judge. This process is in place to correct the presenting behaviors with minimal legal intervention. The IDSU supervised one-hundred and nine DDAP agreements during FY 2024, which is up from eighty-seven DDAPs during FY 2023; the IDSU supervised sixty-six IAWP agreements during FY 2024, which is down from seventy-seven during FY 2023. The rate of successful completed for IAWP and DDAP agreements during FY 2024 was 75% successful completion, which remained the same from FY 2023, and down from 80% during FY 2022 and 83.4% during FY 2021.

1,244 referrals were handled by the IDSU in FY 2024. 83% of all alleged offenses were committed by a male while only 17% involved a female offender. Males were more likely to be referred due to a felony offense, whereas females were more often charged with misdemeanors. The three most common offenses were Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle, Possession of a Firearm by a Minor, and Possession of a Controlled Dangerous Substance.

TOP THREE OFFENSES REFERRED TO THE IDSU IN FY 2024 BY SEX	
Male	Female
1) Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle	1) Unauthorized Use of Motor Vehicle
2) Possession of a Firearm by a Minor	2) Assault & Battery
3) Burglary III	3) Possession of a Controlled Dangerous
4) Obstruction of a Public Officer	4) Assault & Battery of a School Employee
5) Possession of a Controlled Dangerous Substance	5) Assault and Battery of a Medical Provider

PROBATION SERVICES UNIT



The Probation Services Unit (PSU) provides case management, education, advocacy, and accountability for adjudicated youth in Oklahoma County. Probation is a legal status imposed by the court upon entering a disposition order. It allows youth who have been adjudicated to receive services in the community under the supervision of the court rather than being placed outside of their homes.

Each probation youth is provided with an individualized treatment and service plan that is tailored to address their specific criminogenic needs, based on the Youth Level of Service Inventory (YLSI). The YLSI assesses each youth's strengths and needs by appraising the following domains: Prior and Current Offenses, Education and Employment, Peer Relations, Substance Abuse, Leisure and Recreation, Personality and Behavior, and Attitudes and Orientation. The goals of the probation supervision plan address each area of need, as determined by the youth and parent/legal guardian's responses to the YLSI. Probation officers conduct a re-assessment of the

youth's risk and needs at least once every six months.

The top five offenses resulting in probation supervision have remained largely the same since FY 2020; however, the charge of "Possession of Firearm After Former Conviction," entered the top five offenses during FY 2022. This statistic is consistent with the unfortunate rise in gun violence the State of Oklahoma has experienced since 2018. During FY 2024, two-hundred and seventy-one additional felony offenses were committed by a youth while on probation, two-hundred and forty-seven additional misdemeanor offenses were committed by a youth while on probation, and two-hundred and four additional status offenses were committed by a youth while on probation. The majority of youth placed on probation in Oklahoma County during FY 2024 were African American, male, and sixteen years in age. The racial breakdown of probation youth has remained largely the same since 2015.

This year, as the PSU experienced rising caseloads, the team adopted an innovative approach. The department recognized the pivotal role of providing incentive opportunities for youth on probation and emphasized the utilization of incentives to help youth complete their probation plans faster. The PSU awarded youth with certificates of achievement, gift cards, prize giveaways, and credit towards civic engagement requirements for making progress towards the goals of their probation plans. The use of incentives increases short-term motivation and engagement with the long-term goal of shaping positive behaviors. Celebrating and rewarding accomplishments also helps build a positive working relationship between officers and their clients. By prioritizing incentives and ensuring that youth had the tools necessary for success, the PSU was able to successfully expedite the youth's completion of probation supervision. The average number of days for probation supervision during FY 2024 was one-hundred and seventy-one, which is slightly higher than the average length of supervision in FY 2023. As we navigate the challenges posed by higher caseloads, our focus remains on inspiring positive change and facilitating successful reintegration and relationships within the community.

TOP OFFENSES REFERRED

TO THE PSU IN FY 2024:

- 1) Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle
- 2) Possession of a Firearm After Former Conviction
- 3) Obstruction of a Public Officer
- 4) Assault and Battery
- 5) Burglary III

COURT SERVICES IN-HOUSE PROGRAMS

The top six most utilized internal programs in FY 2024 were as follows: 1) Family Night, 2) Independent Living Skills, 3) Spark Events, 4) Literacy/Tutoring Initiative, 5) The Thomas N. Lynn Institute for Healthcare Research Character Responsibility Education Wellbeing (CREW) Program, and 6) Victims' Impact Panel (VIP). Family Night attendance continues to see a steady increase from one-hundred and twenty-seven in FY 2023 to two-hundred and fifteen in FY 2024. Please see page seventeen for more information about this year's Family Night events.

Overall, youth referred to internal programs successfully completed 77.54% of programs in FY 2024, compared to 61.25% in FY 2023.

Literacy/Tutoring Initiative (It's LIT) - The OCJB was awarded an IOLTA grant from the Oklahoma Bar Foundation (OBF) for the 8th consecutive year to fund the Literacy Initiative program. The goal of the Literacy Initiative program is to improve the reading, spelling, and comprehension abilities of OCJB youth, measured by the Slosson Oral Reading Test (SORT) and Challenger Placement Tool for appropriate curriculum placement. The program was facilitated by Myra Moaning, Literacy Consultant. During FY 2024, one-hundred and one youth successfully completed the program.

Spark Events have done an amazing job of facilitating connections between officers and their clients. During a Spark event, youth and officers simply engage in an activity they love, which instantly puts the group at ease and makes it simple to find common ground. Spark events in FY 2024 included a "Nurture Group," "Jewelry Jamz," making custom bracelets, "Guess Who Baby Pictures," "Brainy Bunch Jeopardy" team trivia, "Gone Fishing!" hands-on learning fishing event at Scissortail Park with members of the Fish and Wildlife Department, "Namaste In Check," an event featuring yoga and deep breathing practices. During FY 2024, one-hundred and four youth attended these events.

A "spark" is a passion, interest, or hobby that gives ones life meaning.



The **Connect to Redirect Caregiver Workshop** is a four week trauma-focused course for parents/legal guardians/custodians/caretaker(s) to provide support and productive tools to a better, positive connection with their children. The group sessions included: What is Trauma, How Trauma Impacts the Brain and Attachment, Understanding How Trauma Effects Behavior and Decision-Making, How Parental Trauma Impacts Relationships, How to Improve Communication, and Connection/Correction Principles. The curriculum is facilitated by LaToya Moore, Youth Guidance Specialist Manager, and Jaquisha Johnson, Youth Guidance Specialist. During FY 2024, four parent/legal guardian/custodian/caretaker(s) completed this workshop.

The mission of the **Victims' Impact Panel (VIP) of Oklahoma, Inc.** is to prevent people from making dangerous choices behind the wheel, reform clients through awareness, and promote healing in the participating panelist. The panel was introduced in October 2023, to bring an opportunity to youth to hear heart-felt stories in a non-threatening setting about how someone's choice to drive distracted and/or under the influence has affected their lives of others, and develop safety plans. The panel is facilitated by Sean Rose, Executive Director, and Natalie Baynes, Operations Director. During FY 2024, forty-six youth successfully completed the program.



COURT SERVICES IN-HOUSE PROGRAMS

Independent Living Skills is a four week program that provides a curriculum designed to give youth the tools they need to become more self-sufficient. The curriculum covers substance abuse, education/employment, managing your emotions, and financial literacy. The program was facilitated by Skylar Denney, Family Resource Manager with Pivot, Inc. During FY 2024, sixty-one youth successfully completed the program.

The Thomas N. Lynn Institute for Healthcare Research Character Responsibility Education Wellbeing (CREW) Program is a volunteering opportunity that gives youth more than the ability to plant and harvest. Spending time working in nature builds work ethic, enhances psychological well-being, encourages healthier eating habits, and teaches youth natural ways to grow their own herbs, fruits, and vegetables. This year, our youth have spent hours in the gardens planting, weeding, harvesting, and decorating for holidays. This program helps youth earn civic engagement hours, often required as a part of their court-ordered supervision, while providing a safe place that they can come to reconnect with nature. Thank you to the Thomas N. Lynn Institute for Healthcare Research, who allowed youth to work in the gardens, which they primarily maintain.



Mindfulness for Teens in 10 Minutes a Day uses a series of exercises to help youth feel calm, stay focused, and strive to be their best selves. This four week program is conducted using a book of mindfulness exercises, in a peaceful setting, to show youth how to take control of stress (negative and positive), become the boss of their feelings, and boost their focus. These guided exercises assist youth to practice and develop essential mindfulness strategies through high school and beyond. The simple and effective exercises fit perfectly into a daily routine to assist youth with being present, tackling challenges one at a time, and making the most of every minute. The program was facilitated by Kaycee King, Probation Officer II and Michelle Boivin, Community Coordinator. During FY 2024, twenty-seven youth successfully completed the program.

Youth Employment Preparation Program (YEPP) was introduced during FY 2024 and is a career readiness class designed for youth ages 16-18 which offers an Employment Essentials certificate program to equip learners with entry level computer skills, provide a better understanding of customer service skills, create self-awareness of employment retention strategies, provide relevant skills necessary to sit for interviews for a better opportunity for job placement and explore job retention strategies. The program is facilitated by Dr. Sandra R. Rhodes, Trainer, with Goodwill Workforce Development. During FY 2024, four youth successfully completed the program.

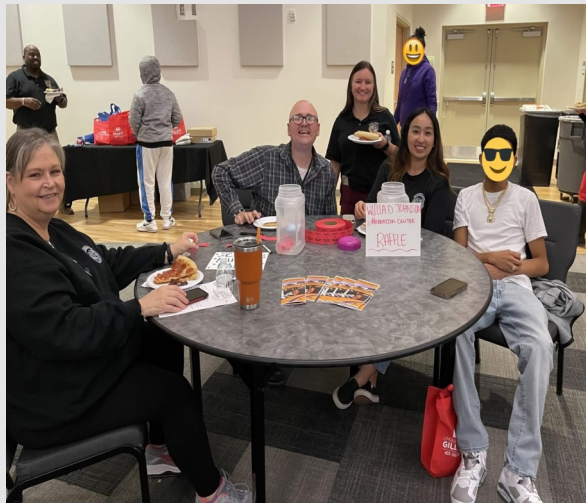


COURT SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS

Family Night Events — One of the Court Services Department's favorite ways to connect with youth and families is the quarterly Family Night event. Family Nights are intended to feed youth and their families, engage them in fun activities, and establish a safe, caring relationship between the officer, the youth, and the important people in his or her life. Family Night events are designed to communicate that the intention of the officer is to support families, not punish them. The rapport built during these events can make all the difference when officers are required to redirect youth and caregivers during the supervision period.

The OCJB's first ever Family Night was held in June 2019; four youth attended. In FY 2024, over two hundred OCJB youth attended Family Night events not including friends and family who joined them.

The first Family Night of FY 2024 was a Back to School Bash and backpack giveaway held on July 27, 2023 at the OCJB. Attendees enjoyed food, drinks, games, backpacks filled with school supplies, haircare supplies (courtesy of the Hair Initiative), and haircuts (courtesy of JB's Barbershop) to get them ready to return to school the following month.



Seventy-five youth under OCJB supervision and their families attended this event.



The second event was hosted on December 6, 2023 at the Crossings Community Center. Food and drinks were

served while families had the opportunity to play games, receive gift cards and participate in a raffle for a season pass of four to the Science Museum of Oklahoma and two gold memberships to the Willa D. Johnson Recreation Center for six-months. Sixty-one youth attended this event.



On March 21, 2024, the OCJB collaborated with several groups of first responders serving Oklahoma County for a Bridging the Gap event that doubled as a Family Night. There were forty First Responders and ninety-nine youth in attendance.



On May 8, 2024, the Court Services Department was thrilled to honor the 2024 graduating class by hosting their final Family Night of FY 2024 at the OCJB. There were over ninety youth in attendance, including fourteen graduates. The graduates were able to take their graduation photographs in their caps and gowns with our photographer.

COURT SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS

National Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision Week (PPPS)

— National PPPS was July 16 — 22, 2023. During this week, the OCJB celebrated employees in community corrections who spend their days working to improve outcomes, both for the individual and for the public safety of our communities. Staff were treated to brunch catered by Cracker Barrel, ice cream sundaes, and fun games throughout the week.

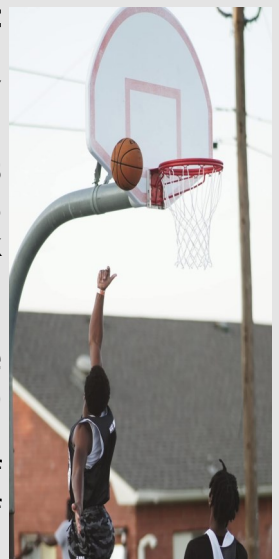
*Thank you
for all you do!*



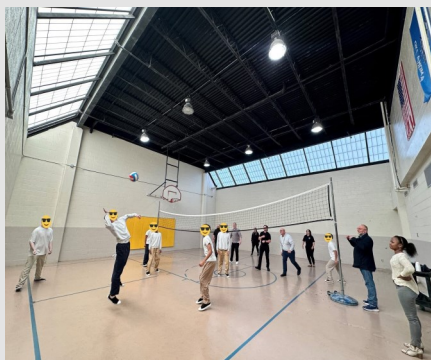
Saving Our Youth (SOY) Midnight Basketball

— Each Friday night from June 9, 2023 — July 28, 2023, SOY OKC facilitated Midnight Basketball from 7:00PM — 12:00AM. SOY OKC is a non-profit organization that fosters positive actions to stimulative at-risk youth and other youth in the community. Along with basketball, youth and their families enjoyed free food, music, arts and crafts, video

games, bounce houses, and more. SOY OKC Executive Director, Priscilla Meadows, invited OCJB youth to participate in the activities, keeping them off the streets and out of trouble. Ms. Meadows also allowed youth to volunteer if they were in need of civic engagement hours.



Volleyball Tournament — In February 2024, Youth Engagement Coordinator, Scott Wiedemann, organized the "Court Services vs. Resident Volleyball Tournament," which was enjoyed by employees and residents alike. The event provided an opportunity to foster positive connections with youth detained in the Oklahoma County Juvenile Detention Center (OCJDC), while also promoting teamwork and sportsmanship.



DETENTION SERVICES

The Oklahoma County Juvenile Detention Center (OCJDC) is an eighty-bed, high-security facility designed for the temporary custody and care of juveniles who are accused of committing criminal offenses within Oklahoma County. The OCJDC houses juveniles accused of a variety of offenses up to and including Murder in the First Degree. Youth are cared for in the OCJDC while they are awaiting court proceedings to determine appropriate action or for a bed in a placement facility to become available. Youth may also be held short-term as a sanction for violations of their court-ordered supervision plans. The average length of stay in the OCJDC during FY 2024 was twenty-nine days. During FY 2024, the OCJDC admitted eight-hundred and twenty-three youth: seven-hundred and two males (85%), and one-hundred and twenty-one females (15%). A majority of these youth (62%) were African American. Youth ranged in age from twelve to eighteen with the greatest majority (two hundred and twenty-one youth) being seventeen years old.

Average Population

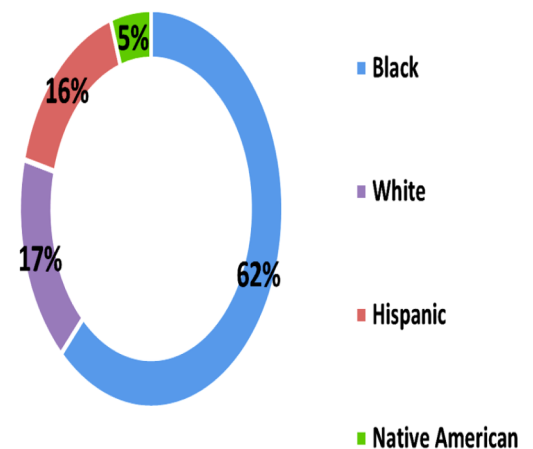
FY 2022: **51**

FY 2023: **63**

FY 2024: **65**

The OCJDC detains juveniles accused of three classes of offenses: Juvenile Delinquent (JDL), Youthful Offender (YO), and Criminal Felony (CF), with JDL cases being the least serious and CF cases being Murder I and Rape I. In FY 2024, 83% of admissions were due to a JDL offense, 13% YO, and 4% CF. Length of stay depends greatly on this classification; the average length of stay for a JDL was twenty-two days, YO offenses were detained for sixty-three days on average, and CF offenses were two-hundred and eighty-nine days. The most common offense resulting in detention admission during FY 2024 was Judicial Order to Detain, followed by Pick-Up Order, Unauthorized Use of Motor Vehicle, and Bench Warrant. 90% of alleged weapons charges were committed by males, while 90% of alleged traffic charges were committed by females.

RACIAL BREAKDOWN OF
OCJDC RESIDENTS - FY 2024



Many youth who had been admitted to the OCJDC in the past were re-admitted during FY 2024; 38% of youth admitted had been previously admitted at least once. 12% had been previously admitted four or more times. 38% of admissions occurred during the hours of 12:00PM to 6:00PM with admissions that occur between the hours of 12:00AM to 7:59AM following at 24%.

The OCJDC is licensed by the Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA) and is subject to their rules and regulations. The OCJDC was audited by OJA in November 2023 and April 2024 and was awarded a license to operate through June 2026. The OCJDC was last re-accredited by the American Correctional Association (ACA) following an audit in January 2024. The facility was found to be in compliance with 100% of mandatory and non-mandatory ACA standards. The next ACA audit will be scheduled in 2027.

DETENTION IN-HOUSE PROGRAMS

Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Education and Awareness — In March 2024, the Youth Guidance Specialist (YGS) Department implemented four new programs to encourage felt safety for both residents and staff. During "Respect My No," residents illustrated their understanding of PREA in art form, which was displayed in the OCJDC. During "No Time 4 Games," residents engaged in card games designed to address unhealthy thought patterns, bullying and sexual/dating violence. During "Character Speaks," residents utilized role play to address inappropriate, offensive, harmful language and behaviors. During "Conduct Within Walls," residents participated a fact filled review of our zero-tolerance bullying and PREA stance. Residents were also provided an easy-to-understand handout for future reference.



Calm Down/Sensory Room — In April 2024, YGS created a safe space for residents to comfortably process what they describe as, "heart work." Programs such as "Making Sense of Your Worth" begin during initial presentation, but are completed in one-on-one sessions with YGS. This room is fashioned with a sensory wall, voice activated cloud, Calming Canoe, fluffy bean bag chairs and much more. Disarming fear, while creating a felt safety environment was achieved!



Splashing Good Time — Our annual Splash Day was the perfect remedy for both staff and residents to beat the heat of June! This much anticipated event allows our residents to simply be kids while building rapport and the understanding of the importance of teamwork. Residents played water balloon volleyball, followed by an old-fashioned water balloon fight, then cooled-off with a tasty snow cone of their choice!



Cage The Rage — In June 2024, residents continued their efforts in understanding how trauma is revealed in behavior responses. Bullying was identified as one of the more common ways in which youth display hurt and unhealthy attempts of meeting their needs. Both female and male units illustrated what bullying behaviors consists of, identified forms of trauma associated, and coping skills to hinder and change bullying behaviors. Residents also identified positive behaviors and characteristics they aim to utilize going forward.

DETENTION HIGHLIGHTS

American Correctional Association (ACA) Audit — The OCJDC underwent a re-accreditation audit conducted by three American Correctional Association (ACA) representatives, Ernest Umunna, Sherry Smith, and Tony D'Cunha, January 23 — 25, 2024. The auditors assessed the department's policies, procedures, and practices and found the OCJDC to be 100% in compliance with all mandatory and non-mandatory standards.



Director Whipp, Deputy Director Brown, Deputy Director Bruce Henley, and Major Terrence Whitehorn attended the ACA conference and reaccreditation panel hearing in Nashville, Tennessee in August 2024, where they were presented with the certificate of accreditation, now hanging proudly in the OCJDC.



A Day to Remember — May 17, 2024, the OCJDC celebrated its first high school graduate. This resident voiced completing high school, while in the OCJDC, as one of his primary goals very early on his admission. He was diligent and determined, volunteering for summer school, additional work, as well as offering help to other residents who struggled in subjects he excelled in. His celebration was complete with a ceremony and reception!



Raising Awareness for Teen Dating Violence — In March 2024, Tulsa County Female Program Coordinator, Paula Royce, facilitated a program within the OCJDC to educate and bring awareness to dating violence among teens. Residents participated in games to gauge knowledge, followed by Q&A session to dismantle myths and encourage healthy female/male dynamics. Residents were also provided information and resources for further assistance, guidance, and education. Residents expressed gratitude and their enjoyment of this program and Ms. Royce, asking her to come back soon!



National Correctional Officer's Week — May 5 — 11, 2024, the OCJB celebrated National Correctional Officer's Week. During this week, we recognized and honored the dedication and service of correctional officers and employees who work tirelessly to ensure public safety. OCJDC staff were treated to a raffle and cookout to recognize their service and celebrate their contributions.



EMPLOYEE AWARDS



TENURE AWARDS:

5 YEARS OF SERVICE: Teresa Allensworth, Yecenia Cabrera, Sade' Coleman, Stephanie Coleman, Matthew Hankins, Pierre Leintheu, Stasha Truss, Norman Young

10 YEARS OF SERVICE: Hannah Whipp, LaToya Moore, Crystal Pierce, Winnie Strong, Darick Whitehorn

15 YEARS OF SERVICE: Sheila Anderson, Burnas Carr, Vickie Goodin, Larry McGowen

20 YEARS OF SERVICE: Mary Prince

35 YEARS OF SERVICE: Virginia Cloud

INNOVATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL IMPROVEMENT:

Training Department

OCJDC AWARDS:

OUTSTANDING LINE STAFF OF THE YEAR:

Stephanie Coleman

OUTSTANDING SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR:

Rugery Ochoa

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR:

Antonio Magana

COURT SERVICES AWARDS:

OUTSTANDING PROBATION/INTAKE OFFICER OF THE YEAR:

Chloe Butler

OUTSTANDING SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR:

Crystal Pierce

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR:

Crystal Ramirez



SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR:

Nicole Mullins



DETENTION EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH: July 2023: Jasmine Lee; August 2023: Landyn Slover; September 2023: Marqese Johnson; October 2023: DeVonne Alexander; November 2023: Ashley Overton; December 2023: Amy Morgan; January 2024: Victor Nickelberry; February 2024: Ashley Overton; March 2024: Jethro Cammon; April 2024: Dillon Noble; May 2024: Antonio Romero; June 2024: Brenda Manie

COURT SERVICES OFFICER OF THE QUARTER: 3rd Quarter 2023: Kayley Durocher; 4th Quarter 2023: Yecenia Cabrera; 1st Quarter 2024: Aylin De Loera; 2nd Quarter 2024: Kaycee King

We will carry out the intent of the Oklahoma Juvenile Code, as expressed in 10A O.S. § 2-1-102. The Oklahoma County Juvenile Bureau's mission statement declares, "The Oklahoma County Juvenile Bureau exists to enhance public safety by reducing juvenile delinquency." We continue to pursue our mission through means that are fair, just, and guided by our core values:

- 1) Youth Potential — **"Believe in their future."** — We know that all youth have individual strengths and are capable of positive growth; we will work to cultivate this belief within the youth themselves. We will identify the unique characteristics and needs of each youth and use evidence-based approaches to provide the individualized treatment and opportunities for personal growth needed to set them up for long-term success.
- 2) Family — **"It takes a village."** — We believe in the significance of the family and other positive support systems as an essential source of nurture and guidance. We will invest resources in family-focused strategies and services to support and educate families and caregivers, not to replace them.
- 3) Education — **"Knowledge is power."** — We value and will provide educational experiences that will help our clients develop life skills and present new opportunities in their lives. We will promote the growth and development of employees by providing training and education to guide each employee towards achieving his/her full potential.
- 4) Accountability — **"No excuses, get it done."** — We set and uphold high standards for ourselves and our community. We are accountable to each other, our supporters, our auditors, our partners and, above all, our youth. We will measure the outcomes of our services and adjust policy, procedure, and programs as needed to produce the intended outcomes.
- 5) Diversity — **"Not my way, not your way, OUR way."** — We recognize and value the uniqueness of individuals and are committed to a culture of acceptance and inclusivity. We believe that individuality increases organizational and community value and capacity.
- 6) Collaboration — **"Together Everyone Accomplishes More"** — We value and cultivate effective community partnerships and volunteers to enhance the services that are available to youth in our community. We know that teamwork within the organization, engagement with the families we serve, and development of collaborative relationships with law enforcement and other outside agencies in areas of mutual concern are essential in carrying out our mission.
- 7) Integrity — **"Do the right thing."** — The OCJB maintains strong moral principles in its administrative, service, and outreach activities. We strive to maintain the integrity of the law and develop individual responsibility for lawful behavior in our clients.
- 8) Innovation — **"Think outside the box."** — We understand that change is a necessary ingredient to support a healthy organization. We are committed to identifying areas in need of improvement and finding solutions to meet the needs of our youth and their families. We will practice data-driven decision making to ensure we are achieving our intended outcomes.
- 9) Persistence — **"Never give up; fall down seven times, stand up eight."** — We recognize that true change does not happen quickly. We will not give up when problems are difficult or take a long time to solve.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF KIM EVERLY-BOSTON

Kim (Miss Kim) Everly-Boston passed away on March 6, 2024 after a very sudden and unexpected illness. The shock and loss of such a vibrant, loving, powerhouse of employee was substantial for employee morale throughout the OCJB.



Miss Kim's obituary read, "Kim was a very loving sister, mother, Auntie, and friend to all of the people she encountered, especially the kids at the job she mentored. But her true love was from her children. She stated many times, "I have to be here for my boys." She loved them very much. Kim loved her family. She often could be found outside, sitting enjoying time with her nieces, nephew, and great nephew. Kim loved to work in her front yard in her beautiful flower beds, but she loved dressing up her Cadillac. That's why she was known as Cadillac Kim. Kim received several certificates for her culinary skills. She worked at the OCJDC for twenty-three years until her unexpected death. She was such a valued employee that flags were flown at half-staff in her honor. She was loved by all who knew her."

Miss Kim was such a valued member of the OCJB family for over twenty-three years, serving how she knew best, by cooking with love within our kitchen. Miss Kim was an avid gardener, decorator, and lover of all things animal print, specifically leopard. Miss Kim served thousands of meals with the OCJDC during her tenure; everyone of them served with a kind word, a no-nonsense attitude, and a smile. To know Miss Kim was to be loved by Miss Kim. There wasn't a staff member or a resident in our facility that was not impacted by her thoughtfulness, generosity, and laughter.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF CHRISTOPHER SMITH



Christopher Smith suddenly passed away on June 15, 2024 at the age of twenty-six. Although Mr. Smith only worked for the OCJB for approximately four months, his death has impacted us all.

Mr. Smith's obituary read, "Chris' passing has left a void that cannot be filled for those who knew him. Chris had a heart of gold and dedicated much of his time helping homeless people in the community. His selflessness touched the lives of many individuals who were struggling with homelessness. He showed compassion and kindness to everyone he met, leaving an indelible mark on their hearts.

One of Chris' greatest passions was fishing — it was more than just a hobby for him; it was a way of life. Whether he was casting his line into the water or sharing stories about his latest catch with friends and family, Chris found solace and joy in every moment spent by the water's edge.

Those that knew Chris understood that he had an infectious energy that lit up any room he entered. He brought laughter and joy wherever he went — truly being the light of the party no matter when or where it took place.

Chris may have departed from this world too soon but leaves behind cherished memories that will forever live on in our hearts. His presence will continue to inspire us all as we strive to carry forward his legacy of love, kindness, and generosity towards others."

Oklahoma County Juvenile Bureau

"Their Success is Our Success."

Kaitlyn Allen, District Judge


Hannah Whipp, Director

5905 North Classen Court
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73118

Phone: (405) 713-6400

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www.oklahomacounty.org/Departments/Juvenile-Bureau

 : Oklahoma County Juvenile Bureau