

Recovery Supports-Employment and Housing Team
Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and substance Abuse Services

October 2021
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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Housing	2
Homeless Services.....	4
Employment/IPS.....	5
RHY	6
Resources.....	7

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Recovery Housing Scholarship application is moving websites
- Recovery Housing Vouchers are now available

Stronger Together

RECOVERY SUPPORTS-EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING TEAM

Stronger Together is your monthly briefing on housing, homeless services, employment, and runaway and homeless youth efforts across the state.

Our team focuses on evidence-based approaches which improve Oklahomans self-sufficiency.

We extend opportunities to engage in trainings, thinking sessions, meetings and webinars. We want to know what the shared information means to your organization and how we can better these learning opportunities.

Identifying potential solutions to capacity challenges is a priority.

Our philosophy is to engage those individuals in the field to learn from you what is working and isn't working so we can better provide technical assistance.

This is our first combined newsletter. *Stronger Together* has sections for each of our four areas of focus-housing, homeless services, employment and runaway and homeless youth initiatives. There is also a resource section to share upcoming webinars, trainings and meetings. Please reach out to suzanne.williams@odmhsas.org if you would like us to highlight a particular resource in your community.

THE TEAM

It is my pleasure to lead the Recovery Supports-Employment and Housing Team at ODMHAS. We are a diverse group of dedicated individuals working together to provide opportunities to better the lives of vulnerable Oklahomans. You will learn more about our team members in this month's edition as well as through the upcoming newsletters. I truly am amazed every day at their commitment to strive to better Oklahoma and blessed to work beside them.

Suzanne L. Williams



HOUSING

Having access to safe, decent, truly affordable housing with needed resources and supports to achieve self-sufficiency is important for those we serve and to us. Did you know that our housing team has worked tirelessly to develop and implement housing programs with our community partners? These programs offer quality care and enhance the capacity for supported Housing First housing across Oklahoma.

- Safe Haven-Tulsa
- Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)-OKC and Tulsa
- Supervised Transitional Living-OKC
- Supported Transitional Living-OKC, Norman, and Tulsa

For more information on the housing programs, please email tvail@odmhsas.org.

Rental assistance programs are also available. Contact Lahcen.Dallaly@odmhsas.org to learn

It isn't what we don't know that gives us trouble, it's what we know that ain't so. -- Will Rogers

HOUSING NAVIGATOR QUARTERLY MEETINGS

This meeting is designed for all housing points of contact and housing plus endorsed individuals.

You will receive specialized training in housing best practices and be the first to learn about new and innovation housing programs in Oklahoma.

This meeting will be held the fourth Thursday at 1:00 pm of every three months starting in October 2021.

The next meeting is October 28.

All housing point of contacts and individuals who are housing plus endorsed will be automatically invited to this meeting.

To learn more, please reach out to Andru Dallaly at Lahcen.Dallaly@odmhsas.org and 405-227-9429.

HOUSING PLUS ENDORSEMENT

Housing plus endorsement is enhanced training in housing best practices and can be an endorsement added to your CMI, CMII, CPRSS and any other certification. The trainings are Housing First 101, Continuum of Care and Coordinated Entry, Eviction Prevention, How to Work with Housing Authorities, and Fair Housing and the Seven Protected Classes. These trainings are targeted to advocates that assist their clients with obtaining and sustaining housing, transition plans, and discharge plans. To learn more or if you have questions, please contact Andru Dallaly at Lahcen.Dallaly@odmhsas.org and 405-227-9429. Please use TICOMP25 to waive fees for registering.

CoC- Coordinated Entry on 9/27 from 9:00am to 11:30am

<https://registration.xenegrade.com/odmhsastraininginstitute/courseDisplay.cfm?schID=3875>

Eviction Prevention on 10/7 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm

<https://registration.xenegrade.com/odmhsastraininginstitute/courseDisplay.cfm?schID=3890>

Housing First 101 on 11/7 from 12:00pm to 2:00pm

<http://registration.xenegrade.com/odmhsastraininginstitute/coursedisplay.cfm?schID=3951>

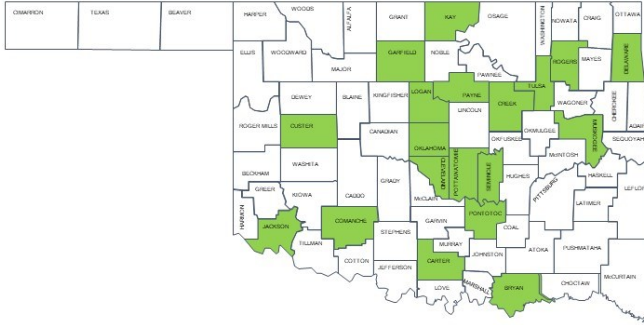
MONTHLY STATEWIDE HOUSING CALL

This is a monthly engagement of all those working with individuals to obtain and maintain housing across the state. This call will improve and expand your resource set and is an opportunity to share struggles and barriers and learn from others. To join the call, please email Lahcen.Dallaly@odmhsas.org.

4th Friday of each month

9:00am-11am

RECOVERY HOUSING IN OKLAHOMA



Counties highlighted have OKARR certified and/or Oxford House options.

RECOVERY HOUSING SCHOLARSHIPS AND VOUCHERS

Recovery Housing Scholarship

Applicants for the scholarship must have a history of opioid and/or stimulant use. No funding will be allowed to be dispersed to the participant. All payments will be paid directly to the housing program which must be OKARR certified, an Oxford House, or scattered site rental unit with access to support services/best practices provided by a contracted ODMHSAS provider or community partners who follow best practices. *These funds may also be used for utilities and other needs that assist with recovery housing sustainability.*



Recovery Housing Voucher

Applicants for the voucher must have a substance abuse diagnosis and meet low-and-moderate income guidelines. No funding will be allowed to be dispersed to the participant. All payments will be paid directly to the housing program which must be OKARR certified, an Oxford House, or scattered site rental unit with access to support services/best practices provided by a contracted ODMHSAS provider or community partners who follow best practices. These funds will only assist the individual with housing and utilities for a period not more than two years or until permanent housing is secured, whichever is first. Determination on length of assistance is individually based. Priority is given to transition age youth (ages 18-25), women with children, families with children, and NARR/OKARR level II residents. Vouchers may not be used in Oklahoma and Tulsa counties.

Recovery Housing Scholarships and Recovery Housing Voucher applications can be found at <https://oklahoma.gov/odmhsas/recovery/housing.html> beginning October 8. Please note that the scholarship application may be temporarily inaccessible as it is migrated to its permanent location. Please contact suzanne.williams@odmhsas.org or 405-669-5481 with any questions.

MEET LAHCEN ANDRU DALLALY

Andru Dallaly serves as a project manager for Homeless Youth and Runaway Services. He has received two master's degrees from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Psychoeducational Testing and School Counseling with an emphasis on Psychotherapy. Andru was part of the team of community members responsible for opening OKC's first low barrier youth shelter, developed and launched the OKC Host Home program for youth and young adult and also serves as lead advisor to the Oklahoma City Homeless Youth Action Board and Vice Chair of the Homeless Youth Alliance coalition. Andru has over 13 years of experience working to fill the gaps between homeless youth and young adults and mental health systems to ensure that all youth achieve their goals. We are lucky to have his passion on our team.

He is currently serving as the interim Program Manager of Housing helping all vulnerable Oklahomans with their housing needs.



MEET TAMMIE VAIL

Tammie Vail graduated from University of Central Oklahoma in 2003 with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and a Minor in Sociology. She then continued her education and graduated from Mid America Christian University in September 2017 with a Master's Degree in Counseling and is now a Licensed Professional Counselor. Prior to becoming employed at ODMHSAS, Tammie worked as with a local community health center providing direct care for over seven years. She has a diverse career background in mental health and social services. Currently Tammie Vail is a Project Manager for Federal Homeless Programs, and is responsible for providing support, technical assistance, site visit monitoring and over site of clubhouses, Transitional & Permanent Supportive housing, Safe Haven, PATH Homeless Program and Residential facilities. She is also the state team lead for SOAR in Oklahoma and the PATH State contact for Oklahoma.

We are blessed to have Tammie on our team.



HOMELESS SERVICES

Our homeless services support those experiencing homelessness to assist individuals achieve positive change in their lives and reduce the use of both homeless services and other welfare services. Everyone has a different path out of homelessness, and we are mindful of their personal journey.

Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) are programs that provide community-based outreach, mental health, substance abuse, case management and other support services to individuals (age 18 and older) who have a mental illness or co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders, and who are homeless in McAlester, OKC, Tahlequah and Tulsa.

SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, Recovery (SOAR) is a national program designed to increase access to the disability income benefit programs administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA) for eligible adults who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and have a mental illness, medical impairment, and/or a co-occurring substance use disorder. To learn more and become SOAR certified, please visit <https://soarworks.samhsa.gov/>.

Continuum of Care (HUD) is designed to promote communitywide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness. We are privileged to play a small part of these efforts by receiving funds to quickly rehouse homeless individuals while minimizing the trauma and dislocation cause to the homeless. Oklahoma is divided in to eight CoCs to promote access to and effect utilization of mainstream programs to optimize self-sufficiency. We encourage all of our partners to become active members of their CoC.

Please contact Tammie Vail at tvail@odmhsas.org to learn more about these programs.



From left to right: Sober living in Enid. Sober living in Stillwater. A mom and her two children enjoying playing in the front yard after moving in to recovery housing.

GOVERNORS INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS (GICH)

The Governor's Interagency Council on Homelessness was established in 2004 to work closely with state and federal agencies, local units of government, and the CoCs to prevent and end homeless. The GICH is currently focusing on three key areas-capacity building, cross-system transitions and public awareness and engagement.

Capacity Building: Ensure a strong homeless advocacy system is statewide with uniform policies which are data-driven focused on homeless prevention, Housing First, a continuum of care and wrap around services.

Cross-System Transitions: Work across public and private systems of care to ensure there is a shared and strategic vision to address homelessness¹ that is data-driven.

Public Awareness and Engagement: Involve all of Oklahoma in a robust conversation to ensure that that there is genuine collaboration and meaningful engagement.

Visit <https://gich.ok.gov/> to learn more about GICH and to view the five-year plan to end homelessness or email the current chair Suzanne Williams with any questions at suzanne.williams@odmhsas.org.

EMPLOYMENT

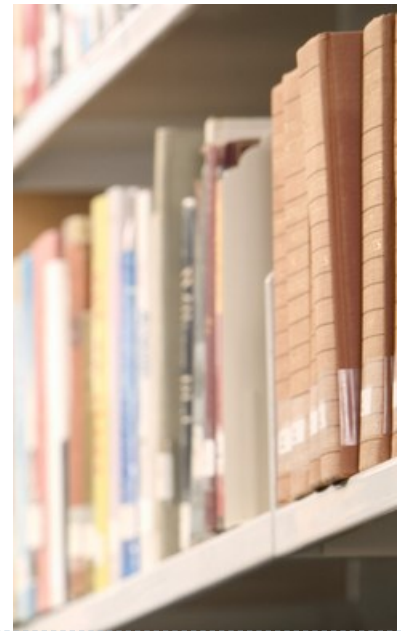
Supported employment and education services were added to our array of evidence-based services in 2016. This model is referred to as IPS, Individual Placement and Support. Our hope with providing IPS services is to give all we serve the chance to be self-sufficient, to feel secure, and have a sense of content and stability. We currently have 14 IPS teams in Oklahoma providing supported employment and education services in 22 states. To learn more about IPS as an evidence-based practice, please visit www.ipsworks.org. ODMHSAS offers training in IPS for individuals to be credentialed to provide IPS services and launch a team.

IPS 101 on 10/13, 11/11 (being rescheduled), 12/15 from 9:00am to noon

IPS Fidelity on 10/13, 11/11 (being rescheduled), 12/15 from 1:00pm-5:00pm

The trainings are listed on the ODMHSAS Training Institute website. Use promo code TICOMP25 to have fee waived.

You must attend IPS 101 prior to attending IPS Fidelity. IPS 101 is open to anyone who wants to learn more about IPS. IPS Fidelity is targeted for agency supervisors and leadership. For more information, please email Lindsay Horn at Lindsay.Horn@odmhsas.org.



“Work Hard. Be Kind, and Amazing things will happen.– Conan O’Brien

MEET OUR NEW STATE IPS TEAM



Lindsay Horn is the IPS Project Manager and leads the IPS state team. She has served in a variety of roles throughout her fifteen-year career within the behavioral health field. Her direct care experience has been within specialty programs such as the PATH homeless program, the Re-Entry Integration program and Treatment Courts. She has been a program manager within the criminal justice division at ODMHSAS and has also provided technical assistance to many treatment court programs across the state. She is a certified Criminal Justice State Trainer and IPS State Trainer and Fidelity Reviewer. Lindsay is passionate about reducing the stigma of mental health within the competitive employment environment. Lindsay received a Bachelor’s Degree from University of Central Oklahoma in Sociology with a minor in Criminal Justice.



Lisa Mears is an IPS State Trainer and IPS Fidelity Reviewer. She joined our team in September after serving as an IPS Supervisor at a community mental health center. She brings with her experience building successful IPS teams and working with families and individuals that have criminal justice and child protective service involvement. Lisa received her Bachelor’s degree from University of Central Oklahoma in Sociology. Her role on our team will be to provide technical assistance to all IPS teams, hosting monthly training calls for IPS supervisors and employment specialists, and serving as liaison to DRS.



Christy Stewart is an IPS State Trainer and IPS Fidelity Reviewer. She joined our state IPS team in September after serving as an IPS employment specialist for the NextGen project with Cleveland County Detention Center and COCMHC. Christy has experience as an education and employment recruiter helping those with disabilities obtain their educational and career goals. She completed her bachelor’s degree in criminal justice at the University of Oklahoma. Her role on our team will be providing the in the field cups of tea training and oversight of the IPS credential process.

HOST HOMES

We have host homes for 14-17, 18-24 and for youth who have aged out of foster care, they can enter host homes 17-21. Youth are matched with volunteers, people they already know, or extended family to shelter out of homelessness in their homes for 6-12 months while they are connected to supports to get independent housing or long-term stability. Volunteers are given extensive background checks and undergo a training and orientation process before matched with a youth. In June of 2020 we began the process of creating a virtual, self-paced training for host volunteers due to the pandemic. This E Learning will be available to approved applicants beginning July 2021. NRYCS/DHS and DMH have partnered to host in person recruitment events in August and September of 2021. We will also offer in person trainings or those who do not opt in for the e learning. To learn more please reach out to Andru at Lahncen.Dallaly@odmhsas.org or 405-227-9429.

RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH (RHY) INITIATIVES

ODMHSAS along with its community partners provide much-needed connections to housing and support services to RHY ages 17 and under. **Oklahoma City Basic Center Program (OKCBCP)** provides overnight shelter for up to 21 days, case management, drop in services and connections to mental health services. Last year this program served over 120 youth. Six were reunited to family. The average age of the youth were 15. Contact Lahcen.Dallaly@odmhsas.org for more information.

We are also proud to support the Sisu **Youth Emergency Shelter**. Sisu's shelter housing **145** youth this past year. **17** identified as non-binary or transgender as Sisu offers a safe, accepting environment. **16** have been reunited with family, **25** have access permanent housing, and **32** were reconnected to mental health and substance abuse services. The average length of stay was **57** nights. To learn more about Sisu Youth Services, visit their website at <https://www.sisuyouth.org/>.



CITY OF OKC AWARDED YOUTH HOMELESS DEMONSTRATION GRANT

The City of Oklahoma City in partnership with numerous local agencies is excited to announce that they were selected as a Youth Homeless Demonstration grant recipient. This opportunity will bring in largely sustainable funding to the amount of \$2.1 million for various projects and services geared towards ending youth homelessness in OKC. Most programming for youth and young adults experiencing homelessness in OKC is accessible to youth from other counties in our state if they can relocate safely, so we know these funds in essence will be put to the betterment of all Oklahoma's youth experiencing housing instability.

A hallmark of the grant is that it requires active input and involvement from youth and young adults with lived experience in every step of the grant planning and implementation. This is done through the OKC Youth Action Board. Members will be paid an hourly wage for their important work in this group. If you know a youth or young adult 18-24 years of age, with connections to OKC, and lived experience in homelessness that would like to join the Board, please have them reach out by calling or texting Andru at 405-227-9429.



Oklahoma Alliance for Recovery Residences

A message from Executive Director, Amanda Coldiron: OKARR continues to certify sober living residences across Oklahoma and welcome four new operators to the OKARR Family in the last two months! **Soul Survivor Supportive Living Foundation** in Midwest City assists Veteran women and their children on their path to recovery. Ella Speed-Jefferson focuses on helping women gain their independence while assisting them on their path to education, financial stability and recovery. **Secrets of the Heart** located in NE Oklahoma City and is full of life! Sharitta Blandon works hard to ensure the 5 women/5 children are always surrounded with support and recovery minded activities. **Nu Hope** Tamara Del Sol in Tulsa accommodates 8 ladies and is a beautiful home! Suzanne Bessette works tirelessly to ensure ladies feel welcome when they arrive and have all of the necessities and resources in hand to start their path to recovery. Nu Hope is MAT accepting. **Sangha Metro** in Tulsa serves 12 men on their path to recovery. Marcus Abernathy alongside his staff work to ensure men have employment opportunities, parenting classes as well as helping them identify any other needs. Please visit www.okarr.org to learn more.

OKARR is gearing up for the *1st Annual OKARR Conference December 6-7, 2021* in Oklahoma City! Save the Dates will be mailed out soon so if you need to update your contact information, please contact our Administrative Assistant, Tara McDonald at tara.mcdonald@okarr.org We are enjoying traveling the state and meeting all of the great operators out there helping those in recovery! If you know of an operator that needs more information about the OKARR Certification process, please let us know.



OXFORD HOUSES IN OKLAHOMA

Self-Run, Self-Supported
Addiction Recovery Homes

Oxford House Inc. Outreach Contacts By Area



Oklahoma House Of Oklahoma Outreach Regions And Contact Information



Region 1
Misty Hahn. 405-826-6818
misty.hahn@oxfordhouse.org

Region 2
Brent Erickson (Tulsa Metro) 918-936-0267
brent.erickson@oxfordhouse.org

Rp Hamil (Claremore/Rural) 918-404-9906
ronald.hamill@oxfordhouse.org

Region 3
Aaron Vick 405-446-2751
aaron.vick@oxfordhouse.org

Ashley Manges. 405-826-6796
ashley.manges@oxfordhouse.org

Region 4
Whitney Anderson. 405-519-1910
whitney.anderson@oxfordhouse.org

Statewide MAR/Reentry Assistance
Thomas Floyd 918-316-0464
thomas.floyd@oxfordhouse.org

Oxford Houses In Oklahoma members support 119 sober living homes with 1085 beds. The criteria for acceptance is established sobriety or completion of detox or treatment, as well as, post incarceration with substance abuse disorder. New houses are opening in Tulsa, Ada, Vinita and OKC with Western Oklahoma in the fall.

For vacancies information refer to oxfordvacancies.com or visit our website at oxfordhouseok.org.

CITY LIGHTS HOTEL
WILL REMAIN OPEN
FOR TULSANS EXPERI-
ENCING HOMELESS-
NESS

To learn more, please visit their
website at [https://
citylightsok.org/](https://citylightsok.org/).



OKSA and NRCYS offer trainings for
the community and organizations
who work with young people as they
transition in to adulthood. [https://
oksa.ou.edu/](https://oksa.ou.edu/)

Check out upcoming
[Center of Excellence](#)
(CoE) events and train-
ings to help you and
your organization im-
prove integrated care.

**What do you do if you suspect someone
is a human trafficker?** If you are in im-
mediate danger, call 911. Or call the hotline
number: 1-888-373-7888 or text: 233733



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Director of Recovery Supports-
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Oklahoma City, OK 73106

405-669-5481
suzanne.williams@odmhsas.org

RESOURCES

Oklahoma Department of Public Safety
MEGACENTERS
Don't wait - get your Real ID now!

Oklahoma City:
1000 N.E. 10th St.
In the old Health Department building
Open from 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Monday through Saturday
Last day is Dec. 10, 2021

Tulsa:
7130 S. Lewis Ave, Suite 190
In the Kensington Business Center
Open from 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Monday through Saturday
Last day is Jan. 7, 2022

Prevention & Recovery
Virtual Conference

Plan to Join us for...

**BUILDING the CONTINUUM
of Care**
TOOLS FOR LIFE

Save the Date

November 18th & 19th
2021

More Info To Come...

OKLAHOMA
Mental Health &
Substance Abuse

JOBSOK.COM Career Fair
PRESENTED BY THE OKLAHOMAN
WIB CENTRAL OKLAHOMA WORKFORCE INNOVATION BOARD

OKLAHOMAN LOCALIQ

Wednesday October 13th
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Oklahoma State Fairgrounds
3000 General Pershing Dr.
Centennial Building
Free for Job Seekers

Employers are looking for:

Accounting	Housekeeping	Professional Pet Trainer
Administrative	Licensed Practical Nurse	Recovery Support
Admissions Clinician	Maintenance	Registered Nurse (LPN & RN)
Analysts (Business & Financial)	Management Trainee	Registered Nurse (LPN & RN)
Associate Teacher	Material Handlers	Restaurant Cook
Behavioral Health Rehabilitation	Mechanics (field & shop)	Route Driver
Branch Associate	Medical Assistants	Sales Associates
Call Center Rep	Member Service Representative	Stewarding (Dishwasher)
Care Coordinator	Mental Health Tech	Teacher Aide
Case Manager	Mental Health Therapist	Teacher Lead
CDL Driver/Warehouse	Mortgage Associates	Technical Auditor
Claims and Referral Specialists	Office Management and Support	Teller
Collections	Oiler-Lube Tech	Therapists
Correctional Officer	Order Selectors	US Postal Carrier
Culinary	Patient Services Rep	US Postal Clerk
Customer Service	Pet Stylist - Experienced	Warehouse Associate
Food Services	Pet Stylist Apprentice (bather)	Warehouse Management
General Labor	Pharmacy Tech	Welder

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
MIDFIRST BANK
SHERWOOD COMPANIES

HITECH
Grand Lake Medical Health, Inc.
OMNI HOTELS & RESORTS oklahoma city
UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
Sunbeam FAMILY SERVICES

MAITHSBROTHERS FURNITURE
INTEGRIS
WR WORK READY OKLAHOMA
HYATT

HEAVY EQUIPMENT COLLEGES OF AMERICA
VETERANS UPWARD BOUND 405.422.1445 / veterans@ndcc.edu
LOCKE SUPPLY CO.

TFCU Fisher Federal Credit Union
THE FOUNTAINS AT OKLAHOMA
GEO The GEO Group, Inc.
HOBBY LOBBY

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OKLAHOMA WORKS A member of the American Job Center network
kw KELLERWILLIAMS
OKLAHOMA Mental Health & Substance Abuse
VESTA Foundation Solutions

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jwagner@oklahoman.com or 405.475.3475