



Helping People. Changing Lives.



**community
Action**
PARTNERSHIP



**2019 - 2020
Impact Report**





319 Southwest 25th Street, OKC 73109
405-232-0199 • www.caaofokc.org

COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY DISTRICT CENTERS

Northwest District Center

• 1300 North McKinley Avenue, OKC 73106 • 405-525-2468

Southwest District Center

• 1621 Southwest 15th Street, OKC 73108 • 405-634-1469

Southeast District Center

• 6315 South Camille Avenue, OKC 73149 • 405-672-7311

Northeast District Center

• 3401 Northeast 16th Street, OKC 73117 • 405-424-0315

Midwest District Center

• 1124 North Douglas Blvd, MWC 73130 • 405-869-9354

Canadian County District Center

• 203 North Bickford Ave., El Reno 73036 • 405-262-7042

City & County District Center

• 12520 Northeast 36th St, Spencer 73084 • 405-769-3346

HEAD START CENTERS & PARTNERS

HEAD START CENTERS

Armstrong • 309 S.W. 5th • Luther • 277-3530

Bob & Jean Harbison • 2411 N.W. 1st Ter., OKC • 232-2006

Dana Brown Cooper • 9300 N.E. 10th, MWC • 733-0289

Edmond • 717 Churchill Road, Edmond • 359-7155

Garden Diggs • 2201 N. Coltrane, OKC • 427-8515

McKinley • 1300 N. McKinley, OKC • 524-5017

Mt. Rose • 1701 N.W. 7th, OKC • 232-6037

Our Spot • 1532 W. Hefner Road, OKC • 755-5136

Steed • 2118 Flannery, Midwest City • 732-2552

Valley Brook • 6315 S. Camille, OKC • 670-6284

Will Rogers • 1621 S.W. 15th, OKC • 634-4365

HEAD START PRE-K PARTNERSHIPS

Adelaide Lee Elem. • 424 S.W. 29th, OKC • 587-3400

Buchanan Elem. • 4126 N.W. 18th, OKC • 587-4744

Mark Twain Elem. • 2451 W. Main, OKC • 587-3710

Martin Luther King Elem. • 1201 N.E. 48th, OKC • 587-4000

Monroe Elem. • 4810 N. Linn Avenue, OKC • 587-5600

Rockwood Elem. • 3101 S.W. 24th, OKC • 587-1500

Santa Fe South Elem. • 2222 S.W. 44th, OKC, OK • 601-0597

Thelma Parks Elem. • 1501 N.E. 30th, OKC, OK • 587-4400

Willow Brook Elem. • 8105 N.E. 10th, MWC, OK • 587-7500

Van Buren Elem. • 2700 S.W. 40th, OKC, OK • 587-2000

HEAD START/DAY CARE CENTERS

Avery • 1425 N. Kelham, OKC • 424-1088

Kiddie Village • 801 N.E. 2nd, OKC • 235-9833

Mary Helen Nelson • 1115 N.E. 7th, OKC • 232-2920

New Heights • 7921 N.W. 23rd, Bethany • 440-0230

Oak Grove • 3301 S.W. 17th, OKC • 685-2277

Plainview • 7105 N. Kelley Avenue, OKC • 843-8299

Ruth Dropkin • 6500 S. Shields, OKC • 634-0401

West Oak • 2100 S. Everest, OKC • 677-8437

EARLY HEAD START CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP

(Centers offering EHS/Child Care to children 6 weeks-3 years.)

Avery • 1425 N. Kelham, OKC, OK • 424-1088

Bob & Jean Harbison • 2411 N.W. 1st Ter., OKC • 232-2006

Kiddie Village • 801 N.E. 2nd, OKC • 235-9833

Oak Grove • 3301 S.W. 17th, OKC • 685-2277

Santa Fe South • 2222 S.W. 44th, OKC • 601-0597

West Oak • 2100 S. Everest, OKC • 677-8437

DELEGATE AGENCY

Educare • 500 S.E. Grand, OKC • 605-8232

HEAD START/DAY CARE PARTNERSHIPS

Happy Times • 405 S. Air Depot Blvd., MWC • 733-2905

Childcare Network • 1050 S.W. 36th, OKC • 634-2083

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From the Executive Director

Our last year has been interesting and full of change. One of the biggest changes has been that after over 40 years of service, our Executive Director, Mr. James Sconzo retired in December, and very soon after that retirement, the COVID-19 pandemic arrived.

However, much has also remained the same. Our mission has not changed. We continue to work to eliminate poverty by opening for everyone the opportunity to work, to live in decency, dignity, and worth, and to work towards self-sufficiency. As you read through this Annual Report, you will see how we have worked to meet this mission over the past year. Mr. Sconzo left a great legacy of service and dedication to the community. As Executive Director, I plan to continue that tradition.

Change can be frightening and difficult. However, change can also be an opportunity. Although COVID-19 is frightening and has caused many changes in our community, it is also an opportunity for our Agency to come together as one. The need in our community is even greater than in previous years, but we are still here to assist. Our great staff work each and every day towards our mission, even during this time of crisis. I am proud to lead an organization with such a worthy goal and look forward to a great next year.



Josie Thompson

An Important Community Partner

This fiscal year has been an unprecedented year for Community Action Agency in a number of ways. Amid circumstances, the Agency employees have continued to provide services to the community in the usual caring, compassionate manner striving to empower clients to self-sufficiency while elevating out of poverty.



After 40 years, our Executive Director, James Sconzo, made his decision to retire from his long-standing position of directing this agency in providing a plethora of services to the many underserved and disadvantaged members of our communities. The retirement of James Sconzo was a bitter-sweet moment for the Agency employees and Board of Directors, but we applaud the work he has done.

Jessie Thompson assumed the position of Agency Executive Director in January of this year. Her knowledge of Agency programs and staff along with her creativity and innovative ideas have been an asset to the Agency's continued services in spite of the many challenges she has faced amid the COVID-19 outbreak.

Ms. Thompson has provided support and direction to the staff while implementing safety and health guidelines as provided by Oklahoma State and City leaders. And although many changes have been made, Community Action Agency has continued to provide services in a manner which has become our "new norm".

As this fiscal year comes to a close, the Community Action Agency mission to promote the self-sufficiency of disadvantaged citizens continues to be achieved through the untiring work of dedicated, passionate, caring leadership, staff and volunteers who continue to provide economic opportunities and social self-sufficiency to create a better quality of life for our citizens.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carole B. Brown".

Business Development

CAA provides services leading to community economic growth.



"THE BIG FRIENDLY"
CRAFT BREWERY
(Wheeler District)



"THE STUDY"
WINE BAR
(Film District)



Small Business Training



SBT,

I have thoroughly enjoyed learning all aspects of starting a new business from the educated and experienced teachers of the SBT classes. Most were inspirational and understanding of our needs. I followed up with a few of these professionals, namely the attorney and the accountant. I keep my SBT notebook on hand just in case I need further references.

I had also met several students who like me, were eager and interested in learning about starting or continuing with a business and moving forward. We also exchanged phone numbers and business emails.

Thank you very much for hosting such an educational and eye opening experience at an affordable price.

Sincerely,
Carol Stickler

Green Home Loan



Green Home Loan -The Green Home Loan Program was designed to help Oklahoma City homeowners access affordable financing for energy efficiency projects. To date, the Program has funded projects totaling \$942,700.00.

"I am so lucky to have found the small blurb about the Green Home Loan in my utility bill insert last fall. I called that very week and asked what the program was all about. I was able to secure a 3% interest rate for my loan and my house is more comfortable, looks better and my energy consumption is down. It allows Oklahoma City homeowners to tackle big projects that improve their homes livability and sustainability."

-Thanks for Everything -Kyle C.



"Thank you, Community Action Agency IDA Program! This house means peace of mind for me." – Charity Richardson

IDA MATCHED SAVINGS PROGRAM

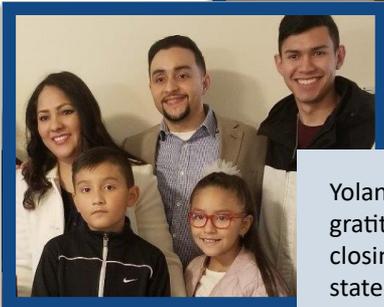
The IDA Program is designed to assist working low to moderate income families and high school students save money through a matched savings and scholarship program. This year, 35 participants successfully completed the program.



"I am currently a freshman at the University of Oklahoma, the first in my family to attend college. I graduated top 10% of my class. My career goal is becoming a pediatrician. Being part of the IDA program has greatly helped me in my first year of college by helping me alleviate some stress and financial issues that I had.

This program also taught me the importance of saving money, even a couple of dollars a month can build up to a lot in the long run. Thank you again to the Community Action Agency for giving me this opportunity."

– Edith Contreras



Yolanda and her family shared their gratitude by providing lunch at their closing for everyone involved. They stated it is such a blessing that they are Homeowners and each of their children have their own room.

Emergency Home Repair



Emergency Home Repair is a very sought-after program for qualified clients in Oklahoma City targeted areas. Essential emergency repairs enable clients to remain in their homes when repair costs would otherwise force them from their home or live in dangerous environments. All repairs consist of a health or safety emergency.



Special thanks to Everyone from the Community Action Agency- My family and I really appreciate all the hard work that was done to our house. We feel very blessed. Thank you for the new furnace that was installed in our house- feels very warm and comfortable compared to how it was. We sincerely appreciate all that you do for the families in need. May god bless you all.



Weatherization provides cost savings energy efficient measures to client's homes. Energy audits determine repair costs such as attic and wall insulation, caulking, air sealing, door and occasional window replacement, heating, and cooling tune-ups along with other air filtration procedures. Weatherization lowers consumers utility bills and reduces the use of national resources. Health and safety precautions are assessed as authorized.



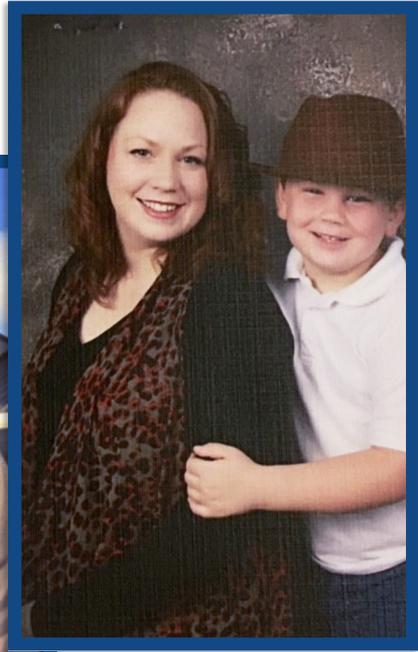
Dear Helpers at Community Action,
We greatly appreciate all you've done to winterize our home. We could never have done it without you.

The men you sent were so very helpful, they saw what was needed and went right to work. I can tell that the insulation added in our attic made a big difference in this cold weather and our windows and doors are no longer drafty.

there is

Hope

and it is never too late to start over



My name is Lauren Frances Trent and I am 34 years old. Throughout most of my life I have struggled with substance use disorder. I started using at the age of 13 and in the beginning, like most things in life, was all for fun. At 16 years old I lost my father which only made using drugs easier for me. Between the ages of 14 to 28 I have been to bootcamps, juvenile lockups, and jails in four counties. I was always getting locked up somewhere but was never taught the tools I needed to understand the disease of addiction or to learn how to live sober. The older I got, the bigger my addiction. I was lost, hurt, confused and beaten down mentally, physically, and spiritually. I no longer knew who I was. I started to pray for help.

I went to Eagle Ridge Family Treatment Center in September of 2014 where I stayed for 7 months.

Then it was time for my next chapter, Providence Sober Living. I have lived here for 5 years now and this place I call home saved my life. Since I have lived here, I have completed Rose State College with an Associate Degree. While at Rose State, I lost my grandpa, I lost my son's father, and the most hurtful experience was losing my mother to cancer. She died after Christmas in 2018. It was if addiction was trying to knock me back down. I am strong and I lived here in Providence surrounded by people who cared and knew how to hold me up.

There was no way I was going backwards! I graduated Rose State with honors and knowing my parents were both with me. I am proud to say with one more semester left at the University of Central Oklahoma I will have my bachelor's degree in General Studies, with a minor in Sociology and a minor in Substance Abuse Studies. I have been accepted into grad school where I will get my master's degree in Addiction Counseling. Life today is my most important value along with time. I will never be able to go back in life to change my mistakes, but I have learned from them and I understand now God is turning my mess into a masterpiece. I have found out who I am as an individual and a mother. Today, I can look myself in the mirror and love myself enough to stay healthy and clean. The disease of addiction does not have control of my life any longer. I am no longer a prisoner to addiction. I have had the freedom to choose since September 16, 2014.

And for anyone that may seem lost right now, know there is HOPE and it is never too late to start over.

Lauren Trent
05-14-20

Community Services

The Community Services Division provides services to the residents in Oklahoma and Canadian counties. The division's extensive interaction with other social service agencies provides strong relationships and resources for the community. The following services are available through our District Centers.

Christmas Assistance
Senior Employment Training

Senior Transportation
Utility Assistance

Neighborhood Activities
Garden Seeds
Rental Assistance

Emergency Transportation
Summer Cooling

Rx Oklahoma
Senior Activities

Youth Programs
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)



Southeast Center's monthly SALT (Senior's & Law Enforcement Together) meeting!



Youth Basketball Tournament -1st place!

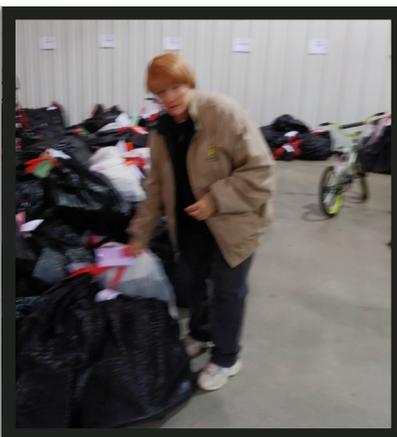


Bicycles and backpacks were donated by Amanda Zoey, Steve Schlegel and the OKC Bike Lab for Christmas.



Families in the community were given Christmas Turkey's for the Holiday!

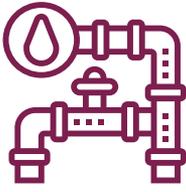
Carol Birchall is loading items to be delivered to clients through the Blessing Baskets Christmas Program. Blessing Baskets (nonprofit partner organization) provides Christmas for over 700 families each year. This delivery is targeted for clients who do not have transportation and/or the elderly.



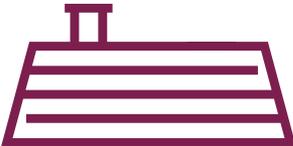
14 By The Numbers



94
Emergency
Repairs



22
Emergency
Plumbing

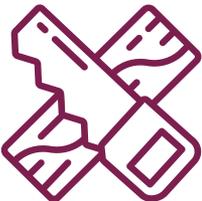
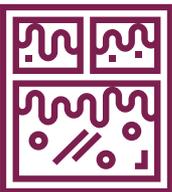


27 Roof
Replacements

21
Central Heat
units installed



78
Homes
received
weatherization

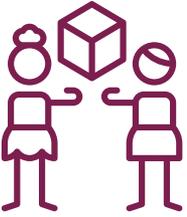


20
Emergency
Carpentry



317
Individuals
received free
legal assistance

By the Numbers 15



1,333

Children's Physicals



1,264

Children's Dental exams



1,458

Children's Vision Screens



1,484

Children's Hearing Screens



1,718

Head Start enrolled children



109

Early Head Start enrolled children

16 By The Numbers



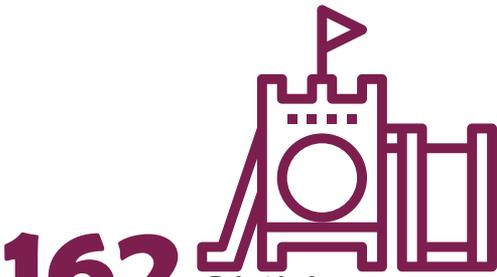
1,466

Households received free tax return preparation assistance



92

Head Start classrooms provided education



162 Children were provided with daycare



35

Completed the IDA Program



280 Individuals were provided Financial Education Training



28

Individuals opened an IDA

By the Numbers 17

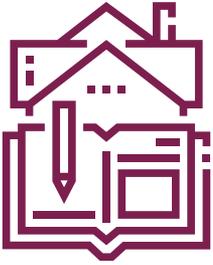
21 

IDA participants
purchased a home
with savings

1,086



Families received
emergency food
assistance



216

Individuals
completed the
Home Buyers
workshop



28



Households
were provided
down payment
and closing cost
assistance

\$386,231.94

Was provided in down payment
and closing cost assistance

Maintenance



The Agency performs maintenance at all of our Head Start Centers, three outreach centers and the Central Office. Our maintenance staff includes field staff, in-house staff, contract heat and air, plumbing and electrical services.



Rx for Oklahoma “Lifesaver”



Five years ago, Vernon was struggling with diabetes and high blood pressure and had no health insurance. He decided to go to the Open Arms Clinic in Oklahoma City to see if he could find medical assistance. At Open Arms, a blood test showed that Vernon was positive for Hepatitis C, which is a life-threatening condition. Treatment for Hepatitis C was \$1,100 per pill and he needed to take one each day for 12 weeks to beat the illness. Vernon was at a low point when he met Mayra from Rx of Oklahoma. She was able to secure his medication at no cost and he is now free of Hepatitis C and says he's feeling good. *“Mayra saved my life,”* Vernon said.

Head Start “Families & Children Our Priority!”

The Head Start program is a federally funded community-based program that focuses on children ages 3-5. The program is designed to identify and meet the individual needs of income eligible children and their families. Since parent involvement is one of the most important components for a child’s readiness for school, the Head Start program involves parents in a variety of ways to aid in the child’s development. It is a partnership with enrolled families and we work together with other programs within our Agency

The Head Start Education Program has continued to prepare children for the next level. Our graduating students are fully prepared for kindergarten and are usually at the top of their kindergarten class in behavior and academic skills.

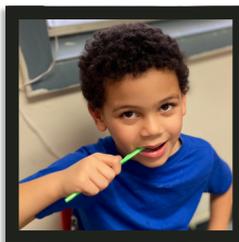
Our agency continues to use the LAP-D (Learning Accomplishment Profile Diagnostic) 3rd Edition to chart the growth of all Head Start students enrolled in our program. Mastery levels were increased in language, literacy, mathematics, science, logic, reasoning and emotional development.



CHILD HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Child Health and Safety area provides comprehensive Health Services to all preschool children enrolled in Head Start. We collaborate with parents and determine if each child has an ongoing source of continuous accessible healthcare. We assist parents in obtaining and arranging further testing, follow ups and treatment, if needed.

The Health and Safety area provides required annual training to all staff which includes Bloodborne Pathogens, Child Abuse and Neglect, Medication Administration, and Infection Control.



Nutrition Services

Through the guidance and help of the USDA CACFP (Child and Adult Food Program) we have been able to provide nutritious meals throughout the day for all enrolled children. Breakfast, snacks, and lunches are prepared daily at all our sites with kitchens. Each meal has minimum requirements to meet the guidelines set by the CACFP program.

Over the past year, we have been able to provide 98,449 breakfasts, 139,087 snacks, and 119,662 lunches. When we had to close centers due to COVID-19, families were able to pull up to their respective center and receive prepared meals for enrolled children and their siblings.





In November 2019, children and staff at Will Rogers Head Start enjoyed a fantastic Thanksgiving feast.



Amileona and Demario are reading from *Simply Phonics, Simply Reading*. They recognize numbers in and out of order up to 120. They count by 5's and 10's and have been introduced to adding and subtracting 3-digit numbers. Their parents are currently having them tested for kindergarten.



Mary Helen Nelson

SPECIAL EVENTS

Mary Helen Nelson's first field trip at the start of the school year was to the pumpkin patch. The children enjoyed a wonderful day picking pumpkins, playing on the playground and most of all riding the ponies and feeding the animals.

In the month of October, we learned all about fire safety. The fire department was invited out to teach the children some important safety tips and learn all about the fire truck. As you see the children enjoyed being on the fire truck.

In December, Christmas is an exciting time for the children. Elsa and Iron Man surprised the children when they arrived at the Christmas party with gifts for all. It was an explosion of excitement for the children.

In February, the children dressed up in their best attire to attend the annual Valentine's Day party. There was plenty of good food, fun and dancing throughout the evening. Another memorable time in February was *donuts for dad*, especially when the children weren't expecting dad!





Administrative Services



The Administrative Services Division is responsible for many different tasks that enable the Agency to achieve daily goals and objectives. Administrative Services includes Human Resources, Property & Procurement, Print Shop, Program Compliance, Mailroom and the Receptionist. 7 employees keep the wheels turning for Administrative Services!



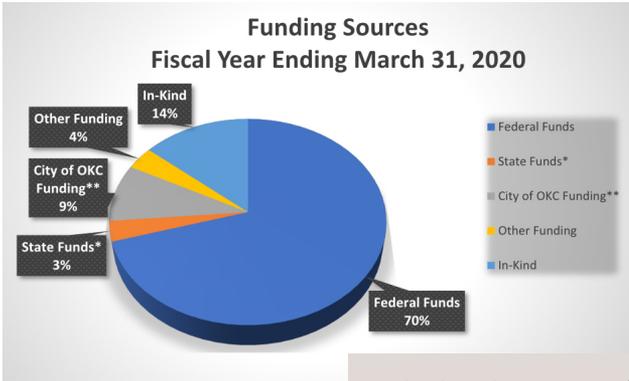
Fiscal Services Division

The Fiscal Services Division ensures that the Agency's \$23 million budget is spent in accordance with federal, state, and local grant guidelines. They work closely with all Agency divisions to develop and monitor budgets for Agency programs. Monthly program financial statements are prepared and reviewed by the Executive Director and Agency division directors.



\$11,034,453 total payroll (April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020)
\$2,474,621 was spent on goods and services
\$213,436 city/state taxes were paid
\$23,562,844 agency budget for 2019 - 2020

Funding Sources

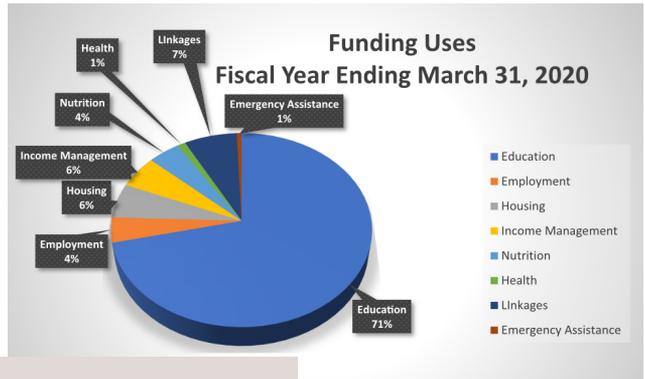


Federal Funds	\$16,602,050.00
State Funds*	\$748,782.00
City of OKC Funding**	\$2,117,721.00
Other Funding	\$836,733.00
In-Kind	\$3,257,558.00

**Includes federal pass-through funds*

***Includes federal and state pass-through funds*

Funding Uses



Education	\$16,822,913
Employment	\$983,394
Housing	\$1,352,039
Income Management	\$1,271,784
Nutrition	\$1,011,095
Health	\$277,520
Linkages	\$1,685,393
Emergency Assistance	\$158,706

Community Action Agency

Board of Directors

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OKC Fire Department

David Martin

Metro Tech Vo-Tech

Kristie McKinney

S. OKC Chamber of Commerce

Anika Wilson

OKC Public Schools

Tena Slaughter

O.G. & E.

Roy Gordon

AFL-CIO Labor Council

Sarah Roberts

Inasmuch Foundation

Greg Gardner

O.C.C.C.

Tracee Cole

O.N.G.

Angela Harris

Dept. of Veteran's Affairs

Nadine Gallagher

Crooked Oak Public Schools

LOW-INCOME REPRESENTATIVES

Nikki Pruitt

Canadian County Area

Earnest Ware

City-County Area

Harold Orange

City-County Area

Dorothy Harding

Northeast Area

Vera Ford

Northeast Area

Alfreda Hibbard

Northwest Area

Vacant

Northwest Area

Craig McCormick

Northwest Area

Buford Craddock

Southeast Area

Lewis Nieman

Southeast Area

Larene Sherwood

Southwest Area

Maira Mata

Southwest Area

Mary Sosa

Southwest Area

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OKC Police Department

Sean Webster

Coun. Cooper #2

Santos Hernandez

Coun. Stone #4

Mike Eaton

Coun. Greenwell #5

John Mesa

Mayor of OKC

David Harman

Canadian County Comm.

Brenda Johnston

Coun. McAtee #3

Kim Lopez

Oklahoma County Sheriff Dept.

Carole Brown

Coun. Nice #7

Kenneth Couchman

Coun. Greiner #1

Caitlin Redding Taylor

Coun. Hamon #6

