Facts About Children in Foster Care in Oklahoma

Total Population: 11,957 children were in the foster care system in Oklahoma on September 30, 2006. Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

Age: Average Age: 8.1 years
- 5% < 1 year
- 39% 1-5 years
- 25% 6-10 years
- 20% 11-15 years
- 11% 16-18 years
- 0% > 19 years

Gender: Male: 50%  Female: 50%

Race and Ethnicity: 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>In out-of-home care</th>
<th>In state child population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black (non-Hispanic)</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White (non-Hispanic)</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Am. Indian/Alaska Native (non-Hispanic)</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Pacific Islander (non-Hispanic)</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 or More Races (non-Hispanic)</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Length of Stay: The average length of stay for children in care on September 30, 2006 was 20.7 months.

Reunified: 62% of the young people leaving the system in FY 2006 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers.

Foster Homes: In 2006, there were a total of 1,770 licensed non-relative foster homes in Oklahoma. There were 54% of youth living in out-of-home care residing with kin.

Adoption: Of children with state agency involvement adopted in FY 2006, 31% were adopted by their non-relative foster parents and 49% were adopted by relatives.

To find out how to become a foster parent in Oklahoma, please call 800-376-9729 or visit: http://www.okdhs.org/fostercare/

To learn about foster parenting, please call the National Foster Parent Association at 1-800-557-5238 or visit www.nfpainc.org

Sources:

1 Oklahoma KIDS (Children’s Information and Data System) report Time in OOHC, September 2006
3 Oklahoma KIDS (Children’s Information and Data System) Resource Database
4 Oklahoma Adoption Database