

## **Oklahoma HTI Partnerships and Collaboration: Strengthening Custody and Transition Services Advisory Committee and Weaving Access for All**

In the summer of 2012, the Oklahoma Transition Workgroup (Advisory Group for the OHTI) completed a merger with the Strengthening Custody and Transition Services Advisory committee. The Strengthening Custody and Transition Services Advisory committee reports directly to the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth (OCCY) state level commission. The mission of the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth is to improve services to children and youth by: planning, coordinating, monitoring and communicating system and policy changes. As a state appropriated agency, OCCY's commission is state mandated and every child serving agency commissioner or executive director must attend the quarterly meetings. In accordance with the Strengthening Custody and Transition Services Committee; the systemic issues work group was created to address systemic transition challenges. The systemic issues group is currently conducting key informant interviews with stakeholders and policy makers in four strategic areas:

1. Judicial/Transition Planning
2. Employment
3. Education
4. Housing

The Oklahoma Healthy Transition Initiative is effectively collaborating internally with the Weaving Access for All. Oklahoma's Weaving Access for All (Wafa) initiative will weave the values and principles of the state's successful trauma-informed Oklahoma Systems of Care throughout the foster care system, create a front-door diversion project for the juvenile justice system, and become the cornerstone of the planned health homes for children with serious emotional disturbance. The Wafa is building on the work of the Oklahoma's Healthy Transition Initiative (OHTI) and pursuing partnerships for investing in young people with SED who are transitioning to adulthood. The Wafa/OHTI is improving the transition to adulthood by ensuring transitional services are trauma-informed and holistic. Currently the collaborative initiative is staffing individual case plans with child welfare workers; and helping implement the juvenile justice diversion project.