



LITTLE DIXIE

Community Action Agency, Inc.



COMMUNITY ACTION In Action

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



MISSION:

“Helping People; Changing Lives”



VISION:

“To Free Generations of People from Poverty”

LITTLE DIXIE

Executive Director Rebecca Reynolds

Little Dixie Community Action Agency is committed to helping our communities grow and prosper. Year after year, local schools, churches, government organizations, volunteers and staff work to eradicate poverty and improve the lives of those we serve in the tri-county area. We all know that the success of our organization changes lives; it is the work of those who work in our communities to hope, to be optimistic, and to build a better, safer, fairer, more positive future for generations to come. It is through the perspective of servant leadership on behalf of Little Dixie Community Action Agency that I present the 2015 Annual Report.



In 2015, through the hard work and dedication of many we continued to positively affect the lives of those we serve. Over the past 48 years Little Dixie has evolved into an organization that serves the lifespan of those who live in our tri-county area. Early childhood programs, substance abuse prevention programs, community coalitions, housing programs, economic opportunity programs and essential assistance programs have served thousands with supplemental education, food, housing and transportation.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our community partners both locally and nationally. I want to thank our Board of Directors for providing guidance and who represent their communities so faithfully. In addition, I want to thank those volunteers whose passion for community service helps to sustain our community action agency. I also want to recognize Little Dixie staff for consistently carrying out the goals and objectives of Little Dixie Community Action Agency and giving much of their free time serving above and beyond their job requirements.

I look forward to 2016 with optimism and confidence in the people who make up Little Dixie Community Action Agency.

*Thank you,
Rebecca Reynolds*

Board Chairman Brent Franks

I want to begin by thanking all of you who make up Little Dixie Community Action Agency. Your voice is much-needed in our ongoing dialogue with the agency's service population and the community leaders in our tri-county area. Your efforts ensure the agency's work to eradicate poverty and better the lives of our neighbors and improve the economic viability of our towns and reflect a clear understanding of the issues and concerns we face each year.



I have been engaged in public service throughout my lifetime. I believe as board members we must continually strive to ensure that Little Dixie remains a vital institution for positive change as it is known for today. The decisions we reach as board members not only affected 2015's community partners and clients, but tomorrows as well. I continue to believe that addressing the needs of our communities is essential to improving and sustaining a quality of life in this area we call home.

The organizations willingness to engage from every angle and to take head-on some of the more complicated and challenging areas is what makes Little Dixie an effective agent for positive change. At a time when our area schools, health care facilities and social programs face many obstacles at an unprecedented pace, the tenacity with which we do our life's mission provides a net of hope and continuity.

As we continue to face obstacles and provide services in 2016 we should look back at 2015 with pride in a job well done knowing that we continue to help people help themselves. I want to thank all who have given their time to improve the lives of those we serve.

*Brent Franks,
Board Chair*

Highlights & Accomplishments

AmeriCorps: 54 AmeriCorps members worked within 2 school years to serve 500 plus Head Start & Early Head Start children to complete the goals within their Individual Development Plans during the school year.

Business Loan Program: Four new business loans were made and 70 loan clients were counseled and assisted through the Business Loan Program.

Child and Adult Food Care Program: CACFP served 163 Daycare Home providers in 38 counties serving approximately 3200 children.

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA): 113 youth were served by 36 volunteers who contributed 1548 volunteer hours in service to youth in the court system.

Drug Free Communities Program: Over 300 volunteers indirectly assisted approximately 2,000 people through school presentations, information dispersal through community groups and area pharmacies, drug take-back events (in which 15 pounds of medication was collected) and at other community events, such as the Back to School Science Fair and Ansley Park Restoration Project.

Early Head Start: Eighty-six infants & toddlers received services through three Early Head Start centers.

Early Head Start/Child Care Partnership/Early Learning Centers: Through partnerships formed with four child care providers via the EHS-CC program, a total of 83 infants and toddlers received childcare services. In addition, the Broken Bow Early Learning Center has served 111 children through regular child care.

Emergency Assistance: Through funding received from the Emergency Food and Shelter Program and local donations to the Little Dixie Emergency Fund and through the Salvation Army Bell ringing, a total of 103 families received much needed emergency assistance.

Family and Youth Initiative: 30 youth and their families received services to help counteract delinquency. 10 volunteers assisted with activities contributing a total of 125 hours.

Head Start: A total of 571 children were provided Head Start services in 29 classrooms.

Healthy Start: During the 2015 calendar year, Healthy Start served 528 total participants and 254 pregnant women within the tri - county area.

Homebuyer Education/Financial Counseling: Little Dixie provided housing counseling, financial fitness, budgeting and/or credit counseling services to over 200 families in 2015. An additional 84 customers received counseling over Home Equity Conversion Mortgages.

Intermediary Program: Little Dixie Community Action Agency, Inc. was

designated by the Rural Housing Services division of USDA/Rural development as an Intermediary assisting certified loan packagers in Kansas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Nebraska and Oklahoma.

Multi-Family Housing: Little Dixie Multi-Family housing served 36 senior residents, 101 families and 73 residents in the tri-county area in 2015.

Navigator Program: 1325 individuals were assisted directly with shopping for a qualified health plan through the Oklahoma Community Action Agency Navigator Consortium. Within the agency's tri-county area, a total of 162 individuals obtained health care coverage. An estimated 500,000 individuals were reached through program marketing and promotion activities.

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP): 392 volunteers (ages 55 and over) provided 83,245 hours of service to their communities at 59 volunteer stations which equated to a dollar value of \$1,785,605.25.

Rural Health Network of Oklahoma: Membership in the network increased almost fourfold, and provided members service savings of over \$200,000.

Rx for Oklahoma: In 2015 we assisted more than 61 individuals in getting their prescriptions for free or a reduced cost at a savings of over \$125,579.

Self Help Housing: 31 Single family homes were built for low-income families in the eight Southeast Oklahoma counties serviced through the program.

Smart Start Tri-County: 1,436 children, within 36 Head Start classrooms, 13 Pre-K classrooms, and 19 day care centers and homes were served by Smart Start Tri-County in 2015.

State Parks: More than 200,000 people visited one or more of the four State Parks operated by LDCAA during 2015. These include: Clayton Lake State Park, Group Camps (located within Beavers Bend State Park), Hugo Lake State Park and Raymond Gary State Park.

Technical and Management Assistance Program: This year T&MA staff monitored 21 organizations, 23 grants and 502 construction accounts.

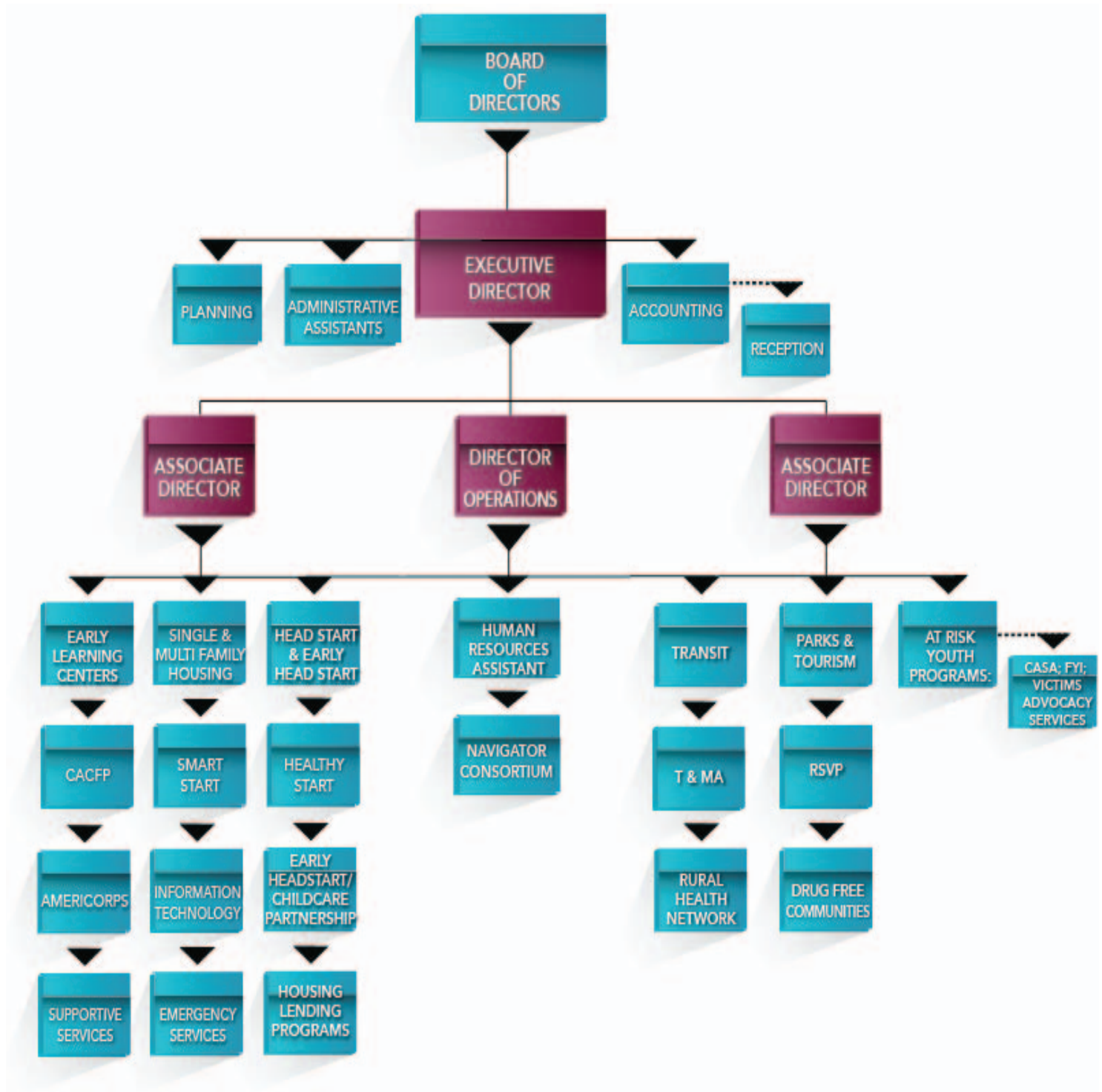
Transit: 1,031,867 miles were driven accounting for 135,177 passenger trips provided by a fleet of 61 vehicles. The program served 14,180 elderly clients and provided 18,760 trips for passengers with disabilities.

Victims Advocacy Services: This new program began on July 1, 2015 with the goal to provide support services for victims of crime. Fifty-one victims had received services as of December 31, 2015.

Weatherization: Twenty-six families received home weatherization services to reduce energy consumption making their homes more energy efficient and affordable.

LITTLE DIXIE

Organizational Chart



LITTLE DIXIE

Board of Directors



Brent Franks
Chairman



David Rawls
Vice-Chairman



Andrea Henkel
Sec./Treas.



Kenneth Blan



Jimmy Brandon



Mike Brittingham



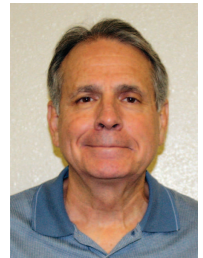
Leeoma Caldwell



Kevin Cory



Melissa Cress



Chuck Darby



Leona Edwards



Trilla Frazier



Jim Freeny



Walt Frey



Angelle Guffey



Randy Hammons



David Hawkins



Sarah Hicks



Sandra Meeks



Michael Melton



Dwight Satterfield



David Smith



Mary Smith



Will Smith



Dan Stiles



Tina Foshee Thomas



Harolynn Wofford



Vicky Wade

Head Start, Early Head Start, and Early Head Start-Child Care

Little Dixie Community Action Agency receives funding through the Department of Health & Human Services, Oklahoma Early Childhood Program, and State Appropriated Funding. Little Dixie operates on the belief that early childhood education is one of the most important service areas within Choctaw, McCurtain and Pushmataha counties. It is the intent to provide a solid foundation for success by looking holistically at all aspects of each and every child's life. Approaching all aspects of a child's life provides them with a solid foundation from which they will flourish in both the classroom and life. This is achieved by bringing children ages birth through 4 years into an environment enriched with experiences that encourage development in all major domains of early childhood education.

Head Start serves three and four year old children within twenty-nine classroom sites. Early Head Start serves children six weeks to thirty-six months within three Early Head Start centers. Early Head Start-Child Care serves children birth to thirty-six months in eight child care collaborations. All locations are within Choctaw, Pushmataha, and McCurtain Counties.

Additionally, collaboration agreements are in place with numerous Local Education Agencies in the tri-county service area to provide Pre-K programs. Head Start/Early Head Start has been in operation for forty plus years. The

Early Head Start-Child Care program was implemented in 2015. Through collaborations with local child care centers, this program enhances the environment by training staff, equipping classrooms with the latest in child development materials, and providing a more individualized approach. Thousands of children have been served collectively by these programs since their inception. The programs employee approximately one-hundred and twenty-five staff members annually, thereby providing many jobs for area residents. The Early Head Start-Child Care program has implemented a reimbursement system that allows employers to raise thirty-three teachers' wages within the collaborating child care centers.



Head Start/Early Head Start: The project described was supported by Grant Number 06CH7099 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Administration for Children and Families or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership: The project described was supported by Grant Number 06HP0017 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Administration for Children and Families or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This report has been prepared in order to comply with the Head Start Reauthorization Act of 2007.

Total Children Served

Head Start	571
Early Head Start.....	86
Early Head Start-CC.....	83

Total Families Served:

Head Start	534
Early Head Start.....	81
Early Head Start-CC.....	68

Funded Enrollment:

Head Start	429
Early Head Start.....	48
Early Head Start-CC.....	132

Average Monthly Enrollment:

Head Start	100%*
Early Head Start.....	100%*
Early Head Start-CC.....	88%**

Percent of Eligible Children Served:

Head Start	35%***
Early Head Start.....	4%***
Early Head Start-CC.....	4%***

Average Monthly Attendance:

Head Start	88%
Early Head Start.....	87%
Early Head Start-CC.....	86%

* As a % of funded enrollment.

** As a % of funded enrollment slots that were operational during the year of 2015.

*** Of the total children eligible for services in the tri-county area.

Mission, Vision and Values

Mission:

- Embracing individuals
- Providing life changing education and resources
- Exceeding expectations

Vision:

Little Dixie Head Start/Early Head Start/Early Head Start-Child Care is a family where everyone is inspired, empowered, and educated to reach their full potential.

Values:

- **Integrity:** Being Trustworthy and Reliable
- **Empathy:** Relating to someone's feelings or situations
- **Perseverance:** Striving to reach the goals no matter what the barriers
- **Humor:** Being able to see the wit and fun in all situations
- **Respect:** Valuing others ideas, opinions and input
- **Diversity:** Being able to adapt and serve all
- **Professionalism:** Conducting oneself in such a way that others respond in a positive manner
- **Loyalty:** Having a deeply rooted commitment or devotion to something
- **Passionate:** Going above and beyond ones daily responsibilities

School Readiness - Preparing Children for Kindergarten

Childhood is a time for children to grow and develop at their own pace. Individual growth is essential for school readiness which simply means possessing the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for success in school and for later learning in life. Teachers work with children and their families to achieve a positive school experience.

The Early Head Start and Early Head Start-Child Care programs prepare infants and toddlers for Head Start. Using Creative Curriculum, teachers and staff establish a daily routine, offer appropriate material, foster secure attachments and interactions with peers for social-emotional development, support cognition, and enhance physical development.

Parents and children are invited to tour the centers, meet the staff, and become familiar with the classrooms. Orientation is held before children attend the first day of school. Rules and expectations are discussed and parents can ask any questions concerning the program.

Individualization for all children begins during the enrollment process. Parents use their knowledge to complete the "Tell About Your Child" screening and "Ages & Stages Questionnaires." Parents and teachers develop Individual Development Plans to strengthen areas needing improvement. Teachers document observations in the Teaching Strategies GOLD online assessment which is aligned with thirty eight objectives for development and learning. Objectives include physical, social-emotional, cognitive, approaches to learning, literacy, and language domains. Teachers use these objectives to individualize and track children's progress. Creative Curriculum is implemented in each classroom, with Frog Street and Break Through to Literacy as supplemental resources. All curricula are aligned with the Head Start

Development and Early Learning Framework, Oklahoma Guidelines, OK/DHS Early Learning Guidelines for Children and Teaching Strategies GOLD. Creative Curriculum's online assessment, Teaching Strategies GOLD, promotes positive child outcomes for all children. Teachers use information from TSGOLD to explain children's developmental progress during Parent Teacher Conferences and Home Visits. Teachers communicate daily with parents as they arrive and depart.

Each program utilizes the CLASS (Classroom Assessment Scoring System). It is a valuable observation tool that gives feedback on the interactions between the teaching staff and children. The assessment is divided into three domains: Emotional Support, Classroom Organization, and Instructional Support. This assessment is based on developmental theory and research suggesting that interactions between students and adults are the primary mechanism of student development and learning. Teachers can enhance their classroom skills using feedback from the CLASS observation.

Throughout the time a child is in the program, goals are monitored and updated to ensure that the child meets school readiness standards.



A student in the Hugo 2 Head Start works on her writing skills.

Preparing Children for Kindergarten continued

Children begin the transition from Early Head Start and Early Head Start-Child Care into Head Start six months prior to their 3rd birthday. A smooth transition includes conferences between parents and staff. Family advocates assist the families with providing pertinent information for the next placement. It can also include visits to a 3 year old classroom which will ready the child for a larger and more advanced classroom experience.

As children progress through the Early Head Start, Early Head Start-Child Care, and Head Start classrooms, data and classroom observations are gathered on the strengths and weaknesses of each child. As goals are met, new developmental and cognitive goals are made. Parents and teachers discuss developmental gains. If concerns are noted, consent for referral is made for further evaluation to determine if the child is eligible for special services. Early Head Start and Early Head Start-Child Care children are referred to Sooner Start, an early intervention program. Head Start children are referred to the local school district in which they reside. If developmental delays are found, a plan is written to provide appropriate services for individualization for the child to improve in the area of developmental delay.

Children in Head Start visit the Pre-K or Kindergarten program in their local school district. The Pre-K or Kindergarten teachers may come to the children's classrooms to visit with children and families. To promote the continued involvement of parent's in the education of their children, a meeting will be held that focuses on parent involvement activities in the elementary schools. Parents receive home packets which focus on transition to prepare children for the next year. Family advocates also assist families in providing appropriate records to the elementary school.

Parent Involvement Activities

Parent engagement within the program is a vital component of school readiness. Little Dixie continued to incorporate adult/child family literacy activities into the Head Start, Early Head Start, and Early Head Start Childcare Center programs. The Raising a Reader red book bag program, continues to thrive as an amazing tool for promoting early literacy as well as family engagement.

Each of our centers continued to experience a steady response to the Fatherhood Initiative program where each month, time is set aside for fathers and father figures to attend Dad's day activities with their children.

A total of **113** Dads attended Dad's Day in September alone to help construct a pirate ship and pirate hats from cardboard and participate in a fun-filled treasure hunt, creating memorable learning experiences for each participant.

Families interacted in center parent committee meetings and Policy Council meetings increasing their skills as community advocates and parents.

Parents with concerns about their children's growth and development are linked to appropriate services. Early Head Start has

a long standing partnership with the Part C provider, Sooner Start, who provides diagnostic services, evaluation services, case management nutrition services, occupational services, physical and speech language therapy services for children birth to three years of age. Head Start staff screen all children for vision, hearing, developmental areas and speech. Referrals are made to the public school district in which the child resides as appropriate.

A mental health provider was on contract for classroom observations and to provide suggestions and resources for staff and family members to use at school and home.

138 parents attended the Head Start-sponsored financial literacy training conducted by OSU Extension Family and Consumer Science teachers.

509 families completed partnership agreement goals, **411** of those families were from Head Start, **45** from Early Head Start, and **53** from Early Head Start Childcare Centers.



Antlers Head Start students conduct a balloon release project.

Health/Safety/Disabilities/Mental Health

Safe Environments along with the children's health are at the forefront when creating the ultimate learning environment for children to excel. Staff worked diligently to ensure all centers are up to date and certified in all pertinent areas of health and safety. All staff were trained in First Aid, CPR and evacuation procedures. Children experienced visits from the local police, fire, and local electric cooperatives for safety lessons. Active shooter courses were attended which helped in developing plans for safe evacuation and safety for the children and being at the top of the game in emergency responding. Many of the parents have attended trainings and are encouraged to extend these practices within their homes.

Collaborating with the Oklahoma State Health Department has helped obtain a 100% immunization rate within all of the Early Head Start Programs. Annually they monitor a selected area and review all immunization records for the students. Head Start has a 98

percent success rate including the four year immunizations for all the children who are ready to go on to Kindergarten.

All children are screened and referred, as appropriate, in various capacities while enrolled in the programs. These screenings include developmental, speech, vision, hearing, health and dental exams. If screenings indicate further assistance is needed to assist the child and family, then the appropriate referral process is followed to ensure every child receives all available services and resources. Head Start was proud to have accomplished a success rate of 98% of children receiving physicals and 99% receiving dental exams. Early Head Start and Early Head Start-Child Care had an amazing success rate of 100% of children receiving well child exams. In excess of eighty children utilized additional resources by being identified as needing an IEP, which provides individualized support to children who qualify.

Nutrition

Little Dixie Head Start/Early Head Start is committed to providing healthy meals and special dietary services to children, parents, and staff. In 2015, dietary modifications, including lactose intolerance and other food allergies, were addressed for 19 children with special dietary needs. Menus were also adjusted to meet these individual dietary needs. Little Dixie Head Start/Early Head Start has a partnership agreement with a Registered Dietician who provides information and training for any parent, child and/or staff member that requests further information on their diagnosis. Children's height and weight are obtained each semester. This index, as set by Center for Disease Control, screened for underweight and normal weight and at risk for being overweight. The results of these screenings were shared with parents each semester. Parents who had concerns were provided guidance to consult their child's physician and/or Registered Dietician. In the

two at risk categories, 36 children were identified as underweight and 140 were identified as overweight. The total of underweight and overweight children has improved by almost 10% in each category.

Little Dixie Early Head Start Child Care provided nutrition education to staff within new sites in 2015. Staff members became familiar with the Early Head Start Child Care Standards. Nutrition education included family style meal patterns, cycle menus, infant daily reports, food handlers' permit, safety and sanitation measures, infant meal patterns, feeding methods, etc.

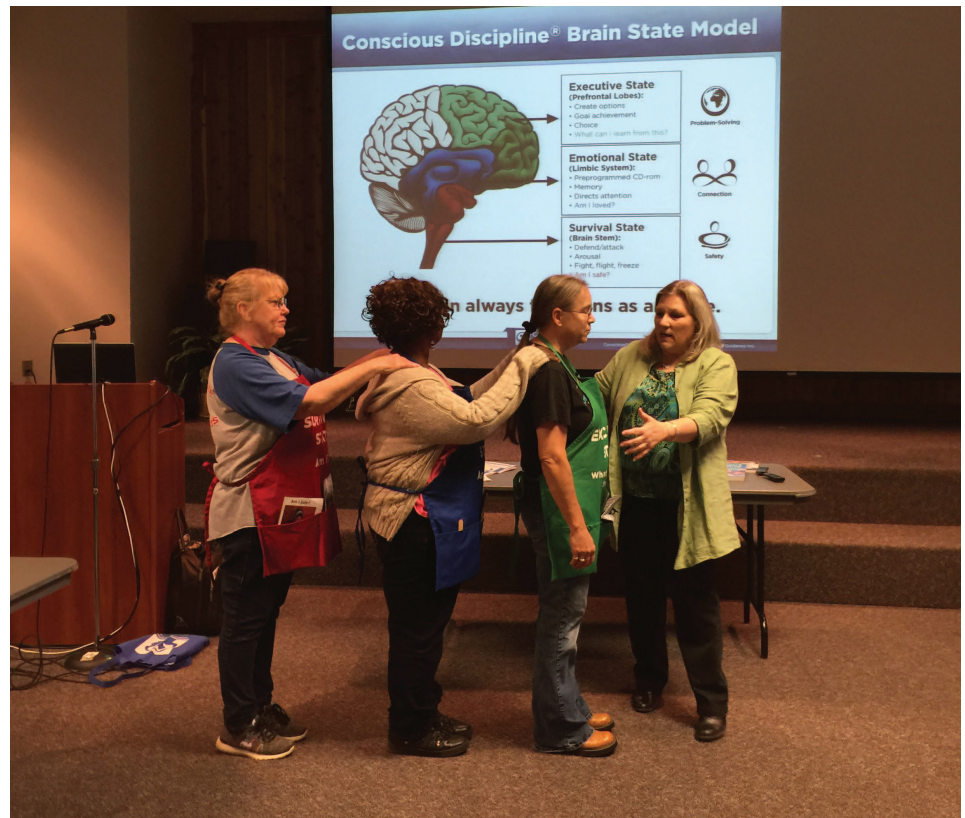


Professional Development

Head Start, Early head Start, and Early Head Start-Child Care strive to enhance both children's and staff's education. Many of the staff members were able to accomplish their educational goals. One of the Head Start teachers was awarded her teaching certification with an early childhood endorsement, two Early Head Start Caregivers earned their CDA (Child Development Associate), and one teacher assistant earned her certificate in mastery, while continuing towards her associate degree in Child Development. The Early Head Start-Child Care staff continue to work on completion of their CDA requirements. Many of the teaching staff that were employed with the new child care program were already certified with the credentials needed.

Family advocates in Head Start, along with the members of the management team worked in renewing their CLASS (Classroom Assessment Scoring System) reliability certifications. This certification enables staff members to conduct CLASS observations in the Head Start classrooms to ensure the effectiveness of the classroom interactions. This year's focus was gravitated toward preparations for the 2016 Federal CLASS monitoring review of the Head Start classrooms. Professional Development opportunities were offered at various times throughout the year; Head Start Teachers and Teacher Assistants along with Early Head Start staff were provided round table trainings. Annual in-service trainings were held in February, May and October, while preservice took place in July.

We appreciate all the hard work of the teaching staff in preparing for federal reviews, achieving their educational goals and continuing to better themselves and the lives of Head Start, Early Head Start, and Early Head Start Child Care children.



Monitoring Reviews

The Office of Head Start uses the Aligned Monitoring System to assess all grantees. This system was implemented to give OHS a multi-year perspective on the performance exhibited by programs. The process correlates with the newly designated 5 year grant cycles. Having an outstanding history of compliance, Head Start and Early Head Start were assigned to the Differential Monitoring Process in 2014 having passed the Head Start Key Indicator Compliance Review.

In 2015 the next phase of reviews were conducted by the Office of Head Start for Head Start and Early Head Start. This included the Environmental Health & Safety review, which includes a thorough look at safe & clean environments, safe & sanitary practices, staffing & supervision, and safe

transportation. This process will continue into the year 2016 with the Early Head Start Comprehensive School Readiness Review, and Head Start CLASS Monitoring Review.

The Early Head Start-Child Care program experienced a baseline assessment conducted by the assigned Office of Head Start Regional Specialist. The Regional Specialist conducted observations in each of the operational Early Head Start-Child Care partner sites. The classrooms were assessed to measure the level of compliance during the startup phase of the new partnerships.

All reviews were deemed a success during the 2015 year and zero areas of concern were reported.

Explanation of Budgetary Expenditures

Personnel

This line item budget is associated with the salaries of Center Staff and Management Team.

Fringe Benefits

This line item budget is the fringe benefits provided for full and part time employees. The fringe benefits included in this line item are: FICA, OES, Retirement, Worker's Compensation, Termination Leave, Health and Life Insurance. Part time employees are not eligible for all benefits.

Travel (Out of Town)

This line item is for staff to attend out of town state, regional and/or national conferences.

Supplies

This line item includes office supplies, child and family services supplies including consumable and non-consumable supplies.

Contractual

This line item will pay for services to support children with disabilities including but not limited to mental health visits to centers for observations and guidance and consultation services; a transportation contract with Little Dixie Transit and/or public schools for transportation services for children to the classroom; child tracking and assessment software to track required data and recording of child observations and progress; a contract with Kellogg & Sovereign Consulting, LLC which specializes in the application for E-Rate funds to support technology services and partner child care center reimbursements.

Other

The line item includes rent, utilities, telephone, building and child liability

insurance, building maintenance and repairs, local travel, nutrition services including snack on demand, medical and dental screenings, mental health consultant services, disability equipment and materials, parent services, publications, advertising and printing, training and staff development, inspection fees and membership dues, classroom teaching materials and supplies, vehicle insurance, enrollment promotion, transition, food for training sessions, ITERS-R/ECERS-R, ASQ/ASQ-SE, disability services, appraisals, maintenance and gas.

T/TA & CDA

These funds will be used to offset the cost of college tuition, books and travel for staff that receive federal and/or state financial aid. Also these funds will pay for college tuition, books and travel for staff not qualifying for federal or state financial aid, and for trainings, conferences and In-Service.

Indirect Cost

The indirect cost is the result of a negotiated contract between Little Dixie Community Action Agency, Inc. and the Department of Health and Human Services.



Local Hugo Fire Department visited the Hugo Early Head Start so the children will understand fire safety.

Early Head Start-Child Care Proposed Budget

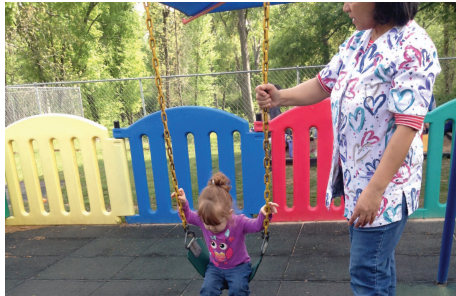
Staff Salaries	\$393,080
Fringe Benefits	\$123,424
Indirect Cost.....	\$89,622
Staff Local Travel	\$24,650
Staff/Partners Out of Area Travel....	\$30,218
Regular Contractual	\$7,283
Provider Reimbursements	\$928,000
Medical/Dental Screenings	\$1,375
Parent Services	\$6,480
Utilities.....	\$1,229
Child/Family Supplies.....	\$55,200
Staff Office Supplies	\$7,500
ITERS-R/ECERS-R-ASQ/ASQ-SE	\$630
Nutrition Services	\$2,803
Dues/Appraisals	\$1,720
Equipment Repair &/Maintenance ..	\$10,612
Enrollment Promotion	\$2,500
Publications/Printing/Postage	\$3,500
Building Insurance	\$465
Telephone.....	\$3,840
Transition	\$2,500
Disabilities Supplies	\$16,900
Disabilities Services	\$1,000
Total Operating Budget	\$1,714,531
T&TA/CDA.....	\$42,863
Total Federal Budget.....	\$1,757,394

Early Head Start Proposed Budget

Admin. Salaries	\$25,137
Admin. Fringe	\$8,760
Admin. Local Travel	\$1,027
Admin. Out of Area Travel	\$779
Admin. Office Supplies	\$2,000
Staff Salaries	\$367,386
Fringe Benefits	\$141,046
Indirect Cost	\$65,500
Staff Local Travel	\$3,800
Staff Out of Area Travel	\$3,118
Parent Services/Fatherhood	\$5,000
Contractual Services-Mental Health Assessment	\$5,000
Medical/Dental Screenings	\$5,760
Utilities	\$21,000
Consumable/Non Consumable Supplies	\$32,495
Medical/Dental Supplies	\$2,268
Kitchens/Buildings/Grounds	\$17,500
Fees/Dues/Maintenance/Gas/Snack on Demand	\$18,140
Building/Child Liability Insurance	\$8,323
Nutrition Services	\$24,000
Telephone	\$14,000
Publications/Postage/Advertising/Printing	\$2,500
Transition	\$960
Disabilities Wages	\$4,315
Disabilities Local Travel	\$308
Disabilities Out of Area Travel	\$779
Disabilities Supplies	\$1,280
Total Operating Budget	\$782,181
T&TA/CDA	\$19,304
Total Federal Budget	\$801,485



Dads help to create a pirate ship during a Dad's Day event.



Antlers Early Head Start toddler enjoys outdoor time with her teacher.



An Early Head Start student enjoying time on the baby friendly playground.

Head Start Proposed Budget

Admin. Salaries	\$35,619	Fees/Dues/Maintenance and Vehicle Exp	\$3,001
Admin. Fringe	\$12,413	Kitchens/Buildings/Grounds	\$21,589
Admin. Local Travel	\$789	Building/Child Liability Insurance	\$23,500
Admin. Out of Area Travel	\$1,000	Nutrition Services	\$28,000
Admin. Office Supplies	\$3,126	Telephone	\$10,000
Staff Salaries	\$1,347,085	Publications/Postage/Advertising/Printing	\$2,500
Fringe Benefits	\$523,567	Transition	\$1,801
Indirect Cost	\$330,817	Disabilities Wages	\$37,112
Staff Local Travel	\$12,629	Disabilities Local Travel	\$1,579
Staff Out of Area Travel	\$3,499	Disabilities Out of Area Travel	\$500
Parent Services/Fatherhood	\$3,500	Disabilities Supplies	\$2,550
Contractual Services	\$28,000	Disabilities Services	\$2,500
Child Transportation	\$30,300	Total Operating Budget	\$2,523,629
Utilities	\$30,000	T&TA/CDA	\$39,956
Classroom Teaching Materials	\$7,203	Total Federal Budget	\$2,563,585
Consumable/Non Consumable Supplies	\$17,450		
Training/Staff Development	\$2,000		

Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets Head Start and Child Care

For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

	221	222	321	322	460	
	Head Start	Head Start	Early	Early	EHS CC	
	06CH7099/02	06CH7099/03	Head Start	Head Start	15-16	
	06CH7099/02	06CH7099/03	06CH7099/02	06CH7009/03	06HP0017/01	Total
REVENUES						
Contributions	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Rental	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Grants and Loans	2,372,998	286,404	763,468	35,191	547,574	4,005,635
State Grants	0	0	0	0	0	0
Program Fees and Contracts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Recoveries from Programs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0	0
Match Revenues	934,669	57,856	162,052	6,553	128,531	1,289,661
Interest and Dividends	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Revenues	3,307,667	344,260	925,520	41,744	676,105	5,295,296
EXPENSES						
Salaries and Wages	1,240,496	104,266	376,634	39,677	191,620	1,952,693
Fringe Benefits	402,481	32,485	117,732	11,749	60,250	624,697
Indirect Costs	219,761	23,256	85,821	9,046	43,689	381,573
Stipends	0	0	0	0	0	0
Consultant/Contractual	8,465	240	(1,942)	0	244,410	251,173
Travel and Transportation	60,506	5,681	4,640	422	11,041	82,290
Space Cost	115,267	1,899	34,402	250	0	151,818
Telephone and Utilities	41,310	3,618	21,791	1,605	3,464	71,788
Rehabilitation/Renovation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Postage	1,273	62	299	13	0	1,647
Supplies	78,231	1,453	46,251	803	230,178	356,916
Food	0	0	1,032	126	153	1,311
Equipment and Facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0
Advertising/Promotion	0	0	0	0	3,514	3,514
Insurance	34,924	0	2,712	0	108	37,744
Printing and Publications	14,554	648	3,712	812	2,097	21,823
Repairs and Maintenance	(33)	0	0	0	4,333	4,300
Other	170,824	16,714	48,697	5,956	23,573	265,764
Training	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees, Licenses and Dues	15,466	469	3,942	149	2,512	22,538
Direct Services	0	0	0	0	0	0
Match Expense	934,669	57,856	162,052	6,553	128,531	1,289,661
Bad Debt Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation and Amortization	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses	3,338,194	248,647	907,775	77,161	949,473	5,521,250
Excess Revenues Over (Under) Expenses	(30,527)	95,613	17,745	(35,417)	(273,368)	(225,954)
Transfers In (Out)	84,234	7,600	0	0	0	91,834
Returned to Grantor	0	0	0	0	0	0
Amount Provided by Grantor	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capitalized Notes Receivable	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capitalized Fixed Assets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gain (Loss) on Disposition of Assets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prior Period Adjustment	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net Assets, December 31, 2014	(53,707)	0	(17,745)	0	0	(71,452)
NET ASSETS, DECEMBER 31, 2015	\$ 0	\$ 103,213	\$ 0	\$ (35,417)	\$ (273,368)	\$ (205,572)

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs

For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

Section 1 – Summary of Auditor’s Results

Financial Statements:

Type of Auditor’s Report Issued: Unmodified

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting:

Material Weakness(es) identified? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Significant deficiencies identified not considered to be material weaknesses? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Federal Awards:

Internal Control Over Major Programs:

Material weakness(es) identified? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Significant deficiencies identified not considered to be material weakness(es)? ☐ Yes ☒ None Reported

Type of auditor’s report issued on compliance for major programs: Unmodified.

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with the Uniform Guidance? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs \$750,000.

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Identification of Major Programs:

<u>CFDA #</u>	<u>PROGRAM TITLE</u>
10.420	Rural Self-Help Housing Technical Assistance
93.926	Healthy Start Initiative

Section II – Financial Statement Findings and Questioned Costs: None reported

Section III – Federal Awards Findings and Questioned Costs: None reported

In-kind Public and Private Support for HS; EHS and EHS/CC and current financial audit results

For the Period December 1, 2014 through November 30, 2015

	221 Head Start	321 Early Head Start	Total
<u>REVENUES</u>			
In-Kind	\$ 1,079,578	\$ 177,365	\$ 1,256,943
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 1,079,578	\$ 177,365	\$ 1,256,943
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
In Center Salaries	\$ 61,884	\$ 104,603	\$ 166,487
Out of Center Salaries	0	0	0
Public School Wages	0	0	0
In Center Fringe	14,220	31,675	45,895
Out of Center Fringe	0	0	0
Public School Fringe	0	4,356	4,356
Contractual	0	0	0
Pupil Transportation	757,013	0	757,013
Professional Services	19,020	1,087	20,107
Local Travel	0	3,108	3,108
Out of Area Travel	0	4,947	4,947
Space Cost/Rent	197,190	23,800	220,990
Classroom Supplies	1,071	1,073	2,144
Office/Other Supplies	0	0	0
Maintenance and Repairs	0	0	0
Printing/Copying/Books/Periodicals	0	0	0
Training	7,054	1,946	9,000
Telephone/Utilities	21,956	0	21,956
Transition Activities	170	0	170
Family Activities	0	770	770
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,079,578	\$ 177,365	\$ 1,256,943

Early Learning Centers

Name of Funders: The Early Learning Center is funded by state and tribal funds and private dollars from parents.

People Served: 125 children and their families

Program Highlights: The Early Learning Centers have employed 13 staff members and have served 125 children through regular Child Care and Early Head Start-Child Care

Staff members: 13

2015 Success Story: In 2015, ELC was awarded a Community Facilities Grant for kitchen renovations and commercial kitchen equipment greatly enhancing food services for participants.

Synopsis:

Little Dixie has been providing quality child care services through the Happy Days Child Care Center since the early 70's. In March of 2015, the Happy Days childcare site was renamed as an "Early Learning Center" to reflect the new direction of services. The Broken Bow Early Learning Center includes three different childcare components: 1) Head Start which serves three and four year old children; 2) Early Head Start/Child Care classrooms which will become operational in 2016; and 3) Broken Bow Early Learning Center with designated slots for EHS/CC eligible children.

The third component (formerly known as Happy Days) is a two-star facility (awarded by the Department of Human Services) which provides child care for children six weeks to twelve years old. In May of 2015, the Broken Bow Early Learning Center entered into a

partnership with Little Dixie's Early Head Start – Child Care Program to operate an Early Head Start – Child Care Center at the Broken Bow site and to expand Early Learning Centers to Antlers, Hugo, Idabel, and Swink. The first

Early Learning Center/ Early Head Start – Child Care partnership classroom opened in Antlers for services on July 27, 2015 with eight slots available for eligible children. The second Early Learning Center opened in Swink on December 28, 2015

with the capacity to serve twelve children. The partnership will bring quality Early Head Start Services to Early Learning Center children and families. The various Early Learning Centers are funded by State and Tribal funds, private dollars from parents and Early Head Start – Child Care funds.

The Early Learning Center in Broken Bow was awarded a USDA grant for kitchen renovations and commercial kitchen equipment that will greatly enhance meal services. The Broken Bow Early Learning Center was selected as the target project for community volunteers and agency employees to focus activities in May of 2015 in recognition of National Community Action month. The project consisted of various playground enhancements. During this event, the inside of the facility also received a face lift with

new paint and some kitchen modifications. The Broken Bow Early Learning Center also received much-needed upgrades within both buildings located on the property. One project that was completed was the consolidation of two separate kitchens into one to increase efficiency in meal preparation. The Early Learning Centers employed 13 staff members and served 125 children through regular Child Care and Early Head Start-Child Care.

LDCAA was fortunate to have an AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps team that assisted with partner center renovations over a six-week period during April – June 2015. The team of ten members assisted with renovations at the Swink Early Learning Center.

Such assistance with renovations included: painting, constructing walls, renovating bathrooms, patching drywall, removal of tile and carpet, and construction of the building's ceiling. The labor assistance provided by the NCCC Team has worked

to reduce the cost of these renovations dramatically, thus freeing up grant monies to purchase additional classroom supplies, furniture, playground equipment, or other upgrades over the minimum required. This has contributed to a higher-quality program overall, and will translate to increased benefits for the enrolled children.



Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership site "The Learning Tree" gathers for a group photo.



Renovations at Swink Early Learning Center site NCCC team and LDCAA WX staff



2015 Annual Report Article AmeriCorps

The Little Dixie AmeriCorps Program provided funding to support 28 members during 2015.

AmeriCorps serve as tutors for the Head Start and Early Head Start classrooms that are located in McCurtain, Choctaw and Pushmataha counties. Members contributed 900 hours of individualized support to more than 600 Head Start and Early Head Start children throughout the school year. AmeriCorps has become an integral component of the Head Start and Early Head Start Programs. Not only do the children benefit but also the members themselves. In return for their service they receive a living allowance while serving and an education award upon completion of hours. The educational award can be used at any Title IV college or vocational school and can also be used to pay qualified student loans.

Every day, in counties and cities across America, national service is tackling tough problems and strengthening communities.



Scott Garrison recognized members at Kiamichi Technology Center on behalf of the Mayor.



Tina Foshee Thomas (Idabel Mayor) recognized members at the Idabel Public Library.

Rural IMPACT

Contact: Dawn McDaniel

Little Dixie Community Action Agency, Inc. is the lead entity of one of ten communities designated Nationally as a Rural IMPACT (Integrated Models for Parents and Children to Thrive) demonstration site. Through this effort, the Obama administration aims to build upon the progress already made in reducing child poverty by leveraging technology, forging new partnerships, and exploring new models of program delivery, to ensure that all kids have an opportunity to succeed. This "demonstration" is administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and is being implemented in collaboration with numerous Federal agencies including: the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Education, and Labor and the Corporation for National and Community Service. In addition, HHS has cooperative agreements in place with the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Community Action Partnership to administer the demonstration and provide technical assistance

to the Rural IMPACT demonstration sites. LDCAA's primary partner locally is a tribal community, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, who serves as the lead entity of the Choctaw Nation Promise Zone (another Federal initiative). The primary activities of the Rural IMPACT program are to implement two-generation approaches to addressing poverty by serving the child and parent simultaneously. By adopting a two-generation approach to programs, policies, and systems, this will help to better meet the needs of low-income rural and tribal families utilizing a comprehensive whole-family framework. Through collaborative efforts and partnerships locally, statewide and nationally, the Rural IMPACT initiative will: Provide parents with high quality, job-driven workforce development services and income to enable them to achieve financial stability; ensure children's access to high quality early childhood development and enriching elementary school experiences; and encourage strong parental engagement strategies, including



parental education and social and emotional supports, for parents to meet the health and development needs of their children. To achieve these goals, LDCAA will utilize VISTA members working in collaboration with Partners to 1) Identify needs of families 2) Identify available resources/providers 3) Provide and/or link families to appropriate agencies to obtain identified resources 4) Conduct case management to help participants stay on track 5) Measure and report participant outcomes.

Child and Adult Care Food Program

Name of Funders: USDA and administered by Oklahoma State Department of Education

Budget: \$1,472,920.13

People Served: 3200 children

Program Highlights: 163 Daycare Home providers in 38 counties serving approximately 3200 children

Staff members: 3

Special Achievements and Awards: During the 2015 national conference our staff had the pleasure of meeting with other sponsors as well as Geri Henchy, Director of Nutrition Policy at Food Research and Action Center.

Synopsis:

Funded by USDA and administered by Oklahoma State Department of Education, Little Dixie Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) has been serving Oklahoma communities for more than four decades. In 2015, CACFP served 163 Daycare Home

providers in 38 counties with approximately 3200 children enrolled in the food program.

The program employs 3 full time staff members, a Program Director - Johnna Yow, Monitor - Sheila Petty and Monitor - Caren Thacker. Little Dixie CAA's Child and Adult Care Food Program staff provide training and monitoring of Daycare Homes in the area of nutrition and record keeping as required by USDA and the State Department of Education. The program budget is approximately \$1,472,920.13 including meal reimbursement.

In October 2015, CACFP staff attended the National Conference in Hollywood California. During the conference, staff had the pleasure of meeting with other sponsors as well as Geri Henchy, Director of Nutrition Policy at FRAC. They also had the opportunity to learn about upcoming changes in the food program and received pointers on best practices concerning the administration of the program.



"This institution is an equal opportunity provider"

OKLAHOMA
State Department of Education

CASA

Name of Funders: VOCA (Victims of Crime Act), Oklahoma CASA

Partners: Pushmataha, Choctaw and McCurtain County Courts, Department of Human Services, Antlers Masonic Lodge

Budget: \$115,157

People Served: 113 Children

Program Highlights: 36 volunteers contributed 1548 volunteer hours

Staff members: 2

Synopsis:

The CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) program is funded by numerous sources including VOCA (Victims of Crime Act) and Oklahoma CASA. CASA employees recruit and train community volunteers to become the "Voice" for children in the courts and child welfare system. A CASA

"watches over" and advocates for children who have been declared by the courts as "deprived" meaning abused, neglected, or abandoned. Volunteers ensure these children do not get lost in an overburdened legal system. CASA's are officers of the court and are the "eyes and ears" for the Judge. After gathering information and interviewing all parties involved, the CASA Volunteer Advocates submit independent objective reports along with recommendations that are first and foremost in "the best interest of the child". The goal of CASA is to remain with each case until it is closed and the child is placed in a safe and permanent home.

During 2015, CASA served 113 children. These youth were served by 36 volunteers who contributed 1548 volunteer hours.



"This project is supported by VOCA Grant # Subgrant No: 2015-VOCA-Little Dixie CAA-123 awarded by the US Department of Justice through the Oklahoma District Attorneys Council."



Family Youth Initiative

Name of Funders: Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs

Partners: CASA, Area Schools, Men United, TLC Horse Rescue Ranch, OSU Extension Office, Antlers Masonic Lodge

Budget: \$40,000

People Served: 30 youth and their families

Program Highlights: 30 youth and their families received services to help counteract delinquency. 10 volunteers assisted with activities contributing a total of 125 hours.

Staff members: 1

2015 Success Story: Program staff and participating families had an overnight stay at the Choctaw Nation Hotel in Durant to come together as families at the water park Oasis.

Synopsis:

This Family and Youth Initiative program is

funded through a three-year Prevention Formula Grant from the Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs (awarded in 2012) and operates in collaboration with the Little Dixie CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) Program. The initiative, led by a full-time Coordinator, involves multi-component child/family intervention strategies which help to ensure at-risk area youth and their families receive needed services and support to counteract delinquency.

The project targets youth ages 10 to 17, who have been victims of abuse or neglect and who reside within McCurtain or Pushmataha County. Components of the Family and Youth Initiative that work to reduce family, peer group, and individual risk factors include: case management; family services; group activities/peer mentoring; incentives (provided through the Youth Activity Fund); and education services. The program introduces youth participants and their families to positive experiences that serve to build character and help strengthen the families such as art camp, horse rescue ranch day, holiday activities, science

camp, etc. The youth participate in ongoing family team and goal achievement meetings. Participants and their families receive referrals and supportive services as needed.



Victims Advocacy Services

Name of Funders: VOCA

Partners: Choctaw Nation, SOS For Families, MDT (Multi-Disciplinary Task Force) in Choctaw, Pushmataha and McCurtain Counties, Turning Point Coalitions, Community Crisis Response Team in McCurtain County

Budget: \$98,159

People Served: 51

Program Highlights: Program began July 1, 2015 and 51 victims had been served by Dec. 30, 2015.

Staff members: 2

2015 Success Story: Program representatives assisted a domestic violence victim in locating and setting up a new home and regaining custody of her children.

Special Achievements and Awards: None Provided

Committees/Councils: SOS For Families Board member, MDT (Multi-Disciplinary Task Force) in Choctaw, Pushmataha and McCurtain Counties member, Turning Point Coalitions member, Community Crisis Response Team in McCurtain County member

Synopsis:

July 21st marked the beginning of Little Dixie Victims Advocacy Services. The Victims of Crime Act, passed in 1984, created the Victims of Crime Act Fund, or VOCA Fund, as a protected and dedicated source of funding for crime victim programs. The VOCA Fund does not depend on taxpayer dollars. Funds are derived from fines and penalties on offenders at the federal level.

Victim's services include: assisting primary and secondary victims of crime to stabilize their lives after victimization, assist victims

in understanding the criminal justice system, provide a measure of safety and security, assist with compensation and restitution forms and respond to the emotional and physical needs of crime victims.

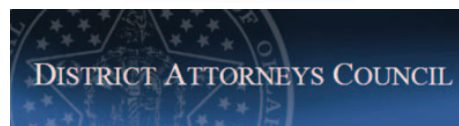
Emergency services to victims such as resources, food, clothing and shelter, community outreach, victim advocacy, safety plans, court system advocacy, accompaniment to hospitals for medical examinations are also provided by Victim's Advocacy Services.

Little Dixie Victims Advocacy Services serves victims of any crime in Pushmataha, Choctaw, and McCurtain Counties. The main office is located in Antlers, Oklahoma.



Victims Advocacy services staff and volunteers release balloons in recognition of child abuse awareness

"This project is supported by VOCA Grant # Subgrant No: 2015-VOCA-Little Dixie CAA-223 awarded by the US Department of Justice through the Oklahoma District Attorneys Council."



Drug-Free Communities

Name of Funders: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Partners: Choctaw County Coalition, Choctaw County schools, local law enforcement, community organizations, NeighborWorks® America and area pharmacies.

Budget: Annual funding of \$125,000, with in-kind matching support contributed from the local community.

Program Highlights: Over 300 volunteers indirectly assisted approximately 2,000 people through school presentations, information dispersal through community groups and area pharmacies, drug take-back events (in which 15 pounds of medication were collected) and at other community events, such as the Back to School Science Fair and Ansley Park Restoration Project.

Staff members: The program is staffed by a Director and Program Assistant

Special Achievements and Awards:

Committees/Councils: Choctaw County Coalition, YouCo!

Synopsis:

The Drug Free Communities (DFC) Support Program, first funded in 2012 by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, works through a partnership with the Choctaw County Coalition to serve Choctaw County, Oklahoma. The program targets youth (primarily in grades 6th-12th) and adults to reduce substance use and strengthen community collaboration towards these efforts. Currently in its fourth year of a five-year grant cycle, the DFC Program receives funding at an annual level of \$125,000, with in-kind matching support contributed from the local community. The program is staffed by a Director and Program Assistant; in addition to the Choctaw County Coalition, other partners critical

continued on next page...

Drug-Free Communities continued

to the success of the project include Choctaw County schools, local law enforcement, community organizations, and area pharmacies.

In December 2014, the Choctaw County Coalition, upon the recommendation of DFC Program staff, agreed to sponsor the Choctaw County Youth Coalition (YouCo!). This coalition was created in order to provide a voice in the community for youth and to act as an “umbrella” for the various local youth associations, including sports groups, civic groups, faith-based groups, Native American groups, school groups, etc. YouCo! is comprised of 6th-12th grade students from all school districts within Choctaw County. YouCo! stands for Young, Outstanding, United students dedicated to improving Choctaw County.

DFC and its partners have been involved with continued policy enforcement and implementation planning regarding substance use, and the enactment of healthy initiatives and policies at local businesses and schools. Successes include a second annual Mother-Daughter conference, participation in the “Kick Butts” Day, implementation of alcohol compliance checks, a prescription drug abuse awareness Town Hall Meeting, continued implementation of “Drug Take-Back” Days, and an underage drinking prevention campaign at county proms and junior high dances.



This Annual Report was developed, in part, under grant number 5 SP018962-04 from the Office of National Drug Control Policy and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. The views, opinions, and content of this publication are those of the authors and contributors, and do not necessarily reflect the views, opinions, or policies of ONDCP, SAMHSA or HHS, and should not be considered as such.

LITTLE DIXIE

Healthy Start

Name of Funders: Department of Health & Human Services, Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA)

Partners: County Coalitions in Choctaw, McCurtain and Pushmataha, Dr. Allison Taylor MD, Dr. Kinion Whittingham MD., Department of Health & Human Services, Tulsa Community Service Council, Local County Health Departments and Community Health Centers in the tri-county region.

People Served: 528

Program Highlights: During the 2015 calendar year Healthy Start served 528 total participants and 254 pregnant women in the tri - county area.

2015 Success Story: Healthy Start partnered with two obstetricians to provide lactation counseling to pregnant women in the service area.

Special Achievements and Awards: All Healthy Start Coordinators have attended the Certified Lactation Counselor training. We currently have Certified Lactation Counselors in all three counties to assist with a successful breastfeeding experience.

Synopsis:

Healthy Start Tri-County received its funding beginning in 2014 through a grant from the Department of Health & Human Services - Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA). The national goal of "Healthy Start" is to reduce and/or prevent infant mortality rates in high risk areas. This initiative further seeks to address issues/causes surrounding low birth weight, preterm birth, maternal mortality and maternal morbidity.

Healthy Start reaches out to pregnant women and new mothers and connects them with health care and other resources in order to

improve women's health before, during and after pregnancy. The Healthy Start Program utilizes skilled, trained Care Coordinators to provide services in Choctaw, McCurtain and Pushmataha counties.

Healthy Start Tri-County served 528 total participants and 254 pregnant women in 2015. All Healthy Start Coordinators have attended the Certified Lactation Counselor training and currently have Certified Lactation Counselors in all three counties to assist with a successful breastfeeding experience.

The tri-county area has only one Obstetrician forcing many pregnant women to seek care far from home. Healthy Start has partnered with two Obstetricians to offer services to a large percentage of pregnant women in the area. The partnership works by the Obstetrician referring patients to a Healthy Start Care Coordinator who is provided office space by the Obstetrician. This cooperation makes it possible for patients to enroll into the program before ever leaving the Doctor's office.

"This project is/was supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under HC49MC27826, Healthy Start Initiative-Eliminating Racial/Ethnic Disparities, \$625,000. This information or content are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA or the U.S. Government."



Healthy Start sponsors "Baby Buggy Walk" to encourage moms to be active.



Smart Start Tri-County

Name of Funders: Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Local Match Funds

Partners: Southeastern Oklahoma Child Care Association/Southeast Partners, implementation of the Smart Flix parent video program and day care mini-grants, and completion of the “Push We Care” Mobile Unit, as well as the facilitation and coordination of a host of new events in the tri-county area (i.e. Hey BAY-B Conference, county-wide baby showers, diaper and book drives, etc.)

Budget: \$98,081

People Served: Smart Start Tri-County’s “Raising A Reader” literacy initiative has served 1,436 children, within 36 Head Start classrooms, 13 Pre-K classrooms, and 19 day care centers and homes.

Staff members: 2

Committees/Councils: Action Coordination Team

Synopsis:

Smart Start Tri-County kicked off its first full year of operation in Southeast Oklahoma in 2005. Smart Start Tri-County’s handiwork is a community-focused initiative working to ensure all children under age six develop the social, emotional, cognitive, and physical capacities and skills they need to enter school ready to learn. To help achieve this goal, Little Dixie Community Action Agency has worked to build the Smart Start Tri-County Program, the first such multi-county initiative in Oklahoma. Smart Start Tri-County works closely with the county coalitions in each of its target counties; the main strength of the program is its great community participation. Coalition members representing all types of service organizations, health organizations, law enforcement, schools, and local businesses work together

with Smart Start Tri-County to identify local needs and find solutions to help meet those needs. The program has realized a great deal of success over the years, through the development of the Southeastern Oklahoma Child Care Association/Southeast Partners, implementation of the Smart Flix parent video program and day care mini-grants, and completion of the “Push We Care” Mobile Unit, as well as the facilitation and coordination of a host of new events in the tri-county area (i.e. Hey BAY-B Conference, county-wide baby showers, diaper and book drives, etc.)

Smart Start Tri-County’s “Raising A Reader” literacy initiative has served 1,436 children, within 36 Head Start classrooms, 13 Pre-K classrooms, and 19 day care centers and homes. The Smart Start Tri-County Program has quickly become one of LDCAA’s most visible and active programs.

Smart Start Tri-County receives \$98,081 in funding from the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, along with local match, to support activities of the program. Activities under the current contract work to facilitate and achieve system outcomes centered on services and supports, to ensure they are aligned and coordinated, of high quality, available and accessible, responsive to the changing needs of children and families, and reaching families with young children. Program staff—the Community Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator—work closely with Smart Start Tri-County’s Action Coordination Team to



facilitate integrated learning and feedback across community stakeholder groups and coordinate and guide systems change efforts. The Tri-County Parent Coalition, established by Smart Start Tri-County in 2015, serves as a platform to identify area child and family needs, which is used by the Action Coordination Team for continuous quality improvement activities. Smart Start Tri-County works with diverse local and state organizations, groups, businesses, agencies, etc. in collaboration efforts to coordinate resources as a means to work towards a coordinated and comprehensive early childhood system, ensuring that all children in southeastern Oklahoma are healthy, happy and ready to learn by the time they enter school.



LITTLE DIXIE

Retired Senior Volunteer Program

Name of Funders: Corporation for National and Community Service & OKDHS Older American Volunteer Program

Partners: Community Volunteers in Choctaw, McCurtain & Pushmataha Counties

Budget: \$85,639

People Served: Over 350 senior volunteers served at 59 community stations in the tri-county service area

Program Highlights: 392 volunteers (ages 55 and over) provided 83,245 hours of service to their communities at 59 volunteer stations which equated to a dollar value of \$1,785,605.25.

Staff Members: Karla Luginbill, RSVP Program Director/Pushmataha County Coordinator

Jerri Mitchell, McCurtain County Coordinator

Sherri Cheek, Choctaw County Coordinator

Committees/Councils: RSVP Advisory Council

Synopsis:

RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program) is America's largest volunteer network for people age 55 and over. Through this program, community volunteers choose how and where they want to serve based on their interests, expertise and the amount of time they have to give. During 2015, there were a total of 392 active RSVP volunteers which included 22 new recruits who gave of their time and talent throughout the Tri-county service area of Choctaw, McCurtain and Pushmataha counties. Collectively, they donated 83,245 hours at 59 separate volunteer stations. The dollar value of their service was \$1,785,605.25

RSVP is a part of Senior Corps, and is administered by the Corporation for National and Community

continued on next page...



LITTLE DIXIE

Retired Senior Volunteer Program continued



Service. Volunteers receive pre-service orientation, training from the organization where they will serve, and supplemental insurance while on duty. RSVP volunteers do not receive monetary incentives, but sponsoring organizations such as Little Dixie may reimburse volunteers for some costs such as travel expenses incurred during service. Little Dixie's RSVP Program coordinated numerous events in 2015 including a Veterans Day Appreciation Event, Clean – Up events, Food Drives and much more.

RSVP program staff also worked with volunteers on numerous other activities including: Martin Luther King Day; RSVP National Service Day which was commemorated with Mayor's Proclamation Signings; and the 9-11 Good Deeds Campaign. Little Dixie has RSVP office locations in Antlers, Hugo and Idabel.



RSVP Staff



Self-Help Housing Program

Name of Funders: USDA Rural Development

Partners: Choctaw Nation Housing Authority, Chickasaw Housing Authority, Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency, Federal Home Loan Bank

Budget: Annual amount: \$690,895 Section 523 Technical Assistance Grant

People Served: 31 families in 2015

Highlights: 31 Single family homes were built for low-income families in the eight Southeast Oklahoma counties serviced through the program.

Staff members: 10 employees

2015 Success Story: In 2015, USDA celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Mutual Self Help Housing Program. The theme was "50 Years and 50,000 Homes". LDCAA's Self Help Housing Program recognized this milestone with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in Boswell, Oklahoma at the home of Sierra Freeman

Special Achievements and Awards: Ms. Freeman house was the 1,780th house constructed by LDCAA's Self Help Housing Program. An Open House, Key Presentation and Lunch was provided to staff, area citizens, public officials and distinguished guests from the local and state Rural Development offices. Tony Hernandez, the RHS Administrator from Washington D.C. attended the event and served as the guest speaker.

Synopsis:

Funded by the USDA Rural Development office since 1974, LDCAA is currently administering their 34th Rural Development Section 523 Mutual Self Help Housing grant. The current grant agreement started September 1, 2014 and will end August 31, 2016. In 2015, USDA celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Mutual Self Help Housing Program. The theme was "50 Years and 50,000 Homes". LDCAA's Self Help Housing Program recognized this milestone with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in Boswell, Oklahoma at the home of Sierra Freeman. Ms. Freeman's home was the 1,780th house constructed through the LDCAA Mutual Self Help Housing Program. An Open House, Key Presentation and Lunch was provided to



staff, area citizens, public officials and distinguished guests from the local and state Rural Development offices. Tony Hernandez, the RHS (Rural Housing Services) Administrator from Washington D.C. attended the event and served as the guest speaker.

The Self Help Housing program employs ten full time staff and operates in eight Oklahoma Counties which includes: Atoka, Bryan, Carter, Choctaw, Love, Marshall, McCurtain and Pushmataha. This program is designed to help low and very low income families realize the dream of homeownership through actual involvement with constructing their own homes as well as working on other participant's homes. Participants in the program are required to contribute some of the labor, referred to as "sweat equity" which results in reduced construction costs to build the home. This contribution of labor equates to the need for a smaller loan which means a lower mortgage payment. Without the Self Help Housing program, homeownership would not be possible for many families.

In addition to the sweat equity savings, some families qualify for grant funds from Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency and Federal Home Loan



Bank. Those families can apply for a developer subsidy and reduce the cost of their home, on average, by \$9,000. That is an actual savings of \$9,000 dollars that otherwise would have to be borrowed. In addition to meeting income eligibility requirements, families receiving the developer subsidy cannot sell their home for a certain period of time. Native American families can receive tribal funds to include in their loan for construction from the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations.



Technical and Management Assistance Program

Name of Funders: USDA Rural Development

Partners: USDA/Office of Rural Development and Self Help Housing Programs in 11 States

Budget: Helped to administer \$5 million in Rural Development Section 523 administrative budgets and \$24 million in Rural Development 502 construction budgets for Self-Housing Grantees

Program Highlights: This year T&MA staff monitored 21 organizations, 23 grants.

Staff Members: 15 employees

2015 Success Story: LDCAA continued to provide T&MA assistance to grantees as it has for the past 35 years and celebrated 50 years and 50,000 mutual self-help homes constructed across the United States and its territories

Special Achievements and Awards: This year, T&MA played a pivotal role in hosting a three-day National Self-Help Housing Conference held in San Antonio, TX. The purpose of the conference was to bring stakeholders together from across the United States and its territories to network and learn best practices for operating successful Section 523 Mutual Self-Help Housing Programs.

Synopsis:

Since 1980, Little Dixie Community Action Agency (LDCAA) has held a Technical and Management Assistance (T&MA) contract with USDA Rural Development to provide T&MA services to Self Help Housing Grantees located in Region II of the United States. This consists of eleven States including: Oklahoma, Texas, Wyoming, Arkansas, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Louisiana, and New Mexico. 2015 was a monumental year for the Technical and

Management Assistance Program as it marked the 50 year celebration of the Mutual Self Help Housing Program and the construction of the 50,000th home built since program inception. LDCAA is one of four T&MA contractors in the United States. This year, the four contractors joined forces and raised funds to host a three-day National Self-Help Housing Conference, the first since 2006. The conference was held in San Antonio, TX and was attended by representatives of USDA/Rural Development and Self Help Housing organizations from across the Nation.

Currently, the T&MA Program has 15 employees on staff. The staff provide training over topics including: overall program structuring, planning, and operational management. Among the areas monitored are: Program Compliance Reviews; Expenditures of Administrative Funds and Client Construction Funds; and Construction Quality. This year T&MA staff monitored 21 organizations, 23 grants, approximately \$5 million in Rural Development Section 523 administrative budgets and \$24 million in Rural Development 502 construction budgets for Self-Housing Grantees.



Program Contacts:

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Co-Program Director	Co-Program Director
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500 East Rosewood	
Hugo, OK 747473	



Other Housing: Multifamily

Name of Funders: Self-Sufficient; NeighborWorks, Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency (OHFA), and HUD.

Partners: Hugo Housing Authority, Choctaw Nation Housing, OHFA, and NeighborWorks America

People Served: Residents of Choctaw, McCurtain and Pushmataha Counties

Program Highlights: Little Dixie Multi-Family housing served 36 senior residents, 101 families and 73 residents in the tri-county area in 2015.

Staff members: Margie Owens, Cathy Zachry, and Gary Teague

Special Achievements and Awards: Margee Owens and Cathy Zachry participated in the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma delivering food packets to Sr. Residents at Belmont Place and Kiamichi Place. Little Dixie was also awarded a grant from the Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency to rebuild the Soper tri-plex apartment complex. All multi-family units adopted smoke-free policies in conjunction with Department of Health.

Synopsis:

In 2015, approximately 150 residents within Choctaw, McCurtain and Pushmataha counties were served through Little Dixie's Multi-Family Housing Programs. Little Dixie owns and operates seven complexes and manages three HUD 202 Senior Supportive Housing complexes which provides housing choices with supportive services for low-income senior citizens. Little Dixie's multi-family operations are made possible through partnerships with NeighborworksAmerica, the Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency (OHFA), the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Little Dixie works cooperatively with the Choctaw

and Chickasaw tribal nations and local housing authority's Section 8 rental voucher assistance programs for income eligible families.

In 2015, LDCAA applied and was subsequently awarded a HUD HOME grant through the Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency which will be used to rebuild the Soper Apartments located in Choctaw County.

In addition, in February 2015, all units owned and/or operated by the agency adopted "Smoke-Free" policies. In order to further encourage smoking cessation and healthy lifestyles for tenants, the staff distributed educational materials provided by the Department of Health.

Both Margie Owens (Apartment Manager) and Cathy Zachry (Clerk) participate in the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma. They accept delivery on the 3rd Friday of each month and distribute food packets to the senior tenants residing at Belmont Place in Hugo and Kiamichi Place in Antlers. Gary Teague, Apartment Maintenance Technician provides general maintenance and repairs at all locations.

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER, AND EMPLOYER.

Facility	Location	Bedroom Mix	Number of units
Terry Hill	Hugo, OK	1, 2 & 3	60
Moyers	Moyers, OK	2	9
Ft. Towson	Ft. Towson, OK	2	3
Boswell	Boswell, OK	1	3
Soper Apts.	Soper, OK	2	3
Chappell Apts.	Valliant, OK	2	3
Garvin Apts.	Garvin, OK	2	3



Intermediary Program

Name of Funders: USDA Rural Development, Neighborworks

Clients Served: Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas and Nebraska.

Program Highlights: In 2015 certified packagers sent four loans to LDCAA for review and submission to Rural Development for approval.

Staff members: 5 employees

Synopsis:

In cooperation with NeighborWorks and USDA Rural Development Little Dixie Community Action Agency serves as an Intermediary for 502 Direct Loan packagers within Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska and Arkansas. The purpose of this program is to utilize qualified intermediaries to review loan application packages to ensure eligibility and completeness prior to their submittal to USDA/Rural Development's Rural Housing Services division. This improves efficiency and helps to speed the process for the homebuyer.

In 2015, after receiving the designation, Little Dixie began reaching out to 502 loan packagers and entered into formal agreements with: Visage Production Foundation, Native American Housing Services INC., Neighborhood Housing Services, Community Housing of Wyandotte County, McPherson Housing Coalition, Interfaith Housing Services, Houseaboutit, Community Resources Technicians, In-Affordable Housing, and High Plains Community Development Agency.

Each of these agencies represent 501c3 non-profit organizations designated as Qualified

Employers with certified 502 loan application packagers on staff. These packagers submit 502 direct loan application packages to Little Dixie Community Action Agency. LDCAA then does Quality Assurance Reviews prior to submitting these loan applications to USDA Rural Development for approval and underwriting in accordance with USDA regulations.

In 2015, LDCAA's certified loan packagers reviewed four 502 loans, worked with the organizations to address any/all deficiencies and forwarded those onto Rural Development. To help support this new housing service, Little Dixie hired a full time staff person who serves as the 502 Direct Loan Specialist who works with four other Little Dixie staff in the provision of this service.

USDA Rural Development's Section 502 Direct Loan Program provides a path to homeownership for low and very low income families living in rural areas. The families targeted are low-income and in most cases, this program is their only means to affordable homeownership. Providing these homeownership opportunities promotes prosperity, which in turn creates thriving communities and improves the quality of life in rural areas.

The Intermediary partnership is intended to coincide with the mission of Little Dixie Community Action Agency of "Helping People Changing Lives".



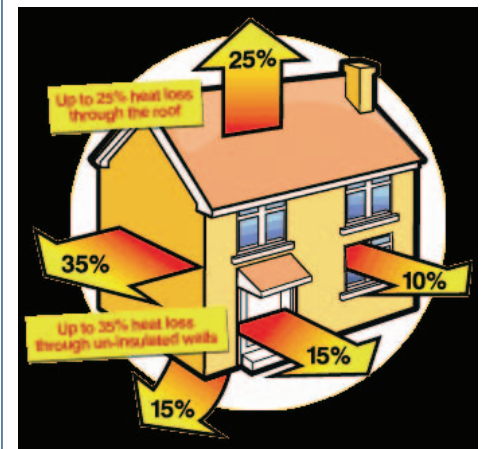
Weatherization

People Served: 26 families

Program Highlights: 26 families received services

Synopsis:

Little Dixie's Weatherization (WX) Program helps low-income families conserve energy, save money, and improve their living conditions. Weatherization not only saves energy, they could even save lives as the process can identify potential health hazards in the homes. LDCAA's Energy Auditor, Terry Wren uses high tech tools, such as blower doors and infrared cameras to determine where air is escaping within your home and also checks for the presence and levels of carbon monoxide. When leaks are determined, trained WX Carpenters complete the improvements recommended by the audit. Last year 26 families were served in the tri-county area.



Lending and Economic Development Programs

Residential Lending - LDCAA's loan officer packages home loans for BancFirst and USDA/Rural Development. LDCAA is also a licensed mortgage broker and has an in-house revolving loan fund used for home purchase or repair. Residential Loans are for the purpose of purchasing a home, for assistance with down payment and closing costs, or for making home improvements to an existing home. These programs are available to people at and/or above low income guidelines. In 1997, through a partnership with NeighborWorks America, Little Dixie CAA became a First Mortgage Financer which equates to possessing the credentials for making residential loans for homebuyers. LDCAA's loan terms (interest rates, length of loan, loan origination fees, etc.) are consistent with local lending institutions and mortgage companies. At the end of 2015, LDCAA's residential loan department was servicing eight in-house loans. Little Dixie CAA's loan programs operate in partnership with the following organizations/programs.

- USDA/Rural Development's Section 502, 504 and Guaranteed Loan Programs
- NeighborWorks America
- Participating Lenders

Business Lending & Technical Assistance - Little Dixie Community Action Agency provides commercial loans to residents in Choctaw, McCurtain and Pushmataha Counties for the purpose of securing capital for small business start-up or expansion. Customers can receive small "credit builder" loans to help establish credit and build or improve credit scores. Loan amounts range from a thousand dollars to several thousand dollars, depending on type of loan, credit scores, collateral and other factors. At the end of 2015, Little Dixie had 20 commercial loans totaling over \$400,000. Types

of businesses funded cover a broad range from retail establishments to service industries. Little Dixie CAA's loan programs operate in partnership with the following organizations/programs.

- U.S. Small Business Administration's Microloan Program
- USDA/Rural Development's Intermediary Relending Program
- NeighborWorks America

In conjunction with our commercial lending program, Little Dixie also offers both pre- and post-loan business technical assistance. Technical assistance includes assistance with business plans, marketing, management, business counseling and training. In 2015, pre- and post-loan TA was provided to more than 70 clients. To assist with the cost of providing technical assistance, SBA awards a TA grant to qualified intermediaries. The grant amount funded to Little Dixie in 2015 was \$13,349.

LDCAA partners with the Oklahoma Tax Commission to offer free monthly business tax workshops. Topics of discussion include business structure, obtaining the sales tax permit or manufacturing permit, payroll taxes, self-employment taxes, and bookkeeping requirements. This workshop is held the third Friday of each month in Antlers. Some restrictions apply with commercial lending. If you are interested in learning more about our loan programs and products please contact Carol Buster at 580-326-5434.

Pushmataha Development Initiative - This



economic development program is supported by the Pushmataha Development Initiative, Little Dixie Community Action Agency, Inc. and USDA/Rural Development through their Rural Business Opportunity Grant Program. The goal of this partnership is to collaborate on activities to foster economic growth and stability. PDI enjoyed several accomplishments in 2014 including facilitating a partnership between the Deer Capital Tourism Association and the Kiamichi Technology Center which resulted in having a cabin constructed for the annual fundraiser event held during the Antlers Deer Festival. The Annual Deer Festival event generates revenue to support operations of the Wildlife Heritage Museum. KTC students constructed the cabin which was then donated for the fundraiser. The cabin (left) turned out great and several thousand dollars was raised for the wildlife museum ensuring uninterrupted operations for at least another year.

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Purchase, Rehab, and Resale



Purchase Rehab Resale This program is another means by which LDCAA is able to address the housing needs of area residents. Again, homebuyers are able to enjoy huge savings by purchasing a home through LDCAA's Purchase/Rehab/Resale program. Typically, these homes are purchased by LDCAA after having gone through foreclosure. Often, LDCAA is able to acquire these homes at a very reasonable cost. By using in-house construction crews for performing much of the rehab, LDCAA is able to save money and pass these savings on to the homeowner.

Speculative Housing construction involves building homes on the premise or "speculation" that there will be a buyer ready to purchase upon completion. Market studies are conducted routinely to help determine housing conditions and needs within the service area. The lack of existing private development in the area led to Little Dixie's decision to undertake this activity more than two decades ago. The goal is to construct and sell one speculative home every other year. These homes help to address housing needs of families that do not qualify for other housing choices. The home below was completed and sold in 2015.



Homebuyer Education & Supportive Services

Homebuyer Education Little Dixie's homebuyer education program provided services to over 100 families in 2015. Our curriculum is based upon NeighborWorks America's "Realizing the American Dream". We have six certified housing counselors who are federally recognized through the National Industry Standards for Homeownership Education and Counseling as well as the State of Oklahoma (OHEA) Oklahoma Homebuyer Education Association. Having these accreditations sets our counselors apart by providing consistent service and professional excellence. Little Dixie's housing counselors schedule classes in Hugo, Antlers, Durant and Ardmore, Oklahoma. They are free to the public and scheduled every six weeks. The course equips participants with knowledge, tools and resources to become a more confident, educated and prepared home buyer. An educated homebuyer is a successful homeowner. Statistics show borrowers who receive homebuyer education are 67% more likely to stay current on their mortgages. Buying a home can be as overwhelming as it is exciting; the more information you have, the better you will be able to make



more informed choices in the home buying process. By completing a homebuyer education program you may also qualify for special financing programs or down payment assistance that will increase the affordability of homeownership.

In keeping with technology Little Dixie partnered with Community Venture Corporation in 2011 to offer online homebuyer education to residents living outside the eight Oklahoma counties served directly by Little Dixie's housing counselors. This online course, "eHome" was developed by a HUD-

continued on next page...

Homebuyer Education & Supportive Services continued

certified nonprofit agency and is designed to provide the homebuyer with information that is in their best interest. It satisfies homeownership education requirements of State PHA's (public housing agencies) such as Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency and other governmental entities. This online course is interactive and comprehensive. Just like the in-person classes, homebuyers learn the process to determine how much they can afford, how to choose the right home, the right lender, and the right mortgage. eHome is easy to navigate and it challenges the homebuyer's knowledge throughout the course with quizzes and tests. eHome certificates are accepted by lenders such as USDA/Rural Development, Rural Enterprise Incorporated and the Federal Home Loan Bank of Topeka.

Foreclosure Prevention Little Dixie's Foreclosure Prevention and Loss Mitigation programs have partnered with HUD's HOPE hotline to assist families who are facing mortgage delinquency and foreclosure. Our counselors are certified through the NeighborWorks Center for Homeownership Education and Counseling (NCHC) and have adopted the Standards set by the National Industry Standards of Homeownership Education and Counseling. These Standards hold nonprofit counseling agencies to a high standard of excellence, ensuring consumers are provided with the most consistent guidance and counseling. When families are struggling to avoid foreclosure, navigating the system can be frustrating and difficult. Our counselors work one-on-one with homeowners to help communicate with lenders and help determine an appropriate solution. Our housing counselors receive

continuing education through NeighborWorks training institutions and online webinars to ensure the most current mortgage industry news, solutions and programs.

Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) In 2015 Little Dixie's HUD (Housing and Urban Development) certified HECM counselors assisted over 80 homeowners with Home Equity Conversion Mortgage Counseling. Request for this specialized housing counseling came from homeowners in Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana and other neighboring states. HECM counseling can be provided face-to-face or over the telephone. Each counseling session is tailored to the homeowner. During the counseling sessions homeowners are informed not only about what a reverse mortgage is, but also what the implications of a HECM mortgage are and counselors provide customers with information over alternatives to reverse mortgage. HECM counselors have access to software and tools/resources that may be available in the homeowner's area. Each counselor must be certified through HUD's (Housing and Urban Development) certification program which involves training and testing before they can deliver HECM counseling. This year Little Dixie gained another HUD certified HECM counselor. At the end of 2015 Little Dixie employed three HUD certified HECM counselors.

Financial Fitness Little Dixie provides free financial literacy workshops at each of our homeownership centers. These workshops address everyday financial matters from banking, budgeting, saving, investing and understanding credit.

Credit Counseling Little Dixie offers free



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credit counseling to consumers. Each of our housing counselors provide information, resources and tools to aid in establishing or rebuilding credit. Credit is often a roadblock to homeownership and loan acquisition and by equipping the consumer with credit counseling they can overcome these obstacles and improve their creditworthiness.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program: Through grant support from the Internal Revenue Service, Little Dixie has been utilizing qualified, trained employees to provide free income tax preparation services to residents in Choctaw, McCurtain and Pushmataha Counties since 2005. In 2014, Little Dixie's VITA staff processed more than 700 tax returns resulting in a total of \$952,820 in refunds to taxpayers.



Community Building and Engagement

Name of Funders: Neighborworks America

Partners: Community Stakeholders

Budget: \$10,000

People Served: Tri-County Area

Staff members: Little Dixie Staff, Board and Resident Volunteers

Synopsis:

In 2015, with the support of NeighborWorks America funding, LDCAA completed a major revitalization project at Ansley Park in Hugo, OK. Ansley Park is named after a former famous Hugo resident, Edward Ansley, who traveled the Country for more than two decades as the face of "Buster Brown" shoes. In its heyday, Ansley Park was a community asset frequently utilized by organizations to host community-wide events and by families for picnics, birthday parties, outdoor

recreation or simply a quiet retreat. Over time, the park became less utilized as it became more associated with crime. On any given day, park visitors were likely to find broken beer bottles or other drug-related contraband from prior evening "activities". LDCAA's Drug Free Communities program and the Choctaw County Youth Coalition "YouCo" joined forces with City and County officials, Area Residents, Veterans and more to restore and reclaim the Park through this project which is now utilized for its intended purposes. Future plans will be the addition of a Memorial dedicated to Veterans.

This Community Building and Engagement Activity was the focus of LDCAA's NeighborWorks Week event. Improvements that occurred over the course of two days included: clearing of brush and other debris, landscaping; refinishing playground equipment; removal of old hazardous equipment; repainting the covered picnic areas, and more. Volunteers included many residents, members of the Choctaw County Youth Coalition, representatives of the City of Hugo, State Representatives, Choctaw County public officials; LDCAA employees and Veterans. Volunteers were assigned



various jobs from clearing brush and trees, to planting hedges, and other landscaping improvements, painting, YouCo!, a newly formed Youth Coalition in Choctaw County led the project with involvement in every aspect from planning to implementation. The Drug Free Communities Program Director, Michelle Frazier, took the lead in recruiting and working with area youth to create YouCO! with the goal to foster youth leadership and community involvement. This project served as their introduction to the community.



LITTLE DIXIE

RX Program

Name of Funders: Oklahoma Department of Commerce

People Served: 60 people

Program Highlights: In 2015 we assisted more than 61 individuals in getting their prescriptions for free or a reduced cost at a savings of over \$125,579.

Synopsis:

RX for Oklahoma is a prescription drug program funded by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce and administered through contractors. Little Dixie Community Action Agency, Inc. provides this service to residents within Choctaw, Pushmataha and McCurtain counties by helping them to obtain their prescriptions at a reduced or no out-of-pocket expense. This program is available to any Oklahoma resident who meets the eligibility guidelines which focuses primarily on income or for those individuals who have no prescription insurance. In 2015 more than 60 individuals utilized this service and collectively enjoyed a savings that exceeded \$125,000.



Emergency Food and Shelter Program

Name of Funders: FEMA, The Salvation Army

Partners: Hugo Homeownership Center

People Served: The Salvation Army organization assisted 35 families and the Emergency Food and Shelter Program served 65 families

Special Achievements and Awards: The local Salvation Army received \$15,700 in donations and the Emergency Food and Shelter Program were awarded \$12,147 from FEMA.

Synopsis:

The local Salvation Army unit was started in the summer of 2014. Governed by a local board of directors the organization has raised over \$15,700 in donations through the Red Kettle Campaign. Our residents and businesses have been very generous in volunteering their time to ring the bell during the holidays and to make donations.

Through these activities, LDCAA helps when unexpected emergencies occur, such as loss of a job. Last year the local Salvation Army assisted 35 families in emergency situations.

Emergency Assistance

The Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) is a Federal program administered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Last year Choctaw and Pushmataha Counties were awarded \$12,147. With these funds 65 low income families in emergency situations received assistance with food, utilities or rent.



Rural Health Network of Oklahoma

Name of Funders: Department of Health and Human Services, DHHS Health Resources and Services Administration

Partners: Aspire Home Health; Atoka County Medical Center; Choctaw Memorial Hospital; Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Health Clinics; Coal County General Hospital; Cornerstone Counseling Center; Cypress Home Health; Family Medical Clinic; Healing Hearts Counseling Center; Hugo Area Chamber of Commerce; Hugo Health and Rehabilitation; Hugo Medical Clinic; Irvin Medical Clinic; Lane Frost Health and Rehabilitation; Little Dixie Community Action Agency; Millennium Home Health; Red River Counseling Center; River Valley Secure Document Storage and Shredding; and Pushmataha Hospital. Business partners include: Adobe, Cisco, Cotap, EMR Support Group, HR Fix, Microsoft, SynsorMed, VersaSuites and Virtru.

Budget: Annual level funding of \$300,000.00

People Served: Consortium of Members

Program Highlights: Increased membership almost fourfold, and provided members service savings of over \$200,000

Staff members: 3 full time staff

2015 Success Story: RHN began a holiday food drive during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons, which provided 2,200 lbs. of food to elderly citizens in need through member patients and referrals. Additionally, the network implemented a "Star Tree" initiative that provided gifts (including clothing, blankets and personal items) to senior citizens in need within the member service area. The network also assumed leadership of Remote Area Medical (RAM) of Oklahoma in 2015, in order to facilitate the provision of free vision, dental and health screening services for rural Oklahomans regardless of their income.

Special Achievements and Awards

Committees/Councils: RHN staff were active in rural health leadership in 2015 as well. Network Director Stacie Pace served on the Board of Directors for the National Collaborative of Health Networks, Remote Area Medical of Oklahoma and MyHealth (Oklahoma's primary Health Information Exchange).

Technology Coordinator Josh Braziel served on the Board of Directors for the Telehealth Alliance of Oklahoma, Remote Area Medical of Oklahoma and Kiamichi Technology Centers' Pre-Engineering Business and Education Council.

Synopsis:

The Rural Health Network of Oklahoma (RHN) was established in 2008 through a Rural Health Network Development grant. RHN of Oklahoma is a network membership organization of healthcare entities, providers, community organizations and individuals from across Atoka, Choctaw, Coal, McCurtain, and Pushmataha Counties. RHN is comprised of members who direct network activities (through a Board of Directors elected from the membership) as well as benefit from such activities and the collaborative efforts of the network.

In addition to its membership, RHN has business partnerships in place with several vendors—ranging from donations to specialized licensing agreements—to ensure the best value and support for the network.

RHN collaboratively strives to improve quality access to health care for people living in rural Oklahoma through a network of integrated services. RHN maximizes collaboration to ensure the best outcomes for both patient and provider. While RHN does not generally provide direct services to the public, network efforts impact every individual who receives healthcare services in the members' service areas.

Health information technology plays a critical role in improving access to health care. RHN connects providers with technology to improve quality outcomes for patients through electronic health records (EHRs), a health information exchange (HIE), telemedicine and business information systems consulting. The network is a registered healthcare consortium with the Federal Communications Commission and provides assistance with USAC (Universal Service Administrative Company) and OUSF (Oklahoma Universal Service Fund). RHN understands the complexities of transitioning to more advanced modalities of health care delivery, and has an IT team ready to assist with this transition.



"This project is/was supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant number D06RH28029 and title, Rural Health Network Development Program for grant amount \$900,000. This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government."



LITTLE DIXIE

Navigator Consortium

Name of Funders: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Partners: Oklahoma CAA Navigator Consortium - Big Five Community Services, Community Action Development Corporation, Community Development Support Association, Community Action Resource and Development, Delta Community Action Foundation, Deep Fork Community Action Foundation, Great Plains Improvement Foundation, INCA Community Services, Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma, Inc., Little Dixie CAA, Muskogee County Community Action Foundation, Northeast Oklahoma Community Action Agency, Opportunities, Inc., Southwest Oklahoma Community Action Group, United Community Action Program and Washita Valley Community Action Council

People Served: 1,325 assisted directly

Program Highlights: 1325 individuals were assisted directly shopping for a qualified health plan through the Oklahoma Community Action Agency Navigator Consortium. Within the agency's tri-county area, a total of 162 individuals obtained health care coverage. An estimated 500,000 individuals were reached through program marketing and promotion activities.

Staff members: 2 full time staff and 67 trained Navigators

Synopsis:

Through this program, funded by the U.S.

Department of Health and Human Services/Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, trained qualified Navigators help consumers "navigate" the health insurance system to find the most affordable coverage to meet their individual needs.

Little Dixie plays a dual role in this program. LDCAA is the lead entity responsible for the provision of technical and training assistance for all partners that make up the consortium and provides direct services utilizing trained certified Navigators to consumers in Little Dixie's service area.



The percentage of the total costs of the program or project which will be financed with Federal money is 100%; the dollar amount of Federal funds for the project or program; \$547,926.00; and (3) the percentage and dollar amount of the total costs of the project or program that is financed by nongovernmental sources is 0% and \$0.00

The project described was supported by Funding Opportunity Number CA-NAV-15-001 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Service. The contents provided are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of HHS or any of its agencies.



LITTLE DIXIE

Transit

Name of Funders: Federal Transit Administration, Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Department of Human Services, Logisticare, Inc, Sooner Ride, Oklahoma Transit Association

Partners: Federal Transit Administration, Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Department of Human Services, Logisticare, Inc, Sooner Ride, Oklahoma Transit Association

Budget: \$3,028,080.00

Special Achievements and Awards: Through our active membership in the Oklahoma Transit Association in 2015, we helped secure the funding known as the Ladders of Opportunity. This funding brought dollars to the state for vehicle purchases. This was the first available funding for vehicle purchasing since 2010.

With a staff of 50 people, we provide local and more distance transportation services to the residents in Choctaw, Pushmataha and McCurtain counties. We logged 1,031,867 miles and completed 135,177 passenger trips. Of those 135,177 trips, 12,332 were made taking residents to and from work sites or job training facilities. 26,693 trips were made for education purposes and 17,864 trips were completed to take community members to and from medical appointments.

With a budget of \$3,028,080.00, we depend on our partnerships to generate revenues which help us achieve our program goals. One important partner is the Federal Transit

Administration. As a sub-recipient of FTA, Little Dixie Transit received federal funding in the amount of \$1,079,635 through the Section 5311-Formula Grants For Rural Areas Programs. These federal dollars help to subsidize and support the overall transit operation.

At the state level, we receive oversight from the Oklahoma Department of Transportation. In addition to providing guidance and technical support, ODOT also dispenses funds from the Public Transit Revolving Fund to eligible public transit systems across the state of Oklahoma. Recognizing the value of public transportation in local communities, the state legislature annually appropriates funding for the Public Transit Revolving Fund. Little Dixie Transit received \$227,757.00 dollars through this appropriation which was utilized to support the program expenditures in the areas of vehicle maintenance, vehicle insurance and salaries.

Another important partner for transit is the Department of Human Services. Through a contract with DHS, we annually provide service for eligible TANF clients and this generates revenue that we put back into the program to off-set operational expenses.

Because we are required to provide a 50% match for all operational expense, we actively pursue and maintain other contract services as well. One of Little Dixie Transit's most successful partnerships continues to be with Logisticare, Inc. Through the contract service known as Sooner Ride, Little Dixie

Transit provides non-emergency medical treatment for eligible Medicaid clients. This partnership with Logisticare, which spans more than 10 years, has enabled us to provide service to community members who need dialysis treatment, cancer treatment, etc. We believe that providing this vital link for residents to access medical care truly fulfills the LDCAA's mission statement of "Helping People, Changing Lives."



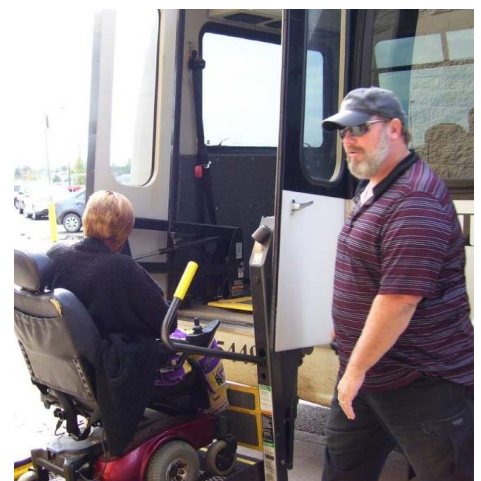
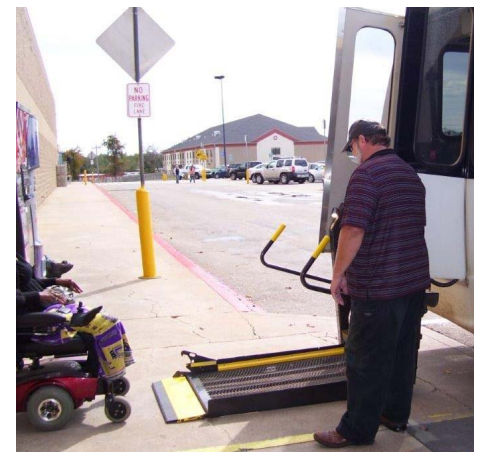
LogistiCare

Oklahoma
HealthCare
Authority
SoonerRide



LITTLE DIXIE

Transit: Sooner Ride



State Parks

Hugo Lake State Park is one of three State parks operated by Little Dixie Community Action Agency. Little Dixie has been operating a 289 acre section of this Corps Lake since 2002. Located 4 miles east of Hugo off Highway 70, the park is frequented by locals as well as visitors especially from nearby Metropolitan areas such as Dallas, Fort Worth, Arlington, Frisco, Tulsa, Edmond and Oklahoma City. Once considered the best kept secret in Oklahoma State Parks, Hugo Lake State Park is now host to over 100,000 visitors every year, coming from as far away as Australia. The Park features several amenities including 16 two-bedroom fully equipped Resort Cabins and 10 Primitive Cabins which are available year round. Also within the Park is a Luxury Hospitality and Training Center featuring 4 bedrooms, a meeting room, several bathroom facilities a large kitchen and very spacious deck providing the best view of scenic Hugo Lake. The Hospitality and Training center is often booked for weddings and family gatherings and also serves as the site for the Annual Lt. Governor's Turkey Hunt.

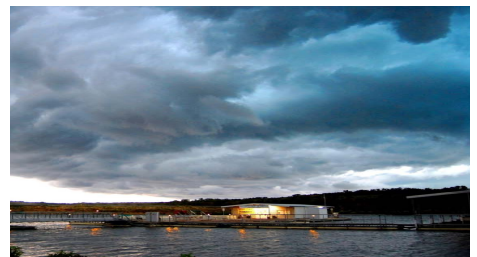
Hugo Lake Marina is the only marina on the 13,250 acre lake and it offers 56 boat slips which may be rented by the month or annually. The Ships store serves as the Visitors Center and Cabin Check-in station. Park employees are eager to inform visitors about the amenities within the park or visitors can obtain brochures with lots of helpful information. The store stocks snacks, ice, and limited fishing and camping supplies. Other amenities within the Park include several nature trails and a paved handicap accessible trail complete with its own trailside pavilion and fishing dock. The primitive cabins (not pictured) are equipped with bathrooms, screened decks overlooking the lake, heat and air, twin beds and tables and chairs.

Clayton Lake State Park features three

primitive cabins and one large Resort Cabin as well as numerous tent camping and RV sites. Other amenities include fishing docks (one ADA compliant), boat ramp, picnic tables, swimming areas and playgrounds. The lake covers 95 acres and is classified as a "no wake" lake which complements the quiet nature of the park and local wildlife. The park is located only a few miles from the historic Choctaw Nation Capitol of Tushka Homma, which is home to a museum and the annual Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival that draws people from all over the Country.

Raymond Gary State Park is without question one of the most beautiful scenic and serene attractions in the State. The 370 acre lake provides some of the best fishing spots around. The 64-acre Park is adorned with large trees, natural trails and beautiful wildlife. The park has a swimming area, playgrounds, boat ramps, numerous fishing jetties, RV and tent camping areas and six primitive cabins close to the waterfront. There is an ADA compliant fishing dock and two large picnic pavilions. The park host an annual Christmas Boat parade the first weekend of December in cooperation with the local Raymond Gary Lake Housing Association and also an annual fireworks show on the lake each July 4th.

Little Dixie also operates Group Camps 1 and 2 within **Beavers Bend State Park**. These camps offer the perfect retreat for large gatherings i.e. reunions, Church retreats, and summer camps. Each camp can accommodate approximately 150 people in bunk-style cabins and each has designated outdoor areas for group activities i.e. picnics, etc. The camps feature fully-equipped kitchen facilities with furnished dining areas. Within the park, visitors enjoy canoe rentals, trail rides, trout fishing, miniature train ride, paddle boats, golf and a full service marina.



2015 Agency-Wide Budget by Categories 1/01/15-12/31/15

EXPENSE CATEGORY	BUDGET
SALARIES/WAGES	8,200,000.00
FRINGE BENEFITS.....	2,685,000.00
INDIRECT COSTS.....	1,625,000.00
STIPENDS	200,000.00
CONTRACTUAL	825,000.00
TRAVEL/TRANSPORTATION.....	1,064,000.00
SPACE COST	225,000.00
TELEPHONE/UTILITIES.....	510,000.00
REHAB/RENOVATION.....	50,000.00
POSTAGE.....	25,000.00
SUPPLIES	1,100,000.00
FOOD/NUTRITION SUPPORT	1,975,000.00
EQUIPMENT/FACILITIES.....	800,000.00
ADVERTISING/PROMOTION.....	85,000.00
INSURANCE	2,200,000.00
PRINTING/PUBLICATIONS.....	42,000.00
REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE.....	775,000.00
OTHER.....	400,000.00
TRAINING	200,000.00
FEES/LICENSING/DUES	150,000.00
DIRECT SERVICES.....	20,000.00
INTEREST	4,000.00
SUB TOTALS	23,160,000.00
MATCH/INKIND EXPENSE	2,400,000.00
TOTALS.....	25,560,000.00

Audit: Statement of Financial Position

	2015			
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	2015 Total
<u>ASSETS</u>				
Current Assets				
Cash	\$ 5,367,045	\$ 1,338,044	\$ 278,727	\$ 6,983,816
Due From Grantors	11,058	823,135	0	834,193
Other Receivables	22,228	261,810	0	284,038
Notes Receivable, Current, Net	0	79,668	9,959	89,627
Due From (To) Other Funds	40,000	(40,000)	0	0
Prepaid Expenses	0	0	0	0
Total Current Assets	5,440,331	2,462,657	288,686	8,191,674
Non-Current Assets				
Notes Receivable, Net	0	422,423	1,636,645	2,059,068
Property Held For Sale	380,607	215,177	38,141	633,925
Property and Equipment	12,344,229	0	0	12,344,229
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(6,707,173)	0	0	(6,707,173)
Total Non-Current Assets	6,017,663	637,600	1,674,786	8,330,049
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 11,457,994	\$ 3,100,257	\$ 1,963,472	\$ 16,521,723
<u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable	\$ 108,882	\$ 132,140	\$ 0	\$ 241,022
Accrued Expenses	430,796	0	0	430,796
Deposits Subject to Refund	23,400	0	0	23,400
Insurance and Taxes Payable	0	0	0	0
Escrow Payables	0	819	0	819
Deferred Revenue	0	0	0	0
Notes Payable - Current Portion	0	37,116	0	37,116
Total Current Liabilities	563,078	170,075	0	733,153
Long-Term Liabilities				
Other Payable	0	0	0	0
Notes Payable	1,270,196	359,882	0	1,630,078
Less: Current Portion Notes Payable	0	(37,116)	0	(37,116)
Total Long-Term Liabilities	1,270,196	322,766	0	1,592,962
Total Liabilities	1,833,274	492,841	0	2,326,115
Net Assets				
Unrestricted Net Assets	9,624,720	0	0	9,624,720
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	0	2,607,416	0	2,607,416
Permanently Restricted Net Assets	0	0	1,963,472	1,963,472
Total Net Assets	9,624,720	2,607,416	1,963,472	14,195,608
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 11,457,994	\$ 3,100,257	\$ 1,963,472	\$ 16,521,723

Audit: Statement of Activities

		2015		
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	2015 Total
REVENUES				
Contributions	\$ 32,395	\$ 58,276	\$ 0	\$ 90,671
Rental	769,347	18,360	0	787,707
Federal Grants and Loans	253,372	12,453,047	20,000	12,726,419
State Grants	0	538,729	0	538,729
Program Fees and Contracts	628,928	2,049,961	0	2,678,889
Recoveries from Programs	3,266,400	0	0	3,266,400
Miscellaneous	2,119	0	0	2,119
Match Revenues	0	1,788,004	0	1,788,004
Interest and Dividends	28,638	29,380	0	58,018
Net Assets Released from Restrictions:				
Satisfaction of Program Restrictions	17,051,921	(17,051,921)	0	0
Total Revenues	22,033,120	(116,164)	20,000	21,936,956
EXPENSES				
Program Services				
Head Start and Child Care	7,250,255	0	0	7,250,255
Community Services	2,845,465	0	0	2,845,465
Food Programs	1,810,062	0	0	1,810,062
Housing	3,552,980	0	0	3,552,980
Emergency Food and Shelter	12,147	0	0	12,147
Senior Volunteer Program	185,266	0	0	185,266
Delinquency Prevention	0	0	0	0
Transportation	2,608,231	0	0	2,608,231
Economic Development	814,714	0	0	814,714
Supportive Services				
General Operating	3,704,254	0	0	3,704,254
Total Expenses	22,783,374	0	0	22,783,374
Change in Net Assets	(750,254)	(116,164)	20,000	(846,418)
Prior Period Adjustment	0	0	0	0
Interfund Transfers	684,104	(215,104)	(469,000)	0
Returned to Grantor	0	0	0	0
Amount Provided by Grantor	0	0	0	0
Capitalized Notes Receivable	0	0	0	0
Capitalized Fixed Assets	15,367	18,331	0	33,698
Gain (Loss) on Disposition of Assets	(60,901)	60,550	0	(351)
Net Assets, December 31, 2014	9,736,404	2,859,803	2,412,472	15,008,679
NET ASSETS, DECEMBER 31, 2015	\$ 9,624,720	\$ 2,607,416	\$ 1,963,472	\$ 14,195,608

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Community Action Agency, Inc.