



CENTER FOR  
**FAMILY RESILIENCE**  
College of Education and Human Sciences

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page #

ABOUT US.....3

OUR WORK.....4

OUR IMPACT.....9

LOOKING FORWARD.....10

OUR CELEBRATIONS.....11

THANK YOU.....12

# ABOUT US

The Center for Family Resilience (CFR) was founded in 2009 as a community resource focused on equipping families to achieve their fullest personal and social potential. The CFR conducts and translates scientific knowledge about families and family life into strategies that build individual and family resilience. On a mission to discover solutions for today's families, Oklahoma State University's CFR serves Oklahoma's communities through Research, Translation and Education, and Community Outreach and Engagement projects and initiatives.

Since July 2020, the CFR has worked to expand their prevention footprint in Oklahoma by fostering interdisciplinary partnerships to coordinate and launch the 2021-2022 Oklahoma Prevention Needs Assessment (OPNA) administration in collaboration with the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS), OSU National Center for Wellness and Recovery (NCWR), and the OSU Center for Rural Health. The CFR has also built upon prior school-based prevention projects by entering into an expanded partnership with ODMHSAS to provide technical assistance to 13 school districts across Oklahoma as they develop strategic plans for implementation of tiered systems of support for prevention and treatment of youth behavioral and mental health needs.

## STAFF AND STUDENTS

Interim Director

Brooke M. Tuttle, Ph.D.

Associate Director of  
Education and Translation

Amanda W. Harrist, Ph.D.

Associate Director of  
Research

Karina Shreffler, Ph.D.

Associate Director of  
Community Engagement and  
Outreach

Ronald B. Cox Jr., Ph.D.

Prevention Coordinator  
Chantelle Lott, M.S.

Field Project Coordinator  
Jessi Roberts, B. S.

Project Coordinator  
Caitlin Hendrex, M.S.W

Graduate Research Associates:

Carly Dunn, M. S.

Tia Claybrook, M. S.

Jennifer Weston, M. S. W.

Kristen Clevenger, M. S.

Hannah James, B. S.

CFR Research Support:

Ryan Farmer, Ph.D.

Zach Giano, Ph.D.

Rashmi Singh, Ph.D.

Melissa Robinson M. S. W.

Haven Harrison, B. S.

Camryn Chitty, B. S.

Brianna Johnston, Intern

"I have enjoyed being a part of a team that takes a broad overview of human service research and practice, and effectively ties research and practice together for the benefit of the state and community."

- CFR Research Associate

# OUR WORK

## OKLAHOMA PAX GOOD BEHAVIOR GAME PROJECT: PAX GBG & PAX TOOLS

Since 2015, the CFR has been in partnership with the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS) to provide statewide support for the PAX Good Behavior Game (PAX GBG) intervention. PAX GBG is a universal prevention strategy used to support the mental and behavioral health of students in Oklahoma through a classroom environmental intervention. PAX GBG promotes self-regulation among students based on a nurturing environment framework. The CFR provides training, implementation, and evaluation support for participating schools as part of ODMHSAS' broader vision to scale PAX GBG in Oklahoma. During the 2020-2021 school year, virtual PAX GBG support provided by the CFR continued to address the needs of Oklahoma educators and students as they faced added challenges associated with disruptions to teaching and learning from the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result of the Oklahoma PAX GBG Project, in 2020-2021, the CFR reached [17](#) new schools; trained [240](#) Oklahoma educators with PAX GBG; supported [21](#) PAX GBG schools through PAX Partnering; trained [13](#) PAX Tools Community Educators; and trained [66](#) parents, caregivers, and youth workers with PAX Tools.

## OKLAHOMA RECOVERY & RESILIENCE PROJECT

In partnership with the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS), the CFR provided technical assistance to [13](#) school districts across Northeast Oklahoma on the implementation of Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) to meet student mental and behavioral health needs as part of the Oklahoma Recovery & Resilience project which aimed to support schools in areas which were impacted by flooding in 2019. The CFR offered technical support and training on mission and vision development, logic model building, introduction to tiered prevention support systems, and family engagement strategies. Significant assistance was offered to schools through one-on-one strategic planning meetings to assist school sites in developing Tiered Support Action Plans and expand evidence-based interventions in the school setting. The Tiered Support Action Plans developed through the project provided school districts with plans to aid schools in building capacity to meet whole child needs, provide evidence-based support services, and make referrals to treatment and resources when needed.

# OUR WORK

## FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CREDENTIAL

The CFR is the state coordinator for the Family Development Credential (FDC) program which collaborates with agencies to teach family workers how to coach families to set and reach their goals for healthy self-reliance. The program is implemented in many states throughout the nation, teaching and credentialing frontline workers from public, private and non-profit service systems (e.g., home visitors, case managers, family resource center workers, community health workers). During 2020-2021, [5](#) FDC cohorts were initiated across various Head Start and community action agencies in Oklahoma.



## OKLAHOMA PREVENTION NEEDS ASSESSMENT

In collaboration with the National Center for Wellness and Recovery (NCWR) at OSU Center for Health Sciences, the CFR has been preparing to launch and coordinate the 2021-2022 Oklahoma Prevention Needs Assessment (OPNA) administration. The OPNA is a biennial survey of public, private, and charter school students in 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th grades conducted by the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS). This statewide risk assessment measures research-based factors that are shown to contribute to student wellbeing and success and delivers risk and protective profiles that can be leveraged to inform prevention and intervention strategies at the school, district, county, and state levels. The CFR is serving as statewide technical support, is responsible for training district survey coordinators and synchronizing survey administration across the state. The CFR team has worked directly with ODMHSAS since January 2021 to: engage in a survey review process to guarantee instruments are reflective of current research and best practices, implement a streamlined electronic survey platform, translate survey materials to offer a Spanish OPNA version, develop a shortened survey for 6th graders, and provide additional supplemental question sets for districts to modify to fit their specific student population. Additionally, the CFR has created a virtual OPNA Survey Coordinator Community via Canvas to house documents, provide training, and instruct Oklahoma schools on how to best utilize OPNA data to meet student support needs.



# OUR WORK

## SMART REENTRY PROJECT

The Oklahoma State University (OSU) Center for Health Sciences, Center for Rural Health, and CFR partnered with Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration (MCN) Program in 2016 to provide risk assessment and referral support, and evaluation support for the Smart Reentry Program, an expansion of existing reintegration programming offered by MCN to tribal citizens post-release from prison. The goals of the Smart Reentry Program were to address the unmet needs of females who have experienced incarceration upon release from county jails and reduce recidivism among program participants. In collaboration with MCN, the CFR worked to establish connections with local county jails to recruit prospective program participants for initial risk assessment screening to determine program eligibility. Risk assessments were carried out through in-person jail visitation across county jails within MCN boundaries. The Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R) was used to guide referral decisions to the Smart Reentry Program. Follow-up interviews were conducted with program participants to assess program processes and outcomes. Evaluation results showed promising program results with recidivism rates lower than state and national averages.

## GET LIT! CFR'S FIRST ANNUAL INTERACTIVE COMMUNITY LITERACY EVENT

The CFR coordinated its first annual, interactive community literacy event where participants received free books and gained access to the literacy resources available in the community. Quraysh Ali Lasana, Director of the OSU-Tulsa Center for Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation, led a live reading of *Opal's Greenwood Oasis*, which he co-authored. This event connected [70](#) Tulsans to literacy resources in the Tulsa community.



# OUR WORK

## NORTH TULSA COMMUNITY COALITION EDUCATION TASK FORCE

The CFR supported the North Tulsa Community Coalition's virtual "Secure the Bag- One-Stop Resource Fair" by helping to provide education around financial aid, resume building, and healthy work environments to promote college and career readiness. Through this outreach, 214 community members were reached with educational information and resources.



## TULSAKIDS OUTREACH

CFR staff were invited to discuss the topics of parenting during the pandemic and effects of trauma on child behavior with TulsaKids Magazine Editor, Betty Casey, during live question and answer sessions hosted by TulsaKids Magazine and OSU-Tulsa. Interviews were live-streamed on TulsaKids Magazine and OSU-Tulsa Facebook pages and a recording is publicly available on the TulsaKids Magazine website. This interview was seen by over 950 community members.

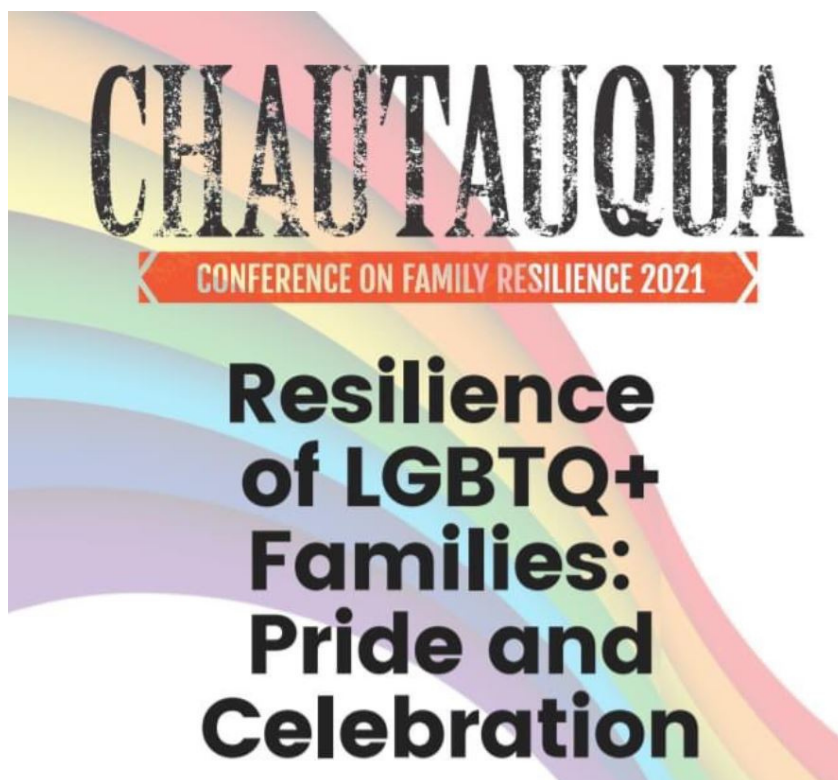
**Chantelle Lott**, the CFR's Prevention Coordinator, and **Tia Claybrook**, a CFR Graduate Research Associate, presented at the 27th Oklahoma Child Abuse and Neglect Conference on June 24, 2021.

Presentation title: "**Creating Nurturing Environments in Schools and Communities: The Oklahoma PAX Project**"

# OUR WORK

## CHAUTAUQUA CONFERENCE ON FAMILY RESILIENCE

The 12th annual Chautauqua: Conference on Family Resilience, hosted by the CFR and chaired by Drs. Julie Koch, Randy Hubach, and Amanda W. Harrist was held on February 26, 2021, via Zoom Video Communications with a total of 96 individuals in attendance. The 2021 conference, entitled Resilience of LGBTQ+ Families: Pride and Celebration, focused on celebrating the resilience of LGBTQ+ families and featured presentations from a collection of researchers and experts in the areas of LGBTQ+ and gender-expansive resilience, counseling, and psychology.



## SPEAKERS

### Dr. Anneliese Singh

Associate Provost for Faculty Development, Diversity/Chief Diversity Officer, Professor, the School of Social Work and affiliate faculty in the Psychology Department

Tulane University

Presentation: **Queer and Trans Resilience: Moving from Affirmation to Liberation in Our Collective Healing**

### Dr. Roberto L. Abreu

Assistant Professor of Counseling Psychology, Director of the Collective Healing and Empowering VoicEs through Research and Engagement in the Department of Psychology University of Florida

Presentation: **"Ser Latino te da una buena base sobre la familia": Understanding how Latinx Cultural Values and Beliefs Promote Acceptance of Sexual and Gender Diverse Family Members**

### Dr. Al Carlozzi

Professor Emeritus, Oklahoma State University, Former Director, OSU-Tulsa Counseling Center

Presentation: **Families of Transgender and Gender Expansive Persons: Support, Acceptance, Resilience, and Advocacy**

### Dr. Tangel Roberts

Assistant Professor of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology

Western Michigan University

Presentation: **Building a Family: An Exploration of Queer Resilience Through the Formation of Family**



# OUR WORK

## CFR RESEARCH SEMINARS

As part of their education and translation efforts, the CFR hosted virtual, monthly CFR Research Seminars on individual and family resilience, reaching 261 researchers, practitioners, and community members across 6 research seminars. Research findings and their implications were shared on topics ranging from mindfulness and trauma-informed care to shared language erosion among immigrant families.

**Amanda Harrist**, the CFR Associate Director of Education and Translation is a series Co-Editor of "Emerging Issues in Family Individual Resilience", a Springer book series that results from the annual CFR Chautauqua Conference on Family Resilience.

Our newest volume has been published! The reference for this new publication is below:

Harrist, A. W., & Wilson, S. M. (Series Eds.) & Stout, M. & Harrist, A. W. (Vol. Eds.). (2020). Emerging Issues in Family and Individual Resilience: Building Community and Family Resilience: Research Policy, and Program (Vol. 4). Cham, CH: Springer International.

## SPEAKERS

**Dr. Sara Coffey**, OSU Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Services at the Center for Health Sciences  
Presentation: **Shared Language Erosion: Rethinking Immigrant Family Communication and Impacts on Youth Development** (September, 2020)

**Dr. Ryan Farmer**, OSU School of Teaching, Learning, and Educational Sciences  
Presentation: **De-Implementation of Low-Value Practices: Necessary and Ethical for Evidence-Based Practice Getting Rid of Bad Practices in Mental Health Care** (October 2020)

**Dr. Rachel Schmitz**, OSU Department of Psychology  
Presentation: **Intersectional Family Systems Approach: Multifaceted Dynamics of Family Relationships, Identity, and Mental Health Among Young Adults** (November 2020)

**Dr. Larisa Callaway-Cole**, OSU Department of Human Development & Family Science  
Presentation: **Caregiving at Home and School with the Same Heart: Counterstories of a Loving Politic** (January 2021)

**Dr. Ronald B. Cox**, OSU Department of Human Development & Family Science  
Presentation: **Shared Language Erosion: Rethinking Immigrant Family Communication and Impacts on Youth Development** (March 2021)

**Dr. Ashley Kimble**, OSU Department of Human Development and Family Science  
Presentation: **Leveraging Family-School Partnerships for Resilience in the Context of COVID-19** (April 2021)

# OUR IMPACT

**1,000+**

Oklahomans reached  
through Outreach and  
Community Engagement

**676**

Researchers,  
practitioners, and  
community members  
reached through  
Education and Translation

**\$680,000+**

Generated in state, local, and sub-contracts

**47**

Schools supported by  
prevention programming  
and technical assistance

**5**

Graduate students  
supported

# LOOKING FORWARD

Looking forward, the CFR will continue to work with university, community, tribal, and state partners to promote resilience for individuals and families through prevention work. The CFR will carry out the 2021-2022 OPNA administration alongside NCWR and the Center for Rural Health which will mark the largest, wide-scale, data collection project for the CFR since its inception. Results of the OPNA will be used to inform community and state-level decisions around student support needs and substance use and mental health prevention.

The Oklahoma PAX Good Behavior Game Project has been renewed for 2021-2022 and the CFR will continue to scale this evidence-based prevention program in Oklahoma. Planning is also underway to support 6 additional school districts with technical assistance around prevention planning.

The CFR has also partnered with Amplify Tulsa to provide program evaluation support for comprehensive sexual health education programming in Tulsa area schools and community-based parent education around adolescent reproductive health beginning in July 2021.

The CFR excitedly looks forward to serving families in our community and state in the coming year.



# OUR CELEBRATIONS

Congrats to CFR Graduate Research Associate, **Carly Dunn**, on being named the **Sandra K. Trennepohl Endowed Scholar** by the Women for OSU and OSU Foundation!

Congrats to CFR Graduate Research Associate, **Jennifer Weston**, on being selected into the **2021-2022 Albert Schweitzer Fellowship**!

Congrats to CFR Graduate Research Associate, **Hannah James**, on completing the **Resilience Fellowship** with the OSU-Tulsa Center for Public Life!

Congrats to CFR Associate Director of Community Engagement and Outreach, **Dr. Ron Cox**, for his **Regents Distinguished Research Award**!

Congrats to CFR Associate Director of Education & Translation, **Dr. Amanda W. Harrist**, on her **Women for OSU Partnering to Impact** grant for **”Belonging,’ A Film to Inspire Teaching and Social Acceptance in the Classroom”**!



# THANK YOU

The CFR partners with university, community, state, tribal, and national organizations to carry out its mission. The work of the CFR is made possible by various funding sources including, but not limited to, the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and OSU's Department of Human Development and Family Science. The CFR would like to thank the following partners who were instrumental in helping advance the CFR's mission in 2020-2021:

- Amplify Tulsa
- Chickasaw Nation Children's Behavioral Health
- Muscogee Creek Nation Reintegration
- North Tulsa Community Coalition
- Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
- The Opportunity Project
- OSU Center for Public Life
- OSU Center for Rural Health
- OSU Department of Human Development & Family Science
- OSU National Center for Wellness and Recovery
- OSU Office of Institutional Diversity
- OSU School of Community Health Sciences, Counseling, and Counseling Psychology
- OSU-Tulsa Center for Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation
- TulsaKids