

Safety Net Services to Strengthen Families



About Us

Adult & Family Services (AFS) works with other OKDHS service teams, community partners, and stakeholders to help Oklahoma families meet their basic needs and move out of poverty through increased self-sufficiency and economic independence.

Adult and Family Services

We believe in the Science of Hope!

It's that simple. Our agency's goals center on the power of hope, and each day we work to build resilience in ourselves, our customers, and our communities.

Adult and Family Services

Population Served

Individuals with Disabilities:

- Adults 18 years or older determined likely to meet federal SSI disability criteria pending final administrative determination of disability by Social Security Administration (SSA).
- SSI recipients who are aged, blind, disabled, receive care in medical institution or residential setting, or whose spouse is not eligible for SSI.

Children and Families:

- Low-income individuals, families with dependent children, and/or pregnant individuals.
- Vulnerable children, including certain foster children receiving SSI.

Refugees:

- Recent refugee arrivals



ADULT AND FAMILY SERVICES

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Food Distribution

Food Distribution Unit manages USDA programs that provide nutritious food to schools, residential childcare institutions, elderly individuals, and low-income families across Oklahoma. In addition to operating a warehouse that directly distributes USDA foods to schools, the unit partners with regional food banks to distribute food through programs like the National School Lunch Program, The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP). The unit also supports local procurement, buying produce and meats from local farmers to reach underserved communities, addressing food insecurity, and promoting better health outcomes statewide.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

SNAP, formerly known as food stamps, provides monthly food benefits to low-income individuals and families via an EBT card, which can be used at grocery stores and online retailers statewide. The program helps alleviate food insecurity, ensuring that eligible households have access to nutritious food while promoting economic self-sufficiency. Benefits are determined based on household size, income, and allowable expenses.

Energy Assistance Programs

Energy Assistance Program provides essential support to low-income households by helping with home energy costs. The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) offers winter heating and summer cooling assistance. The Energy Crisis Assistance Program (ECAP) addresses emergency energy needs, helping prevent shutoffs and restore services. These programs are made available during open enrollment periods scheduled throughout the year and are contingent on the availability of federal funds, which can vary annually. Additionally, the Life-Threatening Energy Assistance Program is available year-round to support households where medical conditions make energy access critical. Oklahoma Human Services also partners with the Department of Commerce to provide weatherization services, enhancing home energy efficiency.

Child Care Subsidy

Child Care Subsidy Program helps low-income families pay for child care while parents or guardians work, attend school, or participate in training programs. Subsidies are paid directly to licensed providers, covering children from birth to age 13, and up to 19 for children with disabilities. The amount of assistance is based on household income, and families may be required to contribute to the costs. AFS staff determine eligibility.

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PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Aged, Blind, and Disabled (ABD)

This Program provides SoonerCare (Medicaid) services to aged 65+, blind and disabled persons who meet eligibility criteria. AFS determines the financial eligibility for Medicaid. In some instances, these individuals may be eligible for a small cash assistance payment, State Supplemental Payment (SSP) and assistance with their Medicare Premium cost.

Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN)

Funding by the Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant, Title V of the Social Security Act, provides specialty services to children and youth with special health care needs and their families. Included are neonatal services, specialty services for children diagnosed with sickle cell anemia and children diagnosed with Autism or other neurodevelopmental delays, formula for children with PKU, outreach clinics in both urban and rural areas and respite care services. These services are provided through our contracted partners.

Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA)

This Program provides SoonerCare (Medicaid) services to aged 65+, blind and disabled persons who meet eligibility criteria. AFS determines the financial eligibility for Medicaid. In some instances, these individuals may be eligible for a small cash assistance payment, State Supplemental Payment (SSP) and assistance with their Medicare Premium cost.

Long-Term Care

Long Term Care through Medicaid is a needs-based healthcare program that covers the cost of long-term care for seniors and disabled individuals who meet the state's eligibility requirements. These services include home and community-based waiver programs and nursing facility care. AFS staff determines financial eligibility for LTC services.

Refugee Assistance Program

The Refugee Resettlement Program (RRP) receives grants from the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) and funds local statewide organizations to provide critical services to refugees. RRP ensures provision and coordination of services that help refugees achieve economic self-sufficiency and social adjustment upon their arrival in Oklahoma.

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PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

SNAP Employment & Training (OK SNAP Works)

OK SNAP Works program is designed to help SNAP participants gain the skills, education, and work experience needed to secure sustainable, living-wage employment. This voluntary program is offered at no cost to participants and focuses on meeting the work requirements for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD). OK SNAP Works partners with contracted organizations to provide participants with tailored case management and access to a variety of supportive services, such as transportation, to help overcome potential barriers to success. Through individualized assessments and ongoing support, the program ensures participants are well-equipped for their career paths, contributing to Oklahoma's workforce development goals.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

TANF program is a federally funded, time-limited assistance program designed to support low-income families with children when parents or caregivers cannot meet the family's basic needs. TANF provides temporary cash assistance to help families cover essential expenses while they work toward self-sufficiency. In addition to financial support, the program connects participants with services such as job training, education, and employment resources to promote long-term economic stability.

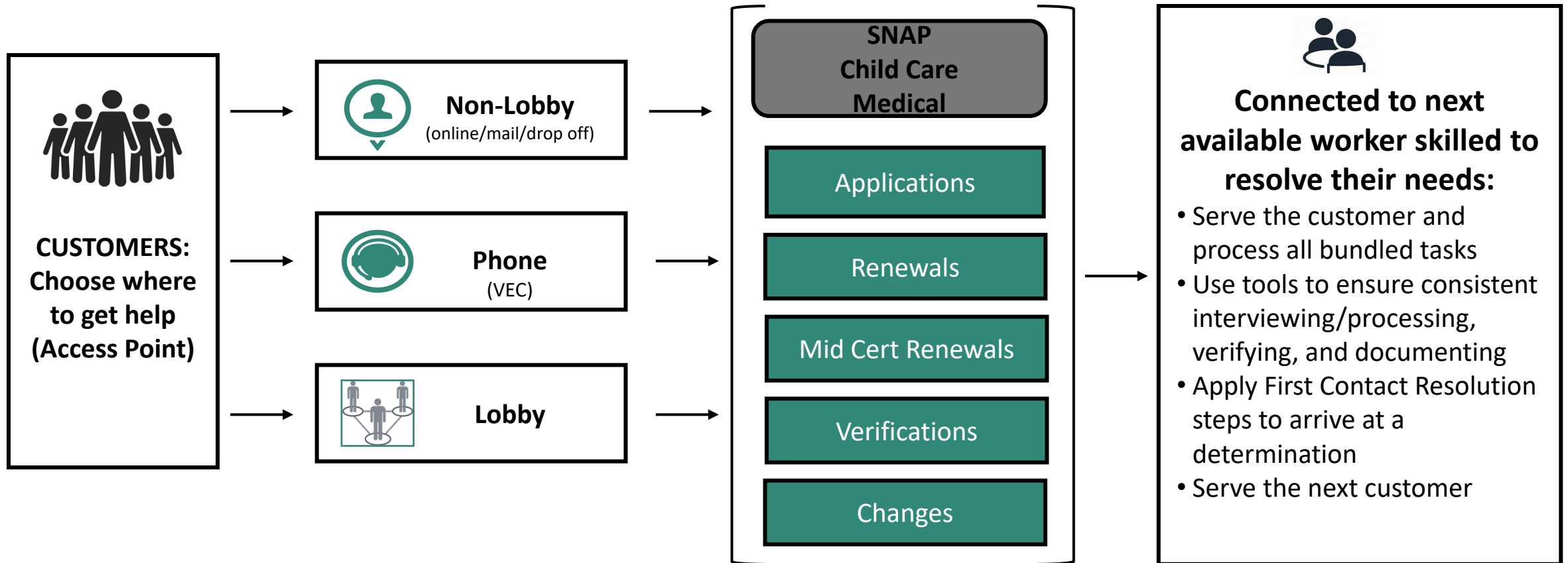
TANF Family Strengthening

TANF Family Strengthening programs, rooted in the concept of "Familyhood," takes a holistic approach to addressing poverty by focusing on the essential elements that contribute to family stability and self-sufficiency. This initiative supports low-income families by providing resources and services aimed at improving parenting skills, fatherhood engagement, healthy relationships, and financial capability. In collaboration with Work Ready Oklahoma, TANF Family ensures that parents are equipped not only to enter the workforce but also to maintain employment through supportive services like reliable childcare and transportation assistance. The program's goal is to build the capacity of both adults and youth, fostering stronger, more self-sufficient families.


TANF Work


TANF Work programs help families achieve long-term self-sufficiency by providing access to employment and educational opportunities. It equips parents and caregivers with the skills and training needed to secure sustainable employment. TANF Work also supports families through education and work contracts that offer essential resources, job readiness training, and career placement services, all aimed at promoting financial independence and reducing reliance on public assistance.


Adult and Family Services Service Delivery Model




How do Oklahomans apply for benefits?

 OKDHSLive.org provides 24/7 access to applying online.

 By phone using the DHS Contact Center Line 405-522-5050.

 41 OKDHS offices where people can apply in person. [DHS Office Locations \(oklahoma.gov\)](https://oklahoma.gov/okdhs/library/calendarmobile.html)

 AFS Mobile Office - Visit the link for the mobile office calendar <https://oklahoma.gov/okdhs/library/calendarmobile.html>

