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Community Teamwork brings Lincoln County \$50,000

Lincoln County, OK September 22, 2006—Teamwork led by Judge Craig Key, chair of the Lincoln County Community Partnership Board pays off big for its residents. With funds and support from Oklahoma Systems of Care and the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth, Lincoln County will now be one step closer to improving the quality of services available for families and their children.

The Award

This \$50,000 is awarded on a competitive basis to communities across Oklahoma who show a commitment to families and working together to improve mental health services and supports in their area. This award also covers other initiatives such as *positive youth development* which is focused on working with teenagers on projects that promote leadership, giving back, confidence and developing adult mentors. The Lincoln County Systems of Care office will be based out of Red Rock Creekside in Chandler, Oklahoma.

Background

Oklahoma Systems of Care is sponsored by the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and serves over 500 children yearly. It focuses on community ownership and the voice of families in providing mental health and behavior supports to parents and their children ages 0-22. After six months in the program the average family sees a dramatic drop in school suspensions, self harm attempts and number of times their child is put inpatient in hospitals for crisis situations. The Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth is the state agency responsible for improving the services for children through coordination of public and private agencies, independent monitoring of child and youth serving agencies, and the creation of effective community program models.

For more information or help

For more information on Systems of Care call, 405-522-4151 or go to the web at www.oksoc.org. For more information on the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth call, 1-866-335-9288 or go to the web at www.okkids.org. For information on programs and services provided by Red Rock Creekside call, 405-240-5010 or go to the web at www.red-rock.com.

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