



October 2022

Access our website at: <https://ouhsc.edu/thecenter>

## Featured Partner

The Oklahoma Family Support 360° Center (FS360°), with our featured partner, [Oklahoma Human Services Title V Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs](#), serves Hispanic families whose primary language is Spanish who are caring for children or young adults with developmental disabilities that are Medicaid eligible. FS360° provides coordination and other assistance for [OKmama](#), a support group for Hispanic families. All information, trainings, and events are in Spanish. Recently, additional funding has allowed the expansion of services to include Black/African American families. To find out more about F360°, visit their [information page](#) located on The Center for Learning and Leadership's website. You can also support the Oklahoma Family Support 360° Center with a donation through the [OU Foundation](#) website.

## Flu Season is Here – Get Your Shot (or Mist) Today!

Fall and winter months bring color changes in the leaves, cooler temps, and the flu. If you haven't already received your flu shot, it's time to get one scheduled. [Use this locator](#) to schedule at a site near you. You can select specific flu vaccine options including an egg-free flu shot, the nasal spray option for those who are needle hesitant or anxious, and a higher dose option for people 65 years and older.

Did you know that if the timing coincides appropriately that you can get your flu and COVID-19 vaccines/booster at the same time? Read more about this and other flu shot guidance provided by the CDC on their [Frequently Asked Influenza \(Flu\) Questions: 2022-2023 Season webpage](#).

## Social Security Administration Mails Information to Help Support Transition-Aged Supplemental Security Income Recipients

On September 27<sup>th</sup>, over 342,000 transition-aged youth between the ages of 14-17 year that receive SSI were mailed a notice from the Social Security Administration (SSA) and their adult representatives, sharing information on policy and resources that are useful in the transition to adulthood. Resources include information on ABLE accounts, work incentives, and redetermination policies for SSI once a recipient turns 18. To learn more, visit the SSAs [webpage focused on transition-aged youth](#).

## Oklahoma Family Network Celebrates 25 Years

[Oklahoma Family Network](#) (OFN) is celebrating 25 years of connecting "individuals with special health care needs and disabilities, their families, and professionals to services and support in their communities." OFN provides support to families through trainings, resource connections, and by linking families to other families who have had similar experiences. Oklahoma Family Network focuses on ensuring high quality healthcare for all children and families through strong and effective family and professional partnerships.

## Voting: Tools and Reminders

If you plan to vote in November's general election, you **must** be [registered to vote](#) by Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. If you need to [request an absentee ballot](#), the deadline is October 24<sup>th</sup>. The American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) advocates for the civil rights of American with Disabilities. Visit their website to [view a quick guide](#) on how people with disabilities can vote in the election on November 8<sup>th</sup>.

## EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### October 21<sup>st</sup> FREE Lunch and Learn featuring Ellyn Hefner (Virtual)

The [Oklahoma Family Resource Center](#) and Oklahoma Family Network invite you to their virtual Lunch and Learn on October 21<sup>st</sup> from 12-1pm. This month's speaker is Ellyn Hefner - ChSNC, Special Care Planner. She will be going over financial planning options including ABLE Accounts and Special Needs Trusts. Registration is **not** required; [simply use this zoom link](#) at the time of the event. If you have questions, please contact: [OFRCOK@gmail.com](mailto:OFRCOK@gmail.com)

### November 1<sup>st</sup> -2<sup>nd</sup> Oklahoma Transition Institute (Virtual and In-Person options)

The [Oklahoma Transition Council](#) invites you to the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Oklahoma Transition Institute on November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. All participants [must register](#) and can choose to attend virtually. It will be held in person at MetroTech's Springlake Campus located at 1900 Springlake Dr. in Oklahoma City.

### November 1<sup>st</sup>: FREE Caregiver Conference (Virtual)

[OKCares](#) invites you to attend a FREE virtual conference for family caregivers on November 1<sup>st</sup> from 10 AM-3 PM. There will be drawings for gift cards throughout the day. Topics will include respite, health and wellness, and support across the lifespan. Visit the [event page](#) for more details and to register.

### November 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>: HHS ASPE/BHDAP Information and Q&A Sessions with Stakeholders (Virtual)

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE), Office of Behavioral Health, Disability, and Aging Policy (BHDAP) and RTI International will tell you about the data project, "Integrated Dataset on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities". They want to make a dataset to learn about the supports and services people with ID/DD use and their outcomes. They are inviting the public to register and attend their [information session](#), a Q&A session for [state participation](#), a Q&A session for [people with lived experience](#), and a Q&A session for information on [data and privacy](#). Please register for each session you are interested in attending. If you will need accommodations, please sign up by October 24<sup>th</sup>.

## Giving Season

As the holiday season approaches, please consider [making a tax-deductible donation](#) to help the Center for Learning and Leadership/UCEDD continue our support of people with disabilities and their families. Your donation helps most where we cannot use federal or state money to support a need.

## We want to hear from you!

Do you have news or an event to share? Please send all information including a link (if applicable) to [learn2lead-ucedd@ouhsc.edu](mailto:learn2lead-ucedd@ouhsc.edu). All submissions should be in no later than the fourth Friday of the month before publication (ex: 4<sup>th</sup> Friday in June for July's newsletter).

Sign-up to receive our free monthly newsletter *focus facts on community living* <http://tiny.cc/focusfacts>

Or use your cell phone camera and point it to this QR code



The University of Oklahoma advances a diverse, equitable, and inclusive university community by embracing each person's unique contributions, background, and perspectives. OU Norman, OU Tulsa, and the Health Sciences Center recognize that fostering an inclusive environment for all, with particular attention to the needs of the historically marginalized populations, is vital to the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of our institutional mission and enhances the OU experience for all students, faculty, and staff.

*focus facts* is published for the University Affiliated Developmental Disabilities Network members. Its purpose is to highlight specific information and data items relevant to developing and sustaining positive community environments. Individual information items are provided for use in this form, or for further circulation. When re-printing information please reference *focus facts* and the month of issue noted below the banner at the top of this page. The name of a contact person for additional information on items referenced in the newsletter is provided for your convenience. If you have data, information or a story to report relevant to community living, please send it to *focus facts* Editor at the Center for Learning and Leadership/UCEDD OU Health Sciences Center, PO Box 2690, Oklahoma City, OK 73126.

Please include the information source, by title, a one paragraph (or less) description or story, a contact name who can provide additional information on the subject, and a daytime or evening telephone number for the contact. If you have questions regarding the format for submissions, please call the Center for Learning and Leadership/UCEDD Headquarters Office at (405) 271-4500.

The University Affiliated Developmental Disabilities Network is open to membership by any organization or individual who shares the interests of Network members. The Network is dedicated to identifying opportunities for collaboration and information exchange among its participating members, which leads to improving our statewide, regional or local capacity to provide a better living environment in Oklahoma for people with developmental and other disabilities and their families. The Network is partially supported through a grant from the U.S. Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Department of Health and Human Services, and by the Offices of the Designated Representatives of the Center for Learning and Leadership/UCEDD Collaborating Partners.

If you have a disability (Deaf/hard-of-hearing, Blind/low-vision, mobility, cognitive, etc.), and require accommodations, please reach out to [Learn2Lead@ouhsc.edu](mailto:Learn2Lead@ouhsc.edu). It is helpful if you share what type of accommodations will be needed to ensure that you are able to use the resource materials.