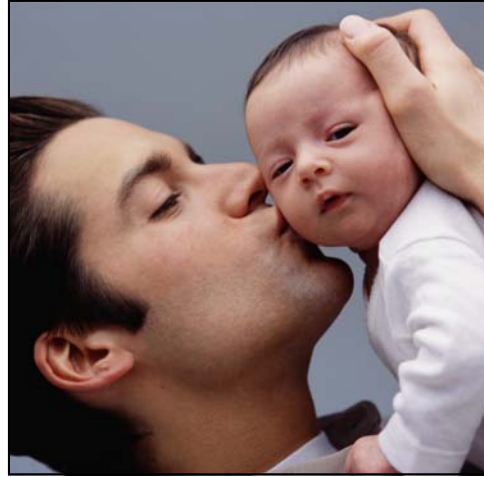


Funding

Funding for the Oklahoma Parents as Teachers (OPAT) program is dependent on annual legislation. The number of programs and participating districts increases as funds become more available. To receive more information about the OPAT program contact the Oklahoma State Department of Education, Early Childhood/Family Education section at (405) 521-3346.



| Year | Funding Level | Number of Districts | Families Served |
|-----------|---------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 2006-2007 | \$2,045,709 | 97 | 5,117 |
| 2005-2006 | \$2,045,709 | 99 | 5,619 |
| 2004-2005 | \$1,295,000 | 68 | 4,235 |
| 2003-2004 | \$1,044,250 | 46 | 2,838 |
| 2002-2003 | \$2,539,500 | 169 | 6,598 |

Oklahoma Parents As Teachers

2006-2007 Report

Sandy Garrett, State Superintendent of Public Instruction
Oklahoma State Department of Education

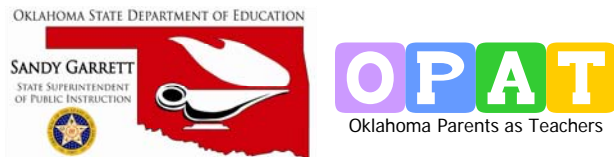
Oklahoma Parents as Teachers programs serving 97 school districts, 5,117 families

The Oklahoma Parents as Teachers (OPAT) program is designed to support parents as their child's first and most important teacher by enhancing the positive skills and practices parents already possess and building upon them with current child development research.

Modeled after the nationally recognized Parents as Teachers (PAT) program, which is found in all 50 states and seven countries, the effort is based on extensive research indicating that a child's most productive and influential years of learning occur during the first three years of life.



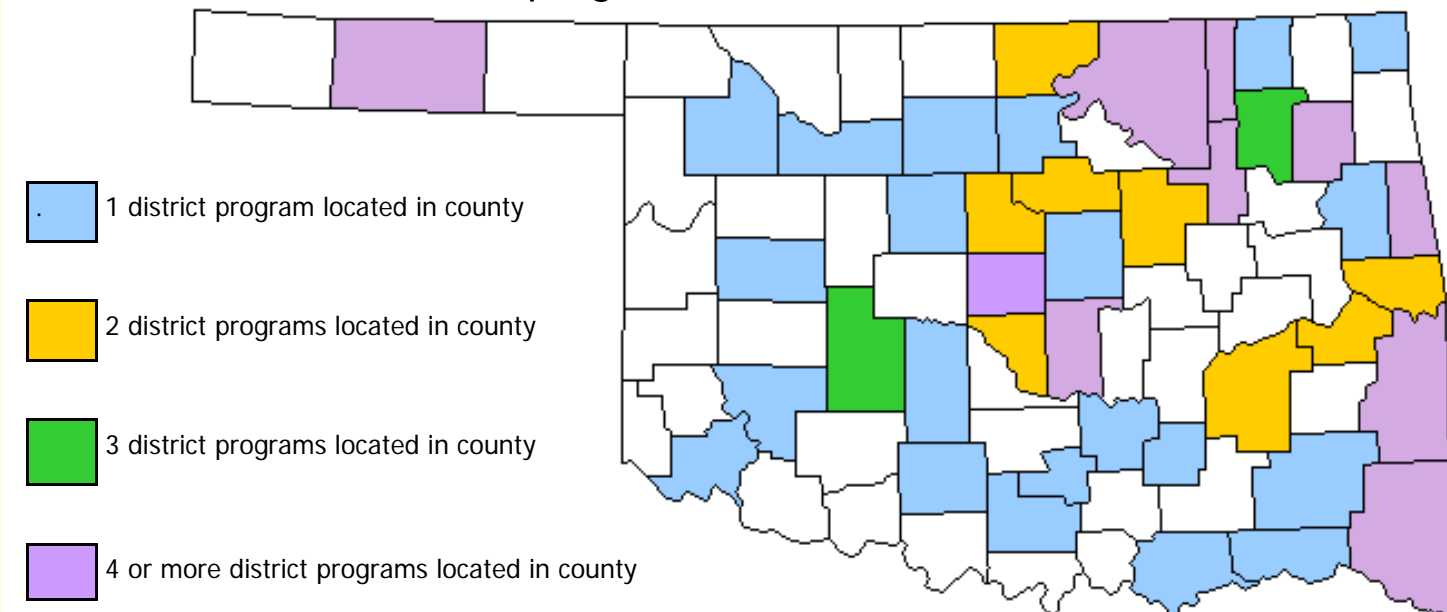
As a result of 1990's Education Reform and Funding Act, OPAT began in 1992 with 13 pilot projects. After sixteen years of continued support, there are 76 programs serving 97 school districts statewide. The program is free and voluntary to ALL families with children birth through 36 months of age who reside in participating school districts as there is space and funding available. The Early Childhood/Family Education office at the Oklahoma State Department of Education project that some 6,000 families will be served in the 2007-2008 school year.



Oklahoma Parents as Teachers
Oklahoma State Department of Education
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599

The average cost to provide the OPAT program to a family in 2006-2007 was \$403.

Parents as Teachers programs in Oklahoma Public School Districts



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O P A T

What does OPAT offer families?

- Personalized monthly visits
- Parent group meetings
- Resources and referrals
- Developmental screenings
- Early partnership between home and school

- 90% of all OPAT children were enrolled in the program before their second birthday, ensuring earlier intervention.
- OPAT programs far exceeded the program goal of one parent group meeting per month. Many programs hosted three or four parent group meetings each month.
- The percentage of OPAT children age 19-35 months who have received appropriate immunizations continued to increase (up to 90.8%).

During the ten months of the program, 36,341 personal visits were made by the OPAT parent educators.

What are the benefits?

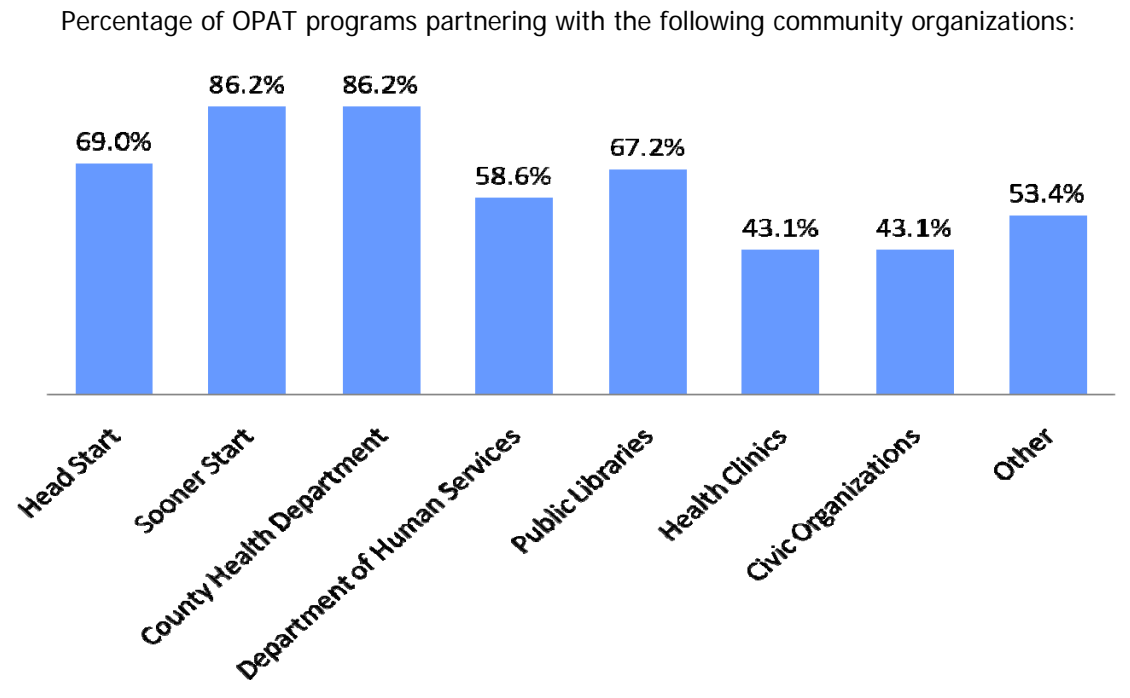
- Increased parental knowledge of child development
 - Strong parent-child relationships
 - A better foundation for school success
 - Fewer developmental delays

National research continues to reveal the following findings of children who participate in a Parents as Teachers program:

- Parents in the Parents as Teachers program read more frequently to their young children and were more likely to enroll their children in preschool, which were positively linked to school readiness and later school achievement.
- For poor children, high intensity Parents as Teachers and preschool participation appears to narrow the achievement gap at kindergarten entry and third grade.

Pfannenstiel, J. C. & Zigler, E. (2007). Prekindergarten experiences, school readiness and early elementary achievement. Unpublished report prepared for Parents as Teachers National Center.

Community Partnerships



| Risk Factors | Percent of Children |
|---|---------------------|
| Low Income or Unemployed | 50.4 |
| Mother not High School Graduate | 21.5 |
| Teen Parent | 18.8 |
| Language other than English in the Home | 15.7 |
| Premature Birth or Low Birth Weight | 8.7 |
| Other Risk Factors | 9.2 |
| Child with Disability | 3.5 |

Results of all statistical tests indicated the OPAT program reduced risk levels for participating children.

Child outcomes are measured by the *Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ)*, a research-based, standardized assessment for screening a child's risk for delay. Based upon the outcomes of the ASQ, individual children may be referred to additional services, such as SoonerStart, as needed.

100% of age-eligible children were screened using the *Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ)*. Of the 249 children identified as "at risk" on the pre-ASQ, 172 of them were not identified as "at risk" on the post-ASQ, resulting in a significant positive change.



"The early years are when children discover windows to the vast world that lies between them."
— Ernest Boyer

