



**Annual Report
FY2011**

***Green Country Behavioral Health Services, Inc.
Muskogee County Head Start/Early Head Start***

**Green Country Behavioral Health Services, Inc.
Muskogee County Head Start/Early Head Start
FY2011 Annual Report**

Table of Contents

Mission..Vision..Values.....2

CEO Message.....3

GCBHS Programs/Scope of Services.....4

Demographics.....5

2011 Milestones.....7

Accreditations.....7

Partnerships and Collaborations.....9

GCBHS Program Outcomes.....10

Early Childhood Programs.....13

Early Childhood Outcomes.....14

Head Start/Early Head Start Self-
Assessment and Strategic Plan.....15

GCBHS Board of Directors/
Head Start Joint Governance.....16

Resources and Expenditures.....17

Looking Forward to FY2012.....18

Mission:

GCBHS strives to create a safe, supportive and welcoming environment where the people we serve can gain skills and resources necessary to lead self-sufficient, productive lives.

The mission of MCHS/EHS is to improve the lives of income-eligible children by providing early childhood development services that are family-focused, including education, health, nutrition and mental health.

Vision:

Our vision is to be the team of excellence and the premier provider of services.

Values:

As we provide services and interact with each other, GCBHS and Head Start employees value Accountability, Appreciation of Diversity, Continuing Staff Development, Highest Ethical Standards, Mutual Trust and Respect, Excellence, Stewardship, Open and Honest Communication, Dedication, Integrity and Loyalty.

To staff, board members, and community partners,

What a year this has turned out to be. We began FY2011 with a new billing system implemented by the State. As with all things new, it was a challenge. Now, as the fiscal year ends, we know the system will be changing again in a few months. And so we keep on.

On the Behavioral Health side of our business, we are, as always, keeping up with constant change. In FY2011, we received state contract budget cuts, like so many other agencies across Oklahoma, due to our State's economic climate. At the same time, we did not receive allowances for the core services required by our contract. So our perpetual challenge is to serve our consumers and meet our contractual obligations with less money. It is a constant struggle for Leadership to evaluate.

As always, quality of service has also been at the top of our goals and at the core of our evaluations across all programs. In April, we began a partnership with Strength of Mind, a psychiatric physician group providing psychiatric, medication clinic, and crisis stabilization services to our consumers through telemedicine. It is still early in our partnership, but our hope and our expectation is that our consumers are now provided a higher level of care through a more efficient system.

One of the biggest GCBHS programmatic changes this year has been the re-invention of Green Country's Employment Services division. With new program staff and a strong commitment from Leadership to be involved on a deeper level, this department is starting to thrive. With Muskogee County's unemployment rate reaching over 8% in FY2011, this is a vital program providing a service that truly changes lives.

GCBHS continues to be proud of our opportunity to bring Head Start and Early Head Start programs to Muskogee County. As we review the program year just completed, we are focusing on (1) do we have the best staff working with the most vulnerable population we serve? and, (2) how can we more effectively communicate with our staff and the community? As of this writing, vital discussions are taking place between Green Country and Head Start leadership, with a goal of restructuring the way we provide early childhood education services. As always, the primary goal of these programs is to ensure school-readiness for our Head Start children.

As in years past, we have maintained full enrollment in both Head Start and Early Head Start. Since the need in Muskogee is so great, we have also had an on-going waiting list for both programs. In maintaining quality services, training is vitally important. Our Head Start employees have tremendous opportunities for training, as well as the availability for technical support. This training and instruction is heavily supported through Head Start and Early Head Start grant funds. In FY2011, we were also fortunate to continue partnerships with many school systems throughout the county and we watched these relationships grow and flourish.

My philosophy continues to be this: efficient, effective, and caring Leadership will create a staff of the same qualities, which will ensure that the services we provide across all of our programs will be the very best. And that is what we strive for – always – to be the organization where individuals and families in our community come for services.

To GCBHS and Head Start/Early Head Start staff: Thanks again for the work you do!

Joy

Joy R. Sloan, LCSW

Green Country Behavioral Health Services, Inc.

Scope of Services

Programs

Green Country Behavioral Health Services, Inc. is a private, non-profit community behavioral health center incorporated in 1979 in response to the need for comprehensive mental health care in our community. We serve adults, adolescents and children in Muskogee and McIntosh Counties. Our main phone line, 918.682.8407, is also a 24-hour crisis line.

GCBHS employees are committed to providing compassionate, inclusive behavioral health care and substance abuse treatment, including crisis intervention and stabilization. Our clients may either access services on a “walk-in” basis or may schedule appointments within three business days. Our Adult Crisis Stabilization Unit has a 20-bed capacity. Crisis services to children and adolescents are provided by our Mobile Crisis Team. Our psychiatric physician group, Strength of Mind, provides services through telemedicine in both Muskogee and McIntosh Counties.

GCBHS became grantee for Muskogee County Head Start in 1998 and began providing services to pre-school aged children and their families. We became grantee for the Muskogee County Early Head Start Program in 2001 and began providing services for infants, toddlers, expectant mothers and their families.

Behavioral Health Services

GCBHS offers the following services:

Assessment
Referral
Case Management
Co-occurring Counseling
Crisis Services
Individual Therapy
Family Therapy
Group Therapy
School Based Services
Medication Clinic

Early Childhood Services

Head Start site locations:

- Braggs School Campus
- East Campus Muskogee*
- Fort Gibson School Campus*
- Haskell School Campus
- JBR Campus Muskogee*
- Wainwright School Campus
- Warner School Campus
- Youth Central Muskogee*

Early Head Start locations:

- Head Start sites above*
- Shawnee Campus Muskogee

Vocational Rehabilitation Program

In 1996, Green Country’s Employment Services Program began providing assistance to adults with behavioral health diagnoses and/or physical disabilities who are interested in entering the work force or returning to work. We provide specialized assistance, based upon individual need, with support in preparing for, finding, obtaining, and maintaining competitive employment. GCBHS also offers supported employment services for those with the most severe disabilities, which provides a longer period of both preparation and on-the-job assistance.

Demographics

Muskogee County, located in north-eastern Oklahoma is a county of rolling hills and valleys with major waterways. The population density is 85 people per square mile.

Muskogee County demographics, as outlined in U.S. Census Bureau 2009 estimates, are as follows:

Age:

0 – 19.....24.7%
 20 – 64.....60.6%
 65+older.....14.7%

Gender:

Female.....51.1%
 Male.....48.9%

County Racial Composition:

Caucasian.....59.8%
 African American.....11.3%
 Native American.....17.5%
 Hispanic.....5.2%
 More than 1 race.....6.2%

A comparison of statistics shows GCBHS staff and Board even more culturally diverse than the community we serve.

GCBHS/Head Start Staff Racial Composition:

Caucasian.....51%
 African American.....19%
 Native American.....23%
 Hispanic.....5.5%

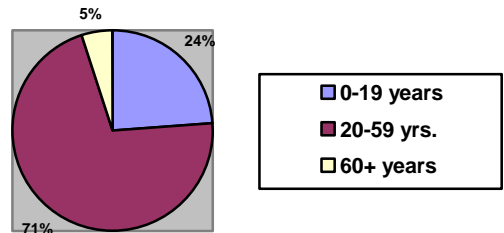
Governing Board Composition:

Caucasian.....42%
 African American.....29%
 Native American.....29%

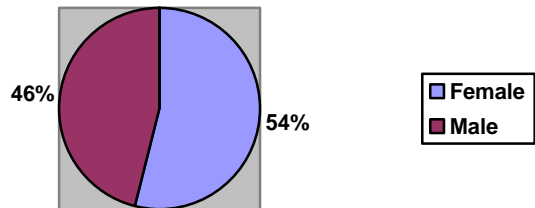
GCBHS client statistics follow very closely to those of our community and our staff.

The following charts describe demographics of the 3,074 individuals who received care in one or more of our Behavioral Health programs in FY2011:

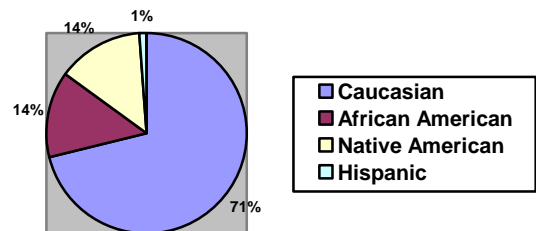
Admissions by Age:



Admissions by Gender:



Admissions by Racial Composition:



In order to efficiently and effectively serve those children and families in the Muskogee County Head Start and Early Head Start programs, we strive to staff these programs with individuals as culturally diverse as the families served.

In FY2011, child development staff statistics were as follows:

Head Start (Child Development) Staff: Racial/Ethnic Composition

Caucasian.....	56%
African American.....	20%
Native American.....	17%
Biracial.....	7%
Hispanic.....	8%

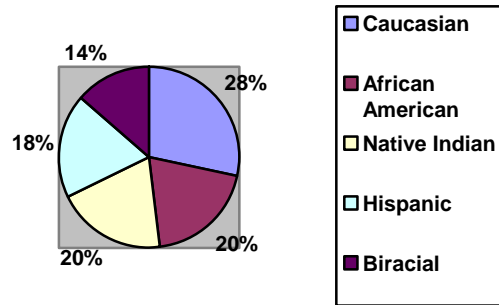
Early Head Start (Child Development) Staff: Racial/Ethnic Composition

Caucasian.....	44%
African American.....	27%
Native American.....	27%
Biracial.....	2%
Hispanic.....	7%

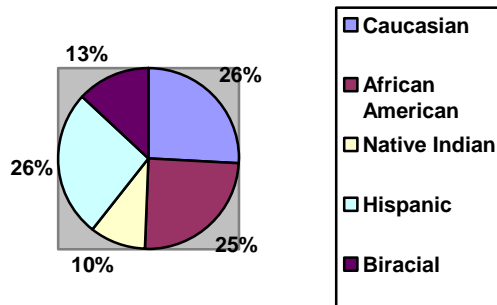
The following charts describe demographics of over 500 families served through our Head Start and Early Head Start programs in this program year.

These racial and ethnic demographics for children enrolled in our early childhood education programs in FY2011 are fairly consistent with the staff hired to work with these families. In fact, the staff presents a more culturally diverse group.

Racial/Ethnic Composition of Head Start children attending our program in FY2011:



Racial/Ethnic Composition of Early Head Start children attending our program in FY2011:

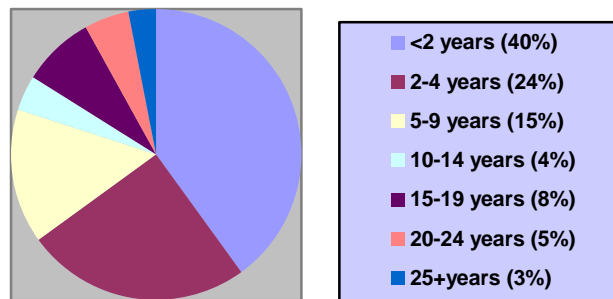


2011 Milestones

Agency and Staff Longevity

FY2011 was another significant year for Green Country Behavioral Health Services. In November 2010, at the end of our 31st year of service to Muskogee and McIntosh Counties, we took a day to recognize staff for their tenure and special accomplishments. GCBHS Staff and Board members came together to honor these employees with special awards and plaques. Service awards and special recognition touched every program, including Head Start and Early Head Start, support services, clinical staff, leadership, medication clinic, pharmacy, and crisis stabilization unit. Employees receiving service awards in FY2011 represented a total of 90 years of experience.

GCBHS management is acutely aware that the agency's greatest asset is a group of dedicated employees. In FY2011, our list of clinical and support staff reflected the following levels of experience:



Accreditation and “Certification with Commendation”

DMHSAS: GCBHS behavioral health programs are certified through the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. FY2011 was the second year of our three-year certification cycle, under which we were awarded “Certification with Commendation.” This award certifies that, not only did all of our programs meet DMHSAS audit standards, we met 100% of them upon the initial survey.

Under our FY2011 contract with DMHSAS, Green Country continued the following “certified” services:

Services to Adults

Screenings/Intake/Referral
Counseling/Therapy
Psychosocial Rehabilitation
Case Management
Counseling for Co-occurring Disorders
Crisis Intervention/Crisis Stabilization
Community Based Rehabilitation

Services to Children

Screenings/Intake/Referral
Counseling/Therapy
Counseling for Co-occurring Disorders
Case Management
Crisis Intervention
Psychosocial Rehabilitation
Prevention Services

CARF: GCBHS also holds a national accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). In 2010, GCBHS was awarded our fifth consecutive three-year national accreditation, which is the highest level of accreditation awarded by CARF. In 2011, our Employment Program underwent its first CARF survey, receiving accreditation at 100%, with no non-compliance issues.

The CARF Survey Summary Report noted the following agency strengths:

- GCBHS has a dedicated and supportive Board of Directors, management team, and staff members who demonstrate a commitment to maintaining quality services.
- The organization is led by an experienced and respected team that values its employees and the individuals served, creating a work environment that benefits staff members and consumers.
- The organization provides a safe, clean, well-maintained and attractive environment for service delivery and business functions, demonstrating the leadership’s respect for both the persons served and personnel.
- The long tenure of management staff members is an asset to the organization.
- GCBHS has strong links to its communities and collaborates with other agencies to create opportunities for social enterprise to improve the quality of life for the persons served.
- Consumers express an appreciation of the programs, accessibility of staff, calls being quickly returned, and the appropriate and caring response to any issue or crisis.

CARF accreditation was received for the following programs and service locations:

Accreditation was received at all four of our service sites: GCBHS Main Office in Muskogee, GCBHS satellite office in Eufaula (McIntosh County), children’s services in Fort Gibson School, and our Adult Crisis Stabilization Unit in Muskogee.

Programs for adults and children were accredited as follows:

Services to Adults

Assessment and Referral
Outpatient Treatment
Case Management/Services Coordination
Community Integration/Psychosocial
Rehabilitation
Crisis Intervention/Crisis Stabilization
Employment Services

Services to Children

Assessment and Referral
Outpatient Treatment
Case Management/Services
Coordination
Intensive Family Based Services
Crisis Intervention

Partnerships, Collaborations and Community Outreach

Strength of Mind

One of the most beneficial collaborations of 2011 has been our partnership with our new psychiatric medical team – Strength of Mind. Dr. Jeffrey McIlroy, the Medical Director, is Board Certified in both General and Geriatric Psychiatry and Ashlee Graham, a Certified Physician’s Assistant who serves a large sector of GCBHS consumers, focuses on meeting the medication needs of children through adults. Strength of Mind doctors joined our staff in April 2011 and provide services through telemedicine. Our Muskogee clients did not have problems adjusting to telemedicine; in fact it was well received by 99% of our consumers. Total wellness (physical and mental) is very important to the Strength of Mind staff and they believe that all situations and emotions cannot be solved through medication – counseling for the consumer is very important to them.

Muskogee Community: Wellness Initiative

With Oklahoma’s and Muskogee County’s alarming health indicators, GCBHS employees Jessica Augsburger and Leigh Combs began late in FY2011 to become involved in the Muskogee Wellness Initiative. Across Muskogee, agencies are coming together to have a positive impact on the health of our community. According to our latest Community Needs Assessment, Oklahoma ranks at #48 (only two states ranked worse than us) in prevalence of smoking; #46 in prevalence of obesity and we are 46th across the nation in an overall health ranking. We are joining Muskogee’s new wellness initiative with a goal toward helping our staff learn healthy nutrition, getting people up and moving, and helping staff and consumers access smoking cessation classes. (GHCBS has been a smoke-free facility for two years.)

A detailed plan for fully implementing the Muskogee Wellness Initiative in FY2012 includes health screening days, provided to staff at no charge by the local hospital, Muskogee Regional Medical Center.

Head Start/Body Start Grants

Also in alignment with the wellness initiative, the Head Start Body Start National Center for Physical Development and Outdoor Play, funded through the Office of Head Start, offered Head Start programs across the nation an opportunity to apply for grants to improve outdoor play spaces in 2011. We know that health-risk behaviors, which often contribute to leading causes of morbidity and mortality among youth and adults, are often established during childhood. The purpose of this funding was to increase physical activity, outdoor play, and healthy eating among Head Start and Early Head Start children.

With Muskogee County’s health statistics, we were able to justify the need to improve playgrounds in Muskogee, Ft. Gibson, Braggs, Warner, Wainwright and Haskell. Before the end of the school year, children were walking across balance beams, bouncing on spring riders, swinging, climbing ladders and shooting balls into basketball hoops. They enjoyed a chime wall and other new sensory elements on the grounds as they played. Due to the unpredictable weather in Oklahoma, children also had access to shaded playhouses.

Muskogee Against Tobacco Coalition: Great American Smokeout

In FY2011, GCBHS staff members of this coalition toured around Muskogee for the Great American Smokeout, encouraging people to give up smoking for 24 hours, with the hope that they would quit for life. Coalition members distributed tee-shirts and "quit kits" to some of our clients and they gave an educational presentation to Green Country's Psychiatric Social Rehabilitation group. This event was a great success and helped spread information to our staff, consumers and the community about the importance of tobacco cessation.

Muskogee County Schools

In FY2011, Muskogee County Head Start partnered with public school systems in Ft. Gibson, Braggs, Warner, Wainwright, and Haskell to provide a school readiness program at these schools. Along with the educational component of this program, families with children enrolled in the Head Start/public school collaborative classrooms received health and mental health screenings for their children and a comprehensive plan to connect them with health, nutrition, mental health, disabilities and other needed services, through family engagement. In FY2012, Head Start will once again approach Muskogee Public Schools with a goal toward renewing this type of partnership with schools in the City of Muskogee, since the Head Start program provides such advantages to families.

GCBHS clinical staff also collaborated this year with Muskogee County schools, providing behavioral health services, along with crisis intervention and crisis management, at the school's request. The GCBHS Clinical Director also continued outreach and education for local universities and Muskogee's technical vocational training center. In addition to education about services available through GCBHS, she conducted stress management workshops and trauma-focused workshops to help school staff deal with the challenges of social climate changes.

Muskogee Non-Profit Resource Center

GCBHS and Head Start staff have attended several training sessions offered by the NPRC, including the Standards of Excellence series which will continue through FY2012. We have also formed great contacts through the Center which have resulted in good sources for grant-writing information, as well as a facilitator for our Strategic Planning sessions this year.

GCBHS Program Outcomes

All GCBHS supervisors worked with their program staff to establish goals for FY2011. The following outcomes were documented at the end of the fiscal year:

- 3,074 individuals received care in one or more GCBHS programs during FY2011. Consumer's satisfaction with their services was indicated by the following responses to our survey statement "I liked the services I received at GCBHS":

94% of our adult clients surveyed agreed;
98% of our children's services clients agreed;
96% of our medication clinic clients agreed

- Adult Outpatient visits for FY2011 totaled 51,465.
- Total Children's Outpatient visits for the year was just under 22,000.
- GCBHS clients received 6,151 medication clinic services in FY2011.
- In FY2011 consumers at our McIntosh County office increased medication clinic services, receiving 50% more clinic time each month. Our medication clinic team added a third day each month where they travel to Eufaula to provide these services.
- 100% of our consumers who qualified for patient assistance had the opportunity to meet with our patient assistance case manager and receive medications at no charge through this program.
- In FY2011, GCBHS clients received donated medication valued at \$2.5 million through our Patient Assistance Program.
- Every Medication Clinic consumer receiving medication also received training and support regarding prescribed medications, enhancing their ability to make informed decisions in their own treatment. In our consumer satisfaction surveys, 92% of our Medication Clinic clients surveyed reported that they were actively involved in decisions about their treatment.
- A total of 68 clients accessed emergency medication services and avoided inpatient placement. All clients who missed appointments were contacted by case managers for follow-up and were able to access a weekly walk-in medication clinic.
- Clients in need of face-to-face crisis intervention were able to see an on-call licensed therapist within one hour from the initial contact.
- Crisis intervention services are accessible at all times, with licensed staff working on-site at our outpatient locations, our Crisis Stabilization Unit, and on call as needed.
- A total of 607 clients received crisis stabilization services in our adult unit during FY2011. 91% of Adult Crisis Stabilization Unit clients surveyed reported that the services they received at CSU had a positive impact on their lives.
- A random sampling of CSU consumers showed an average increase in the consumers' level of functioning by 7.25 points during their stay in the unit.

- Clients across all GCBHS adult programs, including those considering treatment, have direct access to the agency's Peer Recovery Support Specialists for support toward an increased level of functioning and, ultimately, graduation from services.
- Psychiatric Social Rehabilitation group members participated in daily groups utilizing evidence-based psycho-education through NTTP and Solutions for Wellness material, designed to help them increase self-worth and gain confidence. 92% of PSR members surveyed reported that they were able to handle day-to-day living (i.e. school, family/friends and problems) better because of GCBHS services. 100% said they would refer a friend or family member to GCBHS and 96% said they were actively involved in their treatment.
- School-based services, designed to reduce the number of school days missed by students and increase the number of students completing high school academic requirements, were provided to Stidham Schools, Checotah Schools, and Midway Schools, all located in McIntosh County and Parkview School for the Blind in Muskogee. These services also include supportive services to reduce the incidence of drug use.
- Our Employment Services Program worked with a total of 42 individuals, providing job training and job coaching to 100% of their clients. In FY2011, 40% of these individuals began jobs and are receiving support in maintaining employment; the balance continues the process of preparing for employment.
- In FY2011, a GCBHS Peer Recovery Support Specialist implemented a training program at the Jess Dunn Correctional Center as part of our collaboration with the National Alliance on Mental Illness and the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (ODMHSAS). Six inmates of the Jess Dunn Correctional facility received outreach services and training in this program. Each became a certified Peer Recovery Support Specialist and they have created a drop-in center where offenders come for training and support groups. The correctional facility reports that several other men have come forward with a desire to help others and the number of crisis contacts has decreased.
- In the initial two-month period of the Peer Recovery Support program initiated by GCBHS, 2189 Recovery Support service contacts were made, averaging 25 persons per day using the drop-in center at Jess Dunn. The six Peer Recovery Support Specialists, trained by the GCBHS PRSS and certified by the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, also supported and encouraged peers on an individual basis with 476 contacts during that two month period.



Early Childhood Programs

Community Assessment: Muskogee County's 2011 Community Assessment underscored the desperate need for enhanced early childhood programs as it continued to track concerns with children in our community. Our risk factors for infants are higher than State averages in the areas of teen pregnancies -- over 17% of the babies born here are born to teenagers between the ages of 15 and 19 -- and 48% of all new Moms are unmarried. Characteristics of births to teen mothers showed 10% had poor prenatal care; almost 9% of the babies had a low birth-weight; 66% had short birth spacing of less than 24 months apart; and 45% had a very short birth spacing of less than 18 months apart. Almost 27% of our teen Moms were having their second child and over 7% of them already had two or more children.

Our community also has a very high poverty rate. Muskogee's community assessment outlined a breakdown of the poverty rate by race for our population under the age of five. The report shows that, across the county, 45% of African American children under the age of five are living in poverty and almost 33% of our Hispanic children under five live in poverty. Our community assessment linked these and other adverse childhood experiences, such as Muskogee's high rate of confirmed child abuse and neglect, to the likelihood of negative social development and behavioral problems in preschool.

In 2011 over 500 Muskogee County Head Start and Early Head Start families reaped the benefits of a comprehensive program that provided, not only educational services, but also links to screenings and treatment of medical and dental health issues; behavioral health services; nutritious meals and nutrition information; access to special needs for children with disabilities; and family services to link them with whatever they may need, such as English as a Second Language classes, housing assistance, marriage education, and parenting education.

Our community assessment highlights the need for continuation of these services to Muskogee children and families. In fact, one of the program goals for 2012 is to secure funding, as it becomes available, to expand services and increase the number of families we serve in the community.

Early Childhood Program Outcomes for 2011:

- The Muskogee County Head Start program remained at full enrollment, with 389 children ages 3 and 4.
- Our Early Head Start program remained at full enrollment with 96 infants and toddlers, from six weeks of age up to three years; the program also remained fully enrolled with 24 expectant families.
- Waiting lists for both Head Start and Early Head Start programs reached and exceeded the 130 mark in FY2011.
- 170 children in the Head Start program were regularly transported on six fixed daily routes averaging 230 miles per day. In FY2011, no family was placed on a waiting list for transportation to Head Start.
- In Braggs, where our partnering public school has held a transportation waiver, we placed a Monitor on the bus and the school system purchased child safety seats, increasing the safety of these Head Start children.
- In 2011, we initiated the “I am safe, walk with me” Pedestrian and Bus Safety Program, which was well received by Head Start parents. This training kit is also included in classroom lesson plans, since we consider the child’s bus ride an extension of the classroom.
- Across all Head Start sites, all teachers in classrooms with four-year old students held a Bachelor’s Degree in Early Childhood or a related field, as well as State teaching certificates.
- In 2011, all but two teachers in Head Start classrooms with three-year old students held an Associate’s Degree; the remaining two are completing Associate Degree programs.
- Head Start and Early Head Start parents also reached educational goals. In 13% of our two-parent families, at least one of the parents enrolled in school or training; in our single parent homes, 14% of single parents enrolled in school or training.
- Throughout our early childhood education program, the children’s progress toward school readiness was monitored in areas of language development, book knowledge and appreciation, print awareness and concepts, mathematics, science, creative arts, social-emotional development, reasoning and problem solving, and physical health and well-being.
- In our Head Start/Early program, 19% of our enrolled children received services to meet special needs due to disabilities.

- Five homeless families were served in Head Start and seven homeless families were served in our Early Head Start program. These families were connected with agencies for help with subsidized housing, utility costs, repairs, etc. All except one family acquired housing during the program year.
- Eight percent of our Head Start families in 2011 received emergency/crisis intervention services, such as meeting immediate needs for food, clothing, or shelter. Seventeen percent of our Early Head Start families received emergency/crisis intervention services.
- Smart Start's Raise A Reader program put books in the hands of children across our program. Classroom teachers reported that the children were very excited about the book bags, books, reading to their parents and engaging in "cuddle time." Teachers and parents agreed that children listened to stories better or more attentively at the end of the program year and asked more questions. From beginning to year-end in 2011, pre- and post-surveys revealed that 87% of parents reported reading to their children 6 times a week (more than double the percentage at the beginning of the year); 79% of children initiated reading 6 times a week with a parent or family member (up 32% from the beginning of the program); 86% of parents now have a routine for looking at books with their children (an increase of almost 30%.) During the program, parents attended a parent education workshop and watched videos about sharing books with their children.

Head Start/Early Head Start Self Assessment and Strategic Planning

In 2011, staff, parents, and community partners came together for two events which are vital to the planning and continued improvement of our programs: The program Self-Assessment was held in March and the Strategic Planning sessions were held in May. In the Self-Assessment, program strengths were identified in all areas when groups of participants conducted an in-depth review of the program. Items for improvement were also identified and a plan was designed to correct these findings.

The program's Strategic Planning sessions brought support staff, managers, and classroom teaching staff together to discuss ideas for the future of the program. Members of our governing board and program parents also helped to establish the following goals:

Strategic Goals for 2011-2013:

1. Create a positive work environment
2. Strengthen processes for interaction, evaluation and accountability
3. Engage in open, timely, clear communication
4. Become known as the best early childhood program and a great place to work
5. Strengthen collaboration with public schools
6. Secure funding to sustain and expand the program and provide competitive salaries
7. All children will meet or exceed appropriate outcomes for school readiness
8. Increase parent involvement across the program



In February 2011, our flag joined others in Muskogee at half-mast in memory of Glen Scott, our FY2010 Board President and Muskogee's County Treasurer

GCBHS Board of Directors and Head Start Joint Governance

In FY2011, as in years past, GCBHS was honored to have a Board of Directors with members from diverse backgrounds with expertise in the fields of finance, healthcare, law enforcement, philanthropy, elementary education and early childhood education. We are always sad to lose those Board members who fulfill their responsibility and make room for new members. However, this loss was magnified in FY2011, with the death of Glen Scott, who had left the presidency of our Board, but who still maintained a loyalty to Green Country and friendships with many employees.

Johnny Teehee, Muskogee City Assistant Police Chief, accepted the GCBHS Board President position in FY2011, with Sally Nichols-Sharpe, Helen Bumgarner, and Beverly Romine serving as Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. Other members of the GCBHS Board of Directors include Robbi Cowan, Miriam Freedman, and Toni Terrell.

The Muskogee County Head Start and Early Head Start programs are structured under joint governance by the GCBHS Board of Directors and the Head Start Policy Council. In FY2011, parents at each Head Start site elected Policy Council Parent Members. Parents generally make up at least 85% of the Policy Council. Remaining seats are filled by Community Representatives who volunteer their time to help oversee the program.

In FY2011, Policy Council members also represented a diversity of background and culture. Meeting agendas and material presented for review were provided in English and Spanish and an interpreter attended the meetings to assist Hispanic members.

The following parents served on the Muskogee County Head Start/Early Head Start Policy Council in 2011:

Estela Martinez
 Teresa Murray
 Kendra Knotchupone
 Misty Green, PC
 Chairperson

Maria Pilar Barraza
 Frances Draper
 Virginia Piercy
 Shelly Jacobson

Keith Morrison
 Mary Diaz
 Tonya Williams
 Leslie Lange
 Ava James

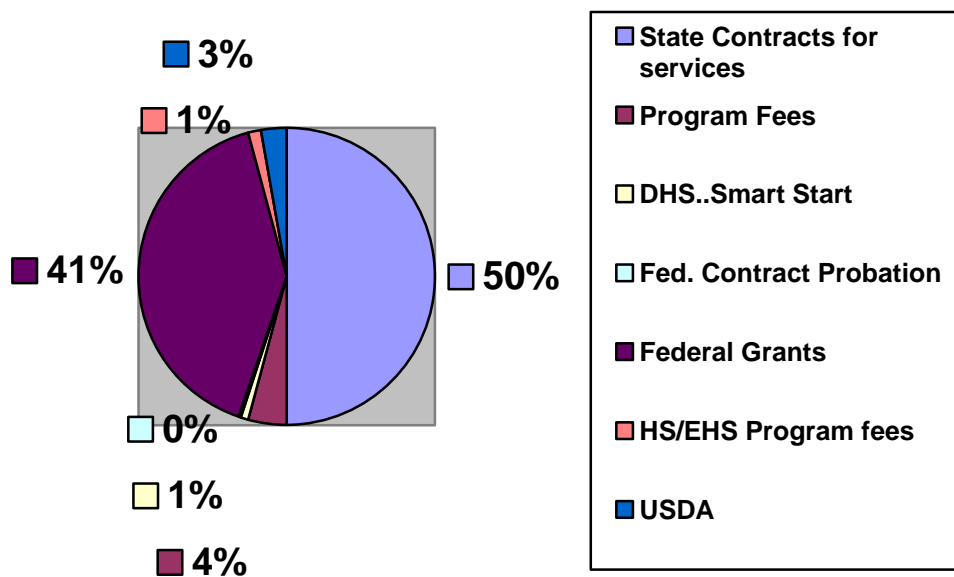
Community Representatives serving on the Policy Council in FY2011 were Jane Jones, Muskogee County Health Department and Dr. Sally Nichols-Sharpe, GCBHS Board of Directors liaison.

Resources and Expenditures

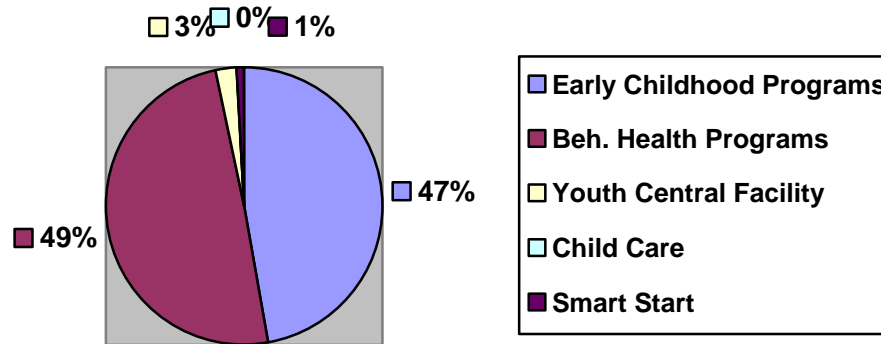
Providing a wide array of high quality services to the community requires significant funding. GCBHS receives funds for behavioral health care and substance abuse treatment from the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. We also receive payments from Medicaid and a variety of other sources. Our Early Childhood Education programs are funded primarily by federal grant funds. Program revenue is also received from public schools and USDA for the food program at Head Start and Early Head Start. Substantiates

The majority of our expenditures are for the provision of care and services to our behavioral health clients and our Head Start/Early Head Start children and families. Income and expenses are shown in the following charts:

Resources



Expenditures



Looking Forward to FY2012: Highlights

As we move into FY2012, Green Country Behavioral Health will once again upgrade services to our consumers. In addition to the psychiatric services made available in FY2011, we will make medical services available to our consumers, through a new collaboration with the Porter Health Clinic, a federally qualified health center. Although many of our clients have been transported to the Porter clinic in the past for medical and dental services, in FY2012 the plan is for these services (beginning with medical care) to be available here at Green Country's main office. Another component of the partnership will be GCBHS clinicians providing behavioral health services to new patients coming here to receive medical care from the clinic.

With the expectation of this new partnership, the plan for sharing a medical/medication clinic will bring improvements to our facility. In this process of upgrading, client comfort and safety in a welcoming environment will be our focus.

Health and wellness will continue to be a goal for our staff and consumers. The GCBHS Wellness Program will become more visible throughout the agency and we will continue to work with the community-wide program toward the goal of a healthier company in a healthier community.

In an effort to decrease the poverty levels in our community, GCBHS staff will volunteer time and expertise to the Bridges Out Of Poverty program (Community Circles of Muskogee) which is due to begin forming in the Fall of 2011, with the first groups to go through the program in January 2012.

With so much still to be done in our community, GCBHS staff and Head Start staff will continue to work together in 2012 to make a positive difference in the lives of children and their families, along with those we serve in our behavioral health programs.