



OKLAHOMA  
State Department  
of Health

# LONG TERM CARE FACILITY ADVISORY BOARD

Annual Report 2021

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## 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

### **PURPOSE:**

The Long Term Care Facility Advisory Board is authorized by Section 1-1923 of the Oklahoma Nursing Home Care Act {63 O.S. § 1 – 1900 et seq.}. The advisory board consists of twenty-seven (27) members appointed by the Governor and functions as a professional advisory body to the State Commissioner of Health.

The advisory board serves as an advising body to the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) for the development and improvement of services for care and treatment of residents of facilities subject to the provisions of the Nursing Home Care Act, the Residential Care Act, the Continuum of Care and Assisted Living Act, and the Adult Day Care Act. The board reviews, makes recommendations, and approves the system of standards developed by the OSDH. It further evaluates and reviews the standards, practices, and procedures of the OSDH regarding administration and enforcement.

The advisory board may make recommendations to the OSDH as necessary and appropriate.

This board annually publishes a report of its activities and any recommendations for the improvement of services and care in long term care facilities. The annual report is prepared for the Governor, the State Commissioner of Health, the Oklahoma State Board of Health, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the chief administrative officer of each agency affected by the report.

### **PROVIDERS:**

At the end of State Fiscal Year 2021, there were 675 long term care facilities operating and licensed by the Oklahoma State Department of Health. The number of facilities licensed by category are as follows:

- Nursing Facilities – 297
- Adult Day Care Centers – 37
- Assisted Living Centers & Continuum of Care Facilities – 189
- Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities – 97
- Residential Care Homes – 31
- Veterans Centers – 9

## **VACANCIES:**

During 2021, the Long Term Care Facility Advisory Board had a quorum and was able to conduct official business in two of the four regular meetings (January 13, April 14, July 14, and October 13). The Long Term Care Facility Advisory Board of currently has five vacancies, which the board recommended by filled by the Office of the Governor. Members will work individually to encourage potential candidates to apply electronically at: <https://oklahoma.gov/governor/serving-oklahomans.html>.

## **ACTIVITIES:**

The Long Term Care Services has been impacted by COVID-19 and have been navigating guidance related. Since implementation of the Public Health Emergency, CMS and CDC have released a combination of 55 requirements and guidance this does not include minor modifications or changes related to Infection Control, COVID-19 testing, and PPE use.

- March 04, 2020 – Long Term Care was instructed to halt surveys
- March 04, 2020 – CMS issued visitor screening requirements.
- March 07, 2020 - the 1<sup>st</sup> Oklahoma COVID-19 case.
- March 13, 2020 - CMS Restricted visitation.
- March 18, 2020 – CDC advising of PPE conservation and use.
- April 27, 2020 – CDC put Residents and Staffing with symptoms at highest priority for testing.
- May 2020 – Federal Government collecting and reporting Nursing Home cases and deaths.
- May 2020 – June 2020 – FEMA provided two weeks supply of PPE to Skilled Nursing Facilities.
- June 25, 2020 – Staffing required to always wear source control Mask.
- August 14, 2020 – Skilled Nursing Facilities receive one-time shipment of Antigen Tests.
- September 02, 2020 – CMS requires regular testing for Nursing Homes.
- September 17, 2020 – CMS allows compassionate care visits.
- December 8, 2020 – CDC updates testing Antigen guidance.
- December 21, 2020 – Vaccination clinics began.

In 2021, CMS revised the criteria requiring states to conduct Focused Infection Control Surveys due to the identification of increased resource availability for COVID-19 Testing of Residents and Staff, and factors related to Quality of Care.

The Long Term Care team modified resumption of surveys on September 2020. After CMS QSO-20-35-all was released on August 17, 2020. Due to the high volume of complaints, recertifications, and relicensure in all areas. The State Survey Agency was required to prioritize the approach to get all surveys workload completed.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Long Term Care Facility Advisory Board currently has five vacancies, which the advisory board recommends be filled by the Office of the Governor.

### **AGENDAS:**

The meeting agenda items addressed various aspects of the long term care industry. The Long Term Care Facility Advisory Board allocated time at each regular meeting to discuss other long term care issues which may become the responsibility of this board in the future. The advisory board looks forward to prioritizing and addressing important issues in 2021 with the benefit of a full complement of members.

### **ADVISORY BOARD OFFICERS:**

Advisory Board officers for 2021 are Wendell Short, Chair; William Whited, Vice Chair; and Adam Jordan, Secretary/Treasurer.

### **MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2022:**

The following regular meetings have been scheduled for 2022: January 05, April 06, July 06, and October 05 at 1:30 p.m. at the OSDH.