



OKLAHOMA
State Department
of Health

COVID-19 OVERVIEW

SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

FOCUS

SHORT TERM VS LONG TERM


1

Lacked luxury of prioritizing persistent, long-term, Oklahoma-specific issues

2

Forced focus on short-term pandemic issues

- Testing
- Community guidance
- Vaccine rollout

SHORT-TERM NEEDS have helped  identify additional **LONG-TERM PRIORITIES** 

- Technology
- Public private partnerships
- Public Health Lab
 - Updated protocols
 - Better equipment



January 2021 - OK Pandemic Center and State Public Health Lab

FUNDING



May 2020 - Drive-Thru Testing Caring Van

MONEY ALREADY RECEIVED BY OSDH

- CARES
- ARPA
- Grants

OSDH HAS
INVESTED IN
IMPORTANT LONG
& SHORT TERM
INITIATIVES



Moderna Vaccine Delivery - OSDH Warehouse

CAPITAL EXPENSES NOT COVERED

- Limitation due to funding parameters
- Example: PPE purchased, but warehouse space continues to be an issue

ACCESS TO CARE



OSDH Mobile Health Unit

ACCESS TO CARE: RURAL OKLAHOMA

- Existing technology investments include broadband expansion
- New technology = better data
- Workforce needs remain



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STAFFING



December 2020 - OSDH Situation Room

REDIRECTION OF STAFF FOR COVID-19

- Limited flexibility to use grant-funded staff
- Other staff, particularly nurses, redirected to COVID needs
- Remaining non-COVID needs
- Strain on staff
 - 7 day work weeks
 - Catching up on regular job duties
- Fluctuating staff needs
 - Temporary staff to meet COVID needs
 - Expiration date for FTEs at the end of the grant
- Workforce pipeline
 - Nurse and epidemiologist staff needs pre-date COVID
 - Recruitment and retention



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