



## **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF OKLAHOMA COUNTY**

August 20, 2025

Oklahoma Department of Mental Health Substance Abuse Services

Attn: Commissioner Greg Slavonic

2000 N. Classen Blvd.

Oklahoma City, OK 73106

Re: Second Demand for Return of Funds -ARPA Subrecipient Agreement between the Board of Oklahoma County Commissioners and ODMHSAS and Demand for Reimbursement of unspent funding

Dear Commissioner Slavonic,

On or about May 14, 2025, the Board of Oklahoma County Commissioners submitted to ODMHSAS a formal Notice of Termination of the ARPA Subrecipient Agreement between Oklahoma County and ODMHSAS. The Board also demanded a return of all funds associated with the project. To date, Oklahoma County has not received any funds from ODMHSAS.

As you know, Oklahoma County provided funds for the construction of a new mental health facility in Oklahoma County. This facility, which was to replace Griffin Memorial Hospital, would have provided increased beds for those in need of treatment. Unfortunately, the project has been abandoned with OKDMHSAS now seeking to renovate an existing facility rather than constructing the new facility as contemplated in the agreement.

In our letter of May 14, 2025, Oklahoma County requested, "that ODMHSAS cease any expenditures related to the originally proposed project and begin the process of returning the \$1.5 million in County ARPA funds within twenty (20) days of this notice, in accordance with Paragraphs 7 and 13 of the Agreement. Alternatively, if any expenditures have been made in line with the original project scope, we ask that ODMHSAS provide a full accounting of those funds, consistent with the requirements of 2 CFR 200." To date, neither of those two things occurred.

While we appreciate your willingness to speak with each office individually and recognize that you have been placed in a difficult position as the Interim Commissioner of ODMHSAS, we must renew our demands for reimbursement of funds provided to ODMHSAS. Those funds, if returned in timely fashion, will be reallocated by Oklahoma County to address other needs within our community.

It is our understanding, based upon our conversation with you, that Oklahoma State University, ODMHSAS, or a combination of the two, has approximately \$4.8 million of the \$13 million dollars ODMHSAS paid, or agreed to pay, Oklahoma State University on-hand.

With that understanding, the Board of County Commissioners is requesting that ODMHSAS remit \$750,000.00 to the County within twenty (20) days of receipt of this letter as partial re-payment for the \$1.5 million requested for repayment following OKDMHSAS failure to secure funding to build a new mental health hospital in Oklahoma County. This partial remittance does not relieve ODMHAS of their obligation to return the entirety of the \$1.5 million to Oklahoma County as originally requested.

This offer of a partial repayment will allow ODMHSAS further opportunity to continue to work with Oklahoma State University to recover all funds. In addition to the return of funds, we have not received any documentation requested in our original letter that would show compliance with 2 CFR 200.

The return of these funds in a timely manner is crucial. Continued delay will prevent the Board of County Commissioners from reallocating these within Oklahoma County prior to the deadline established by the federal government.

As we stated earlier, we are appreciative of your willingness to discuss this issue with us and look forward to a quick resolution of the matter. The Oklahoma County Board of County Commissioners welcomes the opportunity to seek collaboration in the future between our organizations.

For the Board of County Commissioners,

Myles Davidson Chairman

Oklahoma County Board of County Commissioners