

May 16, 2025

Oklahoma Department of Mental Health  
Substance Abuse Services  
Attn: Commissioner Allie Friesen  
2000 N. Classen Blvd.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73106

***Re: Notice of Termination ARPA Subrecipient Agreement between the Board of Oklahoma County Commissioners and ODMHSAS and Demand for Reimbursement of unspent funding***

Dear Commissioner Friesen,

On or about September 20, 2023, Oklahoma County entered into an ARPA Subrecipient Agreement with the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS) to provide \$1.5 million in County-allocated ARPA funding in support of a proposed new facility in Oklahoma City to replace the aging Griffin Memorial Hospital located in Cleveland County. This project was presented to the County as a new-build capital expenditure, as outlined in Attachment B1 of the agreement.

On May 13, 2025, the Oklahoma Joint Legislative Committee on Pandemic Relief voted to reallocate some of its previously committed ARPA funding from this project to others. Following this, it was publicly announced that ODMHSAS intends to move forward with renovating an existing facility rather than constructing a new one in Oklahoma County.

Given this change in project scope, the County must reevaluate the terms and intent of our original agreement. Because the funding was allocated specifically to support the construction of a new facility, and not for renovation, the County is compelled to formally cancel the ARPA Subrecipient Agreement dated September 20, 2023.

We respectfully request 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.

We appreciate ODMHSAS's continued commitment to improving mental health services across Oklahoma and are hopeful that future opportunities for collaboration may arise that align with shared goals and available funding criteria.

Sincerely,

Miles Davidson  
District 3 Commissioner and BOCC Chairman