

# *Fact Sheet*



**OKLAHOMA  
COMMUNITY**  
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# The Facts About Oklahoma Community Institute

**The Mission of OCI** is to provide leadership and assistance that enables Oklahoma citizens to improve their communities

OCI is a 501(c)3 **not-for-profit** organization that has been helping build leaders and their Oklahoma communities since 1995

OCI is the **only non-profit organization** in the state of Oklahoma dedicated to helping individuals improve their communities

OCI specializes in **three programs**: community-wide strategic planning, the Oklahoma Citizens Academy leadership program and the annual Conversations on Community Renewal Conference

The Oklahoma Community Institute was recommended in **Oklahoma's 5-year Economic Development Plan of 1995** and created to serve as a resource to communities who want to help themselves

Since OCI's creation, our community-wide strategic planning has been facilitated in **over 50 Oklahoma communities**

The **Oklahoma Citizens Academy** was created in 2003 and graduated its first class in 2004

The Citizens Academy has graduated five classes comprised of **over 150 individuals from over 55 communities**

**Class VI** of the Citizens Academy was chosen in September and will hold its first session in November in Ponca City

In January 2000 OCI hosted its first conference titled **Conversations on Community Renewal**

In March 2009, OCI will host its **10th Annual Conversations on Community Renewal Conference**, with the theme "Let's Celebrate!"

OCI is lead by a **Board of Directors** comprised of 27 members representing 19 Oklahoma Communities

A four member **staff** oversees the OCI office:

Jodi Lewis, Executive Director  
Stephanie Ronck, Director of Programs  
Amy Draper, Marketing and Development Coordinator  
JoAnne Thompson, Administrative Assistant

To **contact** the OCI offices, review the following information:

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