

Centennial Anniversary Social Work Impact Award Connie Schlittler

Connie Schlittler, LCSW, MPA is Executive Director of OKC Metro Alliance, Inc. in Oklahoma City. She graduated with an undergraduate degree in Social Work from the University of Oklahoma in 1985 and a Master's degree in Social Work in 1988. She completed a Master of Public Administration, also from OU in 1996. She has been involved with the School's Board of Visitors, serving as the President and Chairman of the Hall of Fame Awards. Throughout her career she has been a field supervisor for social work students. She has supervised field placements for OU, Northeastern State University, and University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She was appointed by Governor Mary Fallin to serve on the Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers in 2013 and 2017.

Although she envisioned child welfare as her professional goal, a practicum placement at HOPE Community Services, Inc. set her on a different course. She worked at HOPE for ten years helping adults with serious mental illnesses live successfully in the community. She has more than 20 years' experience in community mental health services. From 1995 to 1997, she helped lead Oklahoma's crisis response to the Oklahoma City bombing through Project Heartland. From 2001 to 2006, she was Executive Director of the Bill Willis Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Center in Tahlequah.

For the past ten years, she was Director of the Office of Planning, Research and Statistics for the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, responsible for grant writing, program evaluation, and statistical reports. As a successful grant writer, she has secured \$15 million in federal funds to the agency in areas of aging, foster care, child care, and information technology. She initiated the Practice and Policy Lecture Series in 2007 and Oklahoma's Women's Leadership Conference for Women in Public Service in 2009.