



Katie Adkins Upward Bound

Katie Adkins joined the Upward Bound Program as the Academic Coordinator this Fall. The program serves high school students with academic and/or financial need who may also be first generation college students. UB serves the Snider, Tipton, Davidson, Olustee, Lone Wolf, Eldorado and Hollis school systems. Ms. Adkins liaisons with the students in the program each week to assist them with assignments and projects. She also works closely with parents and school counselors to help the students realize their goals and continue on to college.

Katie has a Bachelor in Developmental Psychology with a minor in Drug and Alcohol Counseling. She has worked as a drug and alcohol counselor, conducted substance abuse research in prisons and served as an education advocate providing ancillary services to schools unable to afford such services.

Ms. Adkins is also the chair of the Jackson County Substance Awareness Committee, a sub-committee of the Jackson County Community Health Action Team. She was inducted as chair while she was working at Altus Air Force Base on the Drug Demand Reduction Program. The Substance Awareness Committee focuses on Prescription Drug Education and the abuse of these drugs. Adkins said, "Approximately 70% of adolescents who have abused prescription drugs say they got them from parents, grandparents or friends." In an effort to combat this abuse in the community, a prescription drug drop box has been installed at the Jackson County Sheriff's office at 601 South Main in Altus. Any unwanted, unused or expired drugs may be deposited there for proper disposal. Adkins encourages citizens interested in joining the Substance Awareness Committee to contact her at jacksoncosubstanceawareness@gmail.com