

ATOKA COUNTY

ATOKA COMMUNITY CHEST

Established in 1991



The Atoka Community Chest Coalition was established in 1991. Its purpose was to organize and collaborate services provided by civic, faith-based, non-profit and government agencies, so they could better serve and meet the needs of their families and communities. In 1993, the Coalition became aware of a high need for assistance with prescription drugs for individuals not eligible for Medicaid or other resources. The coalition accepted the challenge and yearly raises the funds to operate an Emergency Prescription Drug Program to serve the county.

Activities

- Partnered with the Partnership for Change/Turning Point
- Open forum at monthly meeting.
- Identified Priorities: Medical Access and Prescriptions, Collaboration and Networking..
- Established current services available.
- Identified nutrition services that are not being met.
- Developed a general plan the coalition could best function on the local level.
- Core groups formed to meet specific needs of the community.
- Core groups comprised of local partners.

Outcomes

- Breast Cancer Support group that meets monthly.
- Six-month media campaign addressing nutrition services.
- Increase Women, Infants and Children (WIC) participation.
- Abstinence Education Programs Implemented.
- Partnered 2nd Annual Atoka County Resource Rally.
- Youth Day at Atoka County Fair.
- INCA Head Start Spaghetti Dinner & Bingo fund raiser.
- Atoka Parent Teacher Association Fall Carnival.
- Angel Tree Party.
- Winter Arts and Crafts Fair.

- Salvation Army Bell Ringing Participation
- Conducted Community Needs Assessment
- 2nd Annual Interagency Collaborative Training

Future Plans

- Expand the partnership and core groups.
- Establish networking between service providers to meet identified needs.
- Identify and obtain funds to be used for this project not otherwise identified.
- Host fund raiser for senior nutrition site.
- Community garden.
- Develop a three-year strategic plan for Coal and Atoka counties to include newly identified areas of need.
- Expand public recreation and exercise facilities: i.e. walking course and skateboard ramps at city park.
- Expand the Emergency Prescription Drug Program.
- Inquire and research possibilities to apply for a Federally Qualified Health Care Center for Atoka County residents.

Participants

- USDA
- Oklahoma State Department of Agriculture
- Regional Food Bank
- OSDH Turning Point and WIC staff
- Big Five Community Action Agency
- Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension Service
- Choctaw Nation
- Atoka Parent Teacher Association
- Atoka Chamber of Commerce
- Partnership for Change Coalition
- Salvation Army
- Abstinence Program – Postponing Sexual Involvement, Teaching Everyone Abstinence Matters, and Girl Power
- Langston University
- Atoka County Commissioners
- Oklahoma State Department of Human Services
- Dayspring Church
- Oklahoma State Department of Education
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- INCA Community Action Agency
- Atoka County Health Department
- Atoka County Department of Human Services
- Head Start
- Senior Nutrition Center
- Atoka County Public School Systems
- Atoka County Fire Department