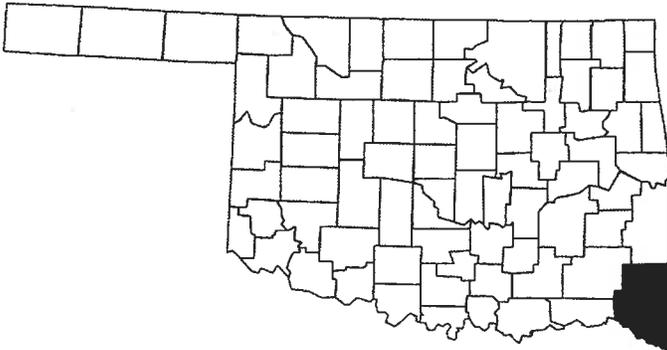


MCCURTAIN COUNTY COALITION FOR CHANGE

Established in 1991



The early form of the coalition was developed in 1991, called the McCurtain County Partnership. Later it was named the McCurtain County Coalition. In March 1999, it was renamed the McCurtain County Coalition for Change. Membership has grown to 45 members countywide. The logo for the coalition was developed through a student art contest in which the winner received \$100, donated by a coalition member.

Activities

- Utilizing resources collectively.
- Identifying committee objectives.
- Focusing on issues collectively.
- Accommodating differences of opinions and priorities among members.
- Rotate meeting place to permit members to host meetings.
- The Community Action Planning (CAP) program continues with several programs utilizing Idabel High School students such as community clean up, skits on drug abuse, racism, intolerance, and kid cliques.
- Serving as model coalition for Choctaw County Coalition.
- Applied for Access to Health Care Grant addressing transportation needs for county residents to and from health care services.

Outcomes

- Identified community goals and objectives.
- Access to health care.
- Abstinence Education Program Implemented.
- State Incentive Cooperative Agreement (SICA) Grant.
- The Battiest Community was awarded the Community Health Center Grant, now identified as a Federally Qualified Health Center.

- After school program established.
- Core tutoring programs continue to help students in computer technology, math, and language arts at the Booker T. Washington Center (BTW).
 - Software project implemented.
 - Employability and Work Maturity Skills.
 - Work Based Learning.
 - Citizenship Skills.
- Co-sponsored the O.W. Lee Amphitheater to be utilized by youth for music, drama, and dance.
- Grant Awarded—Oklahoma Leads Effective Teaching of American History (Project OLETAH)—to strengthen the teaching of American History as a separate academic subject within the curriculum of elementary and secondary classrooms in 50 school districts in rural southeastern Oklahoma.
- General computer technology program implemented for basic computer skills.
- Updated McCurtain County Coalition for Change website: www.octm.com/mccfc/index.htm.
- Participated in the Main Street project downtown—a new brick street-paving project.
- Updated the Character Education website: www.octm.com/charactercounts/index.htm.
- Project READY—Recreational and Educational Alternative to Drugs for Youth Project (trips scheduled to Beavers Ben State Park, Go-cart Day, Miniature Golf, and swimming activities).
- Updated the alcohol and drug abuse policies for one school district and three small businesses.

Future Plans

- Expand the partnership.

Participants

- McCurtain County Health Department
- Oklahoma State Department of Health Turning Point staff
- Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension Service
- Little Dixie Community Action Agency
- Battiest School District
- McCurtain County Hospital
- Idabel Minority Action Committee (IMAC)
- Communities for Change Coalition
- McCare Educational Cooperative