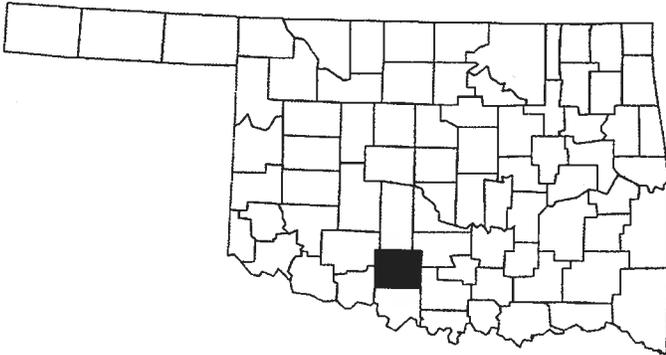


STEPHENS COUNTY

STEPHENS COUNTY TURNING POINT

Established in February 2002



Established in 2002, the Stephens County Partnership quickly identified teenage pregnancy prevention and nicotine addiction prevention as two top priority needs. Abstinence programs were presented in county schools along with a Kaleidoscope Health Fair, which provided prevention education concerning youth issues. Duncan United Way has led an effort to conduct a risk assessment of the school age children. A unique community resource is the world-class Simmons's Center, which has provided strong leadership in physical fitness and cardiovascular disease prevention. The Center has joined with Duncan Schools to enhance physical fitness activities for students and is leading a plan along with a strong partner Duncan Regional Hospital to enhance active living promotion for all county citizens.

Activities

- Stephens County Health Department dedicated staff support for the Turning Point Partnership.
- United Way conducted a county wide needs assessment.
- Results of needs assessment:
 - High rate of births to teens.
 - Youth prevention issues.
- Partnership set top priorities:
 - Youth prevention issues were identified on the partner survey as a top problem.
 - Tobacco use and nicotine addiction prevention.
 - Cardiovascular.
- Personal contacts being made to explain the Turning Point philosophy and recruit partners.
- Outreach education (brochures, news articles, presentations, public meetings).

Outcomes

- County health department providing support for community development around local health issues.

- Strong partnership between hospitals, health department, county commissioners, schools, business community, city, and county government.
- Commitment from several community leaders to work on local health issues.
- School officials allowing systematic assessment of youth risk behaviors.
- Community leaders are supporting tobacco prevention programs such as Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT).
- Conducted Drunk Driving Prevention Program in county schools.

Future Plans

- Develop goals and timelines.
- Continue to evaluate community health issues.
- Partnership will help design programs based on community needs.
- Partnership will help in the implementation of programs.
- Expand Prevention programs in Stephens County.
- Expand the partnership.
- Implement Walk This Weigh Campaign.
- Promote physical activity and proper nutrition.
- Conduct nicotine use prevention education campaign.

Participants

- Stephens County United Way
- Duncan Public Schools
- Marlow Public Schools
- Central High Public School
- Comanche Public Schools
- Duncan Regional Hospital
- Simmons Center
- Department of Human Services
- Red River Area Vo Tech School
- Marlow Physicians
- Stephens County Health Department
- Girl Scouts
- Prevention Network
- Simmons Center
- Area Prevention Resource Center