

# Partners for Ottawa County Youth

## Ottawa County 2010

### Coalition Priorities:

1. Recreation/After-School Programs
2. School Attendance
3. Mental Health
4. Parenting-related issues

### About Us...

Partners for Ottawa County Youth (POCY) sponsored a Drug/Alcohol Reality event for 6th graders on Ottawa County. "Reality events" portray real-life type scenarios of parties where alcohol and drugs are present. POCY is sponsoring a themed-poster contest entitled "**I AM DRUG FREE**". The contest is open to all Ottawa County students. The winners of the contest and their parents will be recognized at a community banquet where Judge Robert Reavis will be the guest speaker.

POCY also financially sponsors and provides "hands-on" assistance for a county-wide teen abstinence program targeted toward young girls. The event is called "A Promise to Keep". The event is facilitated by a health educator at the Ottawa County Health Department and other community partners. The event includes break-out sessions with topics that highlight postponing sexual involvement and self-esteem.

In August 2010, school-based social workers who are also POCY members arranged to have national speaker and author Dave Pelzer travel to Ottawa County to present a program about own experiences with child abuse and how teachers, school-based social workers, and the legal system save his life. POCY members are also working to increase training for local mental health professionals.

Parenting classes were initiated in several areas including schools and day care centers. The "Love and Logic" six-week parenting classes are being offered on a continuing basis for adults. Spanish-language parenting classes are also being planned.

### Significant Outcomes:

- ◆ National speaker provide insight and training into child abuse issues
- ◆ Spanish-language curriculum for Parenting Education Classes has been developed
- ◆ Collaborative efforts with the Community Crisis Center (domestic abuse) to establish an adult oriented coalition based on the POCY model

### Partners:

Ottawa County Health Department  
Ottawa County Boys and Girls Club  
Ottawa County DHS  
Mt. Olive Lutheran Church and School  
School Based Social Workers  
OK Federation of Families  
Tri-County Wrap-around  
Department of Vocational Rehab  
Office of Juvenile Affairs

2M2L  
Oklahoma Commission of Children and Youth (OCCY)  
Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College  
NRCYS  
CPC Coalition  
ROCMND APRC  
OSU Extension Systems of Care  
Grand Lake Mental Health Care

### Key Activities:

- Exploring options to re-open a youth shelter
- Reality Events
- Love and Logic Parenting Education Classes
- Drug Free Poster Contest
- Training for local Mental Health professionals

