

In addition to Kells, Mayor Linda Peterson; Tina Johnson, administrator of the Pottawatomie CHD; and Karen Lyall, chair of the LEPC, were on hand to sign the designation. "It's very humbling to be here today. I'm proud to represent Shawnee as the recipient of the Safe Communities designation," Peterson said.

THE BENEFITS > Pottawatomie CHD strengthened existing partnerships and created new ones.

A wealth of community resources were identified, allowing better referrals and more efficient use of resources.

New programs for high-risk populations were developed. (For example, the Pottawatomie CHD initiated Tai Chi within the community by providing free training to key organizations.)

A greater emphasis is now placed on program evaluation. In fact, all Pottawatomie CHD programs will have an evaluation component (be evidence-based).

Grant opportunities are now available to the City of Shawnee, businesses, and community organizations.

