



About Us...

The Prague Turning Point Coalition was formed in June 2008. Since that time they have dedicated themselves to promoting health and wellness through education and prevention in the lives of those in the Prague area with a primary focus on youth.

Through a community survey, the Coalition identified community concerns over underage drinking, prescription drug abuse, bullying prevention and obesity. The Coalition has used the results of this survey to guide its activities over the last three years.

Founding Members:

- ◇ BancFirst & Vision Bank
- ◇ City of Prague
- ◇ COCAA

- ◇ Concerned Community Members
- ◇ Gateway to Prevention & Recovery
- ◇ Lincoln County Health Department
- ◇ Lincoln County Red Cross
- ◇ Local Churches
- ◇ Prague Chamber of Commerce
- ◇ Prague Hospital
- ◇ Prague Police Department
- ◇ Prague Public Schools

Coalition Objectives:

- ◇ Increase parental knowledge of the harms of underage drinking
- ◇ Increase parental knowledge of trends in children's health and the importance of parent-child

communication

- ◇ Increase student and parent's ability to recognize, report and refuse bullying.
- ◇ Promote lifelong healthy behaviors and decision making skills.
- ◇ Empower parents to work effectively with their children by providing strategies to meet their academic, emotional and social needs.



Prague Choose to Win Youth Summer Day Camp



Prague Turning Point Coalition

Working together to build a healthier community.

Partnership Priorities

- Underage Drinking
- Bullying Prevention
- Physical Activity/Nutrition
- Prescription Drug Abuse



Prague, OK

The foresight of the founding fathers continues as a tradition for modern leaders, with the determination to grow and make the most of the city's resources. The community strives to provide quality of life for citizens and visitors of all ages.

“Prague Public Schools and their partnership with the Prague Turning Point Coalition is a shining example of schools and communities working together to help create a bully-free environment.”

***Representative
Danny Morgan***

Community Profile: Strengths and Challenges

The City of Prague is located within Lincoln County. Prague's current population is approximately 2,200. It is a bedroom community in that a great deal of the people who live in Prague commute to work in other towns. This presents a challenge in keeping community members familiar and up-to-date with resources available locally as well as coalition activities.

Prague has an attractive city park containing a triple tennis court, swimming pool,

basketball goals, volleyball area, fountains, and playground equipment. The park has a half mile circular walking trail interspersed with flower beds and benches. Community members are regularly seen taking advantage of these features.

Another strength lies within the Prague healthcare and education system. Prague Community Hospital is a licensed 25 bed Critical Access Hospital and is adjoined by an outpatient

clinic. Prague Public Schools enrolls over 1,000 students in pre-K through 12th grade.

One of the biggest challenges specifically identified by the Prague Turning Point Coalition is the area of communication and how to most efficiently and effectively reach the community. The relationship with the local media is a great strength. However, reaching the intended audience still remains difficult.

Description of Assessments

A local health and quality of life assessment was conducted in 2008 which identified the coalition's priority areas. The coalition will be conducting a similar assessment during the fall of 2011 as part of the MAPP process in order to help them gauge the needs of the community and what has changed over the last three years. They are also surveying parents in the community to determine the most desired format for the annual Parent University hosted by the Coalition.

The 2010 County Health Profile for Lincoln County, compiled by the Oklahoma

State Department of Health, indicated the leading causes of death for Lincoln County residents were:

1. Heart Disease
2. Cancer
3. Stroke

The County profile showed 34.6% of residents in the county as being obese. 84.4% of Lincoln County adults did not eat the recommended five servings of fruits and vegetables daily. Health care costs associated with obesity in Lincoln County were estimated to be near \$2.9 million.

Schools from within Lincoln County also participated in the 2010 Oklahoma Prevention Needs Assessment. Survey. The OPNA Survey is designed to assess students involvement in a specific set of problem behaviors, as well as their exposure to a set of risk and protective factors. The risk and protective factors have been shown to influence the likelihood of academic success, school dropout, substance abuse, violence and delinquency among youth. Over 1,000 Lincoln County students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12 participated in the 2010 OPNA.

Prague Bullying Prevention Program

The Bullying Prevention Initiative at Prague Middle School is a partnership between the Prague Turning Coalition, Prague Public Schools and Lincoln County Health Department.

This program served to create awareness for the need to change school policy regarding the consequences for bullying behavior. Even though grant funding ended in June of this year, due to the strong partnership formed between these three

organizations the initiative and its activities will be sustained.

In the past three years, the bullying prevention program at Prague Public Schools has expanded from providing classroom lessons to students in the 4th, 6th and 7th grades to what is now a fully comprehensive bul-

lying prevention program consisting of classroom lessons in the 2nd through 9th grades and Peer Mediation.

Students participated in a combination of the Second Step Youth Violence Prevention Program, Steps to Respect and Botvin Life Skills Training. Post Testing indicated students gained refusal skills and

were more willing to ask adults for help if they found themselves or one of their peers in a bullying situation.

Because of the Peer Mediation Program, students at the middle school now have a process that helps them resolve their conflicts with other students without resorting to violence. During its first year, over 60 mediations were submitted and 95% were successfully resolved through the mediation process.



2010 Prague Middle School Peer Mediation Team

Funding

◇ ***Safe and Drug Free Schools & Communities Grant***

◇ ***Purpose: Youth Violence & Underage Drinking Prevention***

◇ ***Funding Period: 2009 - June, 2011***

◇ ***Funder: Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services***

◇ ***Communities of Excellence in Tobacco Control***

◇ ***Purpose: Develop strong tobacco prevention programs at a local level based on best practices.***

◇ ***Funding Period: October 2010 - 2015***

◇ ***Funder: Oklahoma Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust***

Impact

◇ Bullying Prevention Program served to create awareness for the need to change school policy regarding the consequences for bullying behavior.

◇ 2011 Town Hall Meeting on Underage Drinking indicated the need and youth desire for a 2M2L club. Meeting also indicated there is still need for continued community education on the Prague Social Host Ordinance passed in 2008.

◇ Media coverage of local bullying prevention efforts led to the expansion of the program into an

additional school district within the county.

◇ The desire to maintain sustainability of programs following the end -ing of our Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities funding led to the development of an even stronger partnership between Prague Public Schools, Lincoln County Health Department and the Prague Turning Point Coalition.

◇ As part of a TSET CX 3 Consortium, the Coalition now has a greater opportunity for linkage to develop partners from throughout the entire county.



Prague Middle School Principal and Turning Point Partner, Jerry Martin accepting the 2011 Outstanding Partner award at the Second Annual Prevention Reception.

Contact Information



Oklahoma State Department of Health

Jennifer Nunn,
Regional Turning Point Consultant
101 Meadow Lane
Chandler, OK 74834

Phone: 405-258-2640
Fax: 405-258-2696
E-mail: JenniferN@health.ok.gov

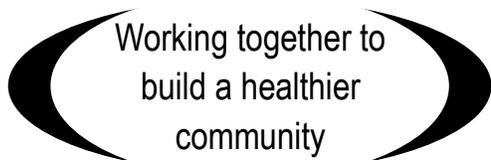
Coalition Officers:

Shawn Mills, Chairperson

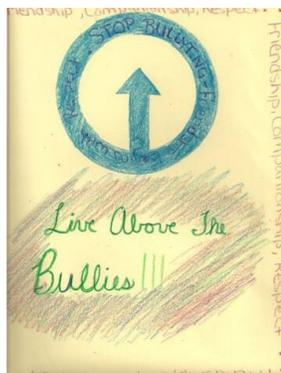
Sharon Lassiter, Vice Chairperson

Pam Pratka, Secretary/Treasurer

The Prague Turning Point Coalition meets the first Wednesday of each month at 1:30 pm. Coalition meetings are held at Prague City Hall, 820 Jim Thorpe Blvd.



Partnership Outcomes



Winning design of Bullying Prevention T-Shirt Contest sponsored by Prague Turning Point Coalition

- Community Advisory Board and partner for the Czech Point 21st Century After School Program which made possible after school care and programming for over 300 students its first year. (2010/2011)
- Bullying Prevention Program instituted at Middle School led to a 10% increase in knowledge based on test results. 14 students were selected to serve as Peer Mediators.
- Hosted 3rd Annual Choose to Win Youth Summer Day Camp. Campers participated in a daily nutrition education workshop. Pre and Post testing indicated a significant increase in knowledge.
- Hosted 3rd Annual Parent University focusing on current trends in children's health, cyber bullying and family nutrition.
- Recipient of the Oklahoma State Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services 2010/2011 Outstanding Coalition Award. Prague Public Schools was also recognized as the 2010/2011 Outstanding Partner.