



### About Us...

Faced with a dismal health status, the Sequoyah Wellness Partnership became a Turning Point partner in 2010, and began promoting healthier living through a network of collaborating agencies and groups. Today, the collaboration continues to meet regularly in an effort to work together using strategies that will make a positive impact on the people of Sequoyah County.

The 2012 County Health Ranking report listed Sequoyah County's Health Outcomes score as 56 out of the 77 Counties, while the Health Factors score was 75. Although these scores place Sequoyah County among the least healthy counties in Oklahoma, they still represent an improvement over the scores earned in pre-

vious years. Areas of highest concern are Adult smoking, at 31%, Adult obesity at 36% and physical inactivity at 39%. These figures are all well above the state rates, and even more alarming when compared to National Benchmarks. Other areas of concern include the ratio of primary care physicians per population, and the teen birth rate. The Sequoyah Wellness Partnership conducted strategic planning this year to devise strategies for addressing priority issues. These issues align with those of Oklahoma's Health Improvement plan, including Tobacco, Obesity and children's health.

The Communities of Excellence in Tobacco Control program, funded in conjunction with Muskogee

Turning Point, has continued to make progress, with the passage of additional 24/7 Tobacco Free School policies in the County.

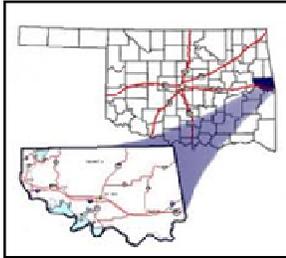
Child health is currently being addressed through assistance to schools by advocating and supporting school policies that promote wellness, and the coalition has created a Speaker's Bureau of professionals to address community groups in support of actions that will affect health and wellness at both individual and organizational levels. Topics of these presentations include physical activity, nutrition, tobacco cessation, and stress reduction.

Certified Healthy recipients this year included 2 businesses, 1 restaurant, and 4 schools.

### Partnership Priorities

- Nutrition
- Physical Activity
- Tobacco Control





**Mission:**

*The long term vision of the Sequoyah Wellness Partnership is to engage communities in improving the health of Sequoyah County citizens by eating better, moving more, and being tobacco free.*

**Coalition Chair:**

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**Activites**

- ◇ Monthly articles submitted to each newspaper in Sequoyah County regarding health promotion.
- ◇ Speakers Bureau created to address county groups on health status, culture and policy change.
- ◇ County SWAT Rally
- ◇ Participated in Regional SWAT Leadership training

**Outcomes/Impacts**

The Sequoyah Wellness Partnership has continued its progress with building the infrastructure needed to launch health and wellness related policy initiatives and increasing capacity for providing guidance and technical assistance to businesses, schools, and the community.



**Partnerships**

- ◇ Sequoyah Memorial Hospital
- ◇ Health and Wellness Center
- ◇ Sequoyah County Health Department
- ◇ People, Inc.
- ◇ Cherokee Nation Healthy Nation
- ◇ OSU Extension
- ◇ Sequoyah County Health Department
- ◇ Dr. Trudeau, Ophthalmologist
- ◇ Kibois Community Action
- ◇ NOW Coalition

**FUNDING**

*Communities of Excellence in Tobacco Control program for Sequoyah County is funded through Muskogee Turning Point.*



Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.

-Henry Ford