



About Us...

Texas County Coalition is a diverse partnership with a desire to give the people of Texas County every opportunity to be healthy, productive citizens. Texas County's partnership was one of the three originally funded partnerships when they received a grant from the W.K. Kellogg and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in 1998.

The coalition has by-laws and a current work plan that guides the group. In addition to Turning Point, Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth (OCCY), Systems of Care, and Area Prevention Resource Center (APRC) are all represented in the coalition.

Rachel Jones serves as the chair of the coalition and has been instrumental in the youth shelter project.

The secretary of the coalition recently moved, so that position is currently open.

The coalition meets the second Tuesday at noon every month at the Texas County Health Department.

Texas County Coalition cur-

rently has two active sub-committees-the Children's Health Taskforce and Youth Shelter Committee. These committees main objectives are addressing tobacco use, access to care, developing a youth shelter, and other children's health issues.



Partnership Priorities

- Reduce tobacco use in Texas County
- Improve children's health
- Develop youth shelter



Community Profile: Strengths and Challenges

Texas County's location in the heart of the panhandle, can be viewed as both a strength and a challenge. Due to the county's remoteness, it has made those who live there, independent hard working people who have no problem working for what they want. Still there are challenges to that, as sometimes there are specific resources needed to move forward, and they are simply not available. Texas County Coalition has been intentional in trying to

identify these gaps and then take the needed steps to turn these into opportunities for their citizens.

and most of the community sectors are represented on the coalition.

Another strength is Texas County's population continues to rise. This is in part due to a large Hispanic population. As the coalition works to change norms across all populations, it becomes a challenge due to the language barrier and cultural differences.

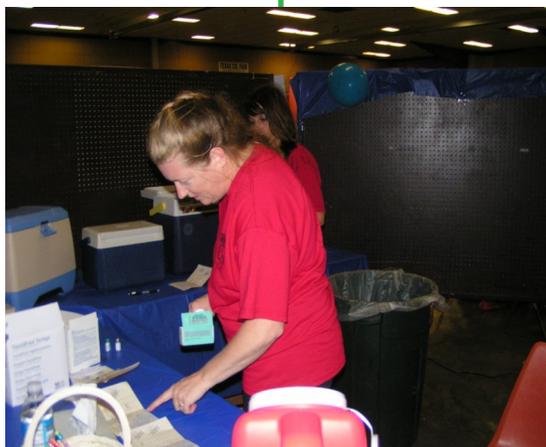
The community is very supportive of the coalition

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people could change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

-Margaret Mead

Description of Assessments

Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth has spent a lot of time working with this coalition. Texas County was chosen as one of their intensive technical assistance counties. Multiple key informant surveys were completed in 2009 and a community health status assessment was completed in 2010. Our current work plan was completed in 2008 and has been reviewed every year. Currently we are having conversation on moving this coalition into the Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnership (MAPP) process. Informally we have worked through many of the phases of the MAPP process but will soon begin to move the coalition into a more formalized process.



Featured Intervention / Project

Texas County Coalition conducted a community needs survey and the need for a youth shelter in Texas County was evident. Children were having to be transported hours away to Woodward or Oklahoma City which only adds more strain on a child in that situation. A Youth Shelter Planning Board was created and the coalition started collaborating with other service agencies to link resources to provide a shelter for children

birth to 18 years of age who are in need of emergency protection due to abuse, neglect, voluntary placement and other unseen situations in the family. The City of Guymon has leased property to the coalition at low cost and they applied for and received a \$35,000 HUD

grant to help with renovations on the location. The group has raised over \$30,000 through fundraisers such as a Valentine's Day Murder/Mystery Dinner and golf tournaments sponsored by EOG. Multiple other community businesses and sponsors have

stepped up to give to this project. OCCY through their efforts have given funding for a part-time licensed professional counselor to work at the shelter. She will help coordinate some of the services and also provide counseling for the shelter.



Advertising the location of the future youth shelter in Guymon

Funding

- ◇ ***CX Wave III Tobacco Grant***
- ◇ ***To reduce tobacco use in Texas County***
- ◇ ***Texas County just completed their planning year and will soon begin their first implementation year***
- ◇ ***Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust (TSET)***
- ◇ ***\$75,000***
- ◇ ***Intensive Technical Assistance***
- ◇ ***To assist in the development of a youth shelter***
- ◇ ***Given annually***
- ◇ ***Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth***

Impact

- Collected donations for Write Stuff program
- Continued collaboration of OPSU and Northwestern Universities for Master of Counseling Program
- Partnered with local companies to host fundraisers for youth shelter
- Held meeting with Oklahoma Health Care Authority and coalition representatives to address access to health care issues
- Hired part-time LPC staff person for the youth shelter
- TSET provided training to coalition on tobacco norms and policy



Contact Information



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Organizational Members

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| Oklahoma Family Network | Oklahoma Panhandle State University |
| Department of Human Services | OSDH Turning Point Staff |
| Faith Community | OSU Extension |
| Guymon Public Schools | Texas County EMS Texas County Fire Department |
| Local Citizens | Texas County Health Department |
| Memorial Hospital of Texas County | Texas County School Systems |
| Next Step Network | Systems of Care |
| Northwest Domestic Crisis | DA's Office |
| Brown & Associates Insurance | Western Plains Youth |
| Federation of Families | City of Guymon |
| Texas County School Systems | Northwest APRC |
| Systems of Care | Oklahoma Panhandle State University |
| DA's Office | OSDH Turning Point Staff |
| Western Plains Youth and Family Service | OSU Extension |
| City of Guymon | Texas County EMS Texas County Fire Department |
| Northwest APRC | Texas County Health Department |

Partnership Outcomes



- Over 350 children attended Children's Health Fair
- 250 backpacks filled with school supplies distributed to Texas County schools through Write Stuff project
- Systems of Care working with multiple families
- Passed 24/7 tobacco free policy in one Texas County school
- Raised over \$15,000 this year for youth shelter