

Canadian County
Canadian County Coalition for Children & Families
Established 1996

At a Glance

The mission of our Coalition is “to improve the quality of life for children, youth and families through coordination of community services with a focus on child abuse prevention and community health.” With a number of new programs coming under the Coalition umbrella in recent years, and with the rapid growth of our membership, we felt the need for a “time-out” to re-evaluate our mission - who we are, what we are about, and how we can meaningfully impact our county. We had an all day retreat in September, with 19 members participating. Facilitated by Gary Theilen, an OCCY Consultant, we examined how to re-structure our coalition, but agreed that by charging the Executive Committee with the role of screening potential projects and proposals, we would be able to continue to function in the present way that the group enjoys so much. The group identified access to comprehensive health care as our main focus for the future. We have just had our first health committee meeting, and have chosen “Access Health Committee” as our official name. We will be gathering anecdotal information from our community about the experiences of those who do not have health insurance (or inadequate coverage) and the effects on them and their families. Next, we will bring in health professionals and explore ways to improve accessibility to medical, dental and mental health services. We are optimistic that we can have a positive impact on the families in our community through this effort.

We do a number of special projects each year – all meant to enhance a family’s ability to care for itself and produce healthy members. Usually these projects are an event, but sometimes they are an on-going type project. Coalition members are encouraged to participate in any and all activities in which they are interested. We strive to support and participate in a variety of different programs and committees.

The coalition boasts of four OCCY awards in 2005; Join Hands for Children, Community Assessment, Outstanding Volunteer and Innovative Program Award.

Key Activities of 2005

- Dad’s Day - encouraging dad’s to interact with youth
- Coalition Strategic Planning Retreat
- “Tag Your It” (Asset Building)
- On the Road Family Perspective Conference
- Development of coalition brochure
- Key Informant Survey - identification of family needs for the special needs community
- Tobacco Policy Project
- 12 Core Values of Systems of Care Assessment
- Canadian County Resource Directory- focusing on services for families with special needs
- Maintains an informational website, www.familiescancount.org , to provide community information and educational resources plus linkage to additional sites
- Safe September-educational and fun activities for the community

Priorities of the Partnership

- Sooner SUCCESS
- Healthy Families
- Tobacco Control and Prevention
- Child Abuse Prevention

Partners

- 4H
- Area Prevention Resource Center
- Bikers Against Child Abuse
- Can Co Caring for Kids

- Can Co Health Department
- Can CO Juvenile Bureau
- Can Co Sheriff's Department
- Can Co Tobacco Policy Project
- Canadian County Red Cross
- Canadian County Schools
- Canadian Valley Technology Center
- Carnegie Library
- CART House
- CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate)
- Center for Positive Change
- Center for Positive Community Connections
- Cheyenne-Arapahoe Tribes
- Child Abuse Prevention Task Force
- Children First
- Children's Justice Center
- Community Action
- Concerned Citizens of NW El Reno
- Delores Sanders Alvarez
- Department of Human Service
- Drug & Alcohol ed and prevention
- El Reno Police Department
- El Reno Police Department
- Family Forum
- Headstart
- Healthy Families
- Jalyn Davison, youth leader
- Juvenile Justice Bureau
- Lady Lights and Stage
- Mabel Frye Public Library
- Manna Pantry
- Norman Alcohol Information Center
- OG&E
- Oklahoma Commission on Children & Youth
- Oklhoama Turning Point
- Opportunities Inc.
- OSU Cooperative Extension Offices
- OU Health Science Center, Sooner SUCCESS
- Parents as Teachers
- Parkview Hospital
- People First
- Red Rock Behavioral Health
- Redlands Community College
- Regional Sooner Start
- Rev. Mark D Heaney, LPC
- Sooner SUCCESS
- Special Education Directors, Can Co Public Schools
- Systems of Care
- The Bridge Assembly of God Church
- The Lord's Harvest
- The Lord's Table
- Transitions
- WCD-WIC Program
- Wells Fargo Home Mortgage
- Women's & Family Resource Center
- Youth & Family Services
- Yukon Police Department
- Yukon Police Department

For More Information:

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