

Jackson County
Jackson County Community Health Action Team
Established 2002

At a Glance

Jackson County Community Health Action Team (JCCHAT) was formed in March 2002. Within the first year of JCCHAT's existence, a community assessment was conducted, priority areas were identified and a strategic plan was written. The goals and objectives of their strategic plan was a direct reflection of the partnerships concerns and were echoed in the results of the community assessment. Among their priority areas was access to health care.

Jackson County Community Health Action Team formed a sub-committee, chaired by Dr. Randy Sheets to focus on access to health care. In the following months much work took place. Local attorneys donated their time and expertise to obtain the non-profit status for the clinic and assist in developing bylaws and operating policies. Local businesses donated telephones, copy machines, telephone service, office supplies and computer technology assistance. Physicians in town began donating sample medications to the clinic, which in turn helped establish the free clinic's pharmacy. Churches and Sunday school classes began making regular donations to the free clinic. Every pharmacy in town, with the exception of one participates in the free clinic's pharmacy. Other services provided to the patients of the free clinic are by Jackson County Memorial Hospital and they provide free lab and x-ray.

Prior to the clinic opening, the sub-committee began recruiting volunteers across the county. A retired RN and past county health department administrator, Jimmie Ewing, agreed to act as the Free Clinic's Director. Volunteer orientations were scheduled and at the first orientation there were approximately 65 people in attendance. Currently, the clinic boasts well over 100 volunteers.

The Jackson County Health Department became the home of the free clinic. Once the free clinic's bylaws, policies and procedures were written, supplies obtained, volunteers recruited, a building was secured and financial contributions started coming in, the clinic was ready to open. The Jackson County Free Clinic, Inc. opened its doors in 2004 serving county residents who do not have third party pay such as Medicare, Medicaid or private insurance. The clinic is open the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Since that opening date 786 patients have received health care services and over 5,000 prescriptions have been filled with an average retail cost of approximately \$42.00 per prescription.

Our county is very proud to have the Jackson County Free Clinic and it's volunteers. Thank you for allowing us to show case our accomplishments in rural Oklahoma.

Key Activities of 2005

- Community Walks
- Free Health Clinic
- Jackson County Tobacco Control Task Force (TSET activities)
- Domestic Violence Awareness - "Silent Victims Walk"
- Immunization Clinic
- Car Seat/Booster Seat Distribution
- Windshield survey of sidewalk routes to elementary schools in preparation to begin a Safe Routes to School project

Priorities of the Partnership

- Substance Abuse Prevention
- Injury Prevention
- Responsible Sexual Behavior
- Access to Healthcare
- Immunization
- Physical Activity/Nutrition
- Domestic Violence Prevention

Partners

- ACMI House Crisis Center
- ACMI (Ministerial Alliance)
- Altus Animal Aid
- Altus Air Force Base Family Advocacy
- Altus Air Force Base Child Development Center
- Altus Air Force Base HAWC
- Altus Air Force Base Patient Education
- AAFB 97th Medical Group
- AAFB Child - Youth Center
- AAFB Health and Wellness Center
- Altus Chamber of Commerce
- Altus Police Department
- Altus Public Schools
- Altus Schools Homeless Program
- Altus Times
- American Red Cross
- Armed Services YMCA
- CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)
- City of Altus
- Communities of Promise
- Great Plains Child Care Resource & Referral Center
- Heartland of SW Oklahoma, United Way
- Integris Medical Clinic
- Jackson County EMS
- Jackson County Health Department
- Jackson County Memorial Hospital
- Jackson County Red Cross
- KeyB Radio
- Kiwanis
- Oklahoma Blood Institute, SW
- Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth
- Oklahoma Highway Patrol, Troop M
- OSU Extension
- Pathways Pregnancy Resource
- Physicians
- Southwest Oklahoma Community Action Agency
- Southwestern Youth Services
- Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)
- Third Judicial District CASA
- Western Oklahoma State College
- Wichita Mountains Area Prev. Resource Center
- Youth and Adult Volunteers

For More Information:

Barbara Burleson
City of Altus
216 E Commerce
Altus, OK 73521
bburleson@cityofaltus.org