

Pushmataha & Choctaw County
Project S.P.I.T.(Stop, Prevent, Intervene, and Tobacco Use) Consortium
Established 2004

At a Glance

In 1996, the Pushmataha County Turning Point Coalition and the Choctaw County Coalition was formed as a result of a collaborative effort between community members residing in Pushmataha & Choctaw county and the local County Health Departments. The original purpose for the development of the Coalition(s) was to serve as a steering committee and provide community-based input for the County Health Department's Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program. Since that time, both coalition(s) have adopted many roles towards mobilizing the community in addressing adolescent health issues, as well as community health issues and economic development. Throughout the last eight years they have continued to aid one another across the county lines in sharing best practices in youth development, joint media campaign approaches, model successful prevention programs, and share common concerns.

A common concern identified by both groups, is the overwhelming impact that tobacco use has on their health and community. In June of 2004, the two coalitions chose to form a consortium with one another to collectively and resourcefully address this issue through the application of the Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust (TSET).

This consortium identify this collaborative effort as "Project **Stop Prevent and Intervene Tobacco use**" Initiative (throughout the remainder of this proposal referred to as Project S.P.I.T.).

With great enthusiasm, Project S.P.I.T., accepted the award for a tobacco control program from the TSET to be implemented throughout both counties: Choctaw & Pushmataha.

Coalition members represent a variety of sectors in each community, such as, schools, parent groups, health agencies, youth-serving agencies, community service organizations, youth, media, businesses, faith community, law enforcement, volunteers, and civic groups. Members involved are truly some of the "movers and shakers" of Pushmataha & Choctaw counties. Each year additional members of the community become involved and are offering monetary and in-kind support towards meeting the goals of the Project S.P.I.T. consortium. Volunteers are even donating their time to be trained in special curricula areas and assisting in co-facilitation of coalition presentations for youth and adults. Representing communities throughout Pushmataha & Choctaw Counties, Project S.P.I.T. Consortium sees the growing need and validity for comprehensive community-based initiatives, specifically in tobacco control and education.

Key Activities of 2005

- Implemented the Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust Grant awarded "Project S.P.I.T." and conducted a tobacco focus community needs assessment and development strategic plan specifically for the objectives of this program.
- Begin the first phases of implementing the direct services of the Project S.P.I.T. strategic Plan
- Announced part time position to add to the staff addressing Tobacco control issues in Choctaw & Pushmataha County
- Identified Hiring/Recommendation committee to assist in the recommendation for (part-time FTE) staff selection.
- Expanding partnership to include representation from the A Better Clayton (ABC) Coalition and the Believers In Boswell Community Coalition to the Project S.P.I.T. Consortium board.
- Identified goals for Choctaw & Pushmataha County pertaining to tobacco control, intervention, and education
- In the process of applying for additional dollars available through the Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust Fund to expand Project S.P.I.T. services to adjacent counties.
- Implemented Train the Trainer Model, identifying community volunteers who were willing to be trained on Cessation Class Instruction and agree to offer local community Cessation Class Services
- Successful Implemented Cessation Classes to community residents in Choctaw, Pushmataha, and McCurtain County
- Identified Six Active Student Working Against Tobacco (S.W.A.T.) teams
- City Ordinances adopted stating no tobacco products allowed on city property
- 24/7 Ordinances adopted through partnerships with the local public schools

- “World No Tobacco Day” Proclamations, Activities and Awareness Campaigns
- National “KICK BUTTS” Day Activities and Awareness Campaigns
- “Great American Smoke Out” Activities and Awareness Campaigns
- Store Front Campaign
- Reward/Reminder Incentive Event(s)
- Monthly “A Breathe of Fresh Air” Newsletter
- Community/Coalition Capacity Building Training
- “Did You Know” Campaign
- Developed Brochure
- Sponsored Tobacco Prevention Billboards In Pushmataha County
- Winter “Tobacco Free” Dance

Priorities of the Partnership

- Prevent Initiative of Tobacco Use
- Eliminate Exposure
- Promote Cessation
- Reduce Tobacco Industry Influence
- Promote Youth & Adult Community Activism
- Create Awareness and Provide Education of the Harmful Effects of Tobacco Use
- Community Collaboration

Partners

- American Cancer Society
- Ameristate Bank of Antlers
- Antler First Baptist Church
- Antlers American
- Antlers Public Library
- Antlers Public Schools
- Bearcats Against Drugs
- Boswell First Baptist Church
- Boswell Public Schools
- Chamber of Commerce
- Choctaw County Health Department
- Choctaw County Schools
- Choctaw Memorial Hospital
- Choctaw Nation CORE Capacity/Healthy Lifestyles
- City Government
- City of Antlers
- City Police
- Clayton First Baptist Church
- Community members at large
- Department of Human Services
- First Bank/Ameristate Bank
- Hugo Daily News
- Hugo Public Schools
- Kiamichi Technology Center
- Lane Frost Rehabilitation Center
- Little Dixie Community Action Agency
- Local Hugo Banks: Bank First, First United, Security First National
- Local Youth
- McDonald’s
- Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension Service
- Pushmataha County Health Department
- Pushmataha County Hospital
- Pushmataha County Sheriff’s Department
- Pushmataha Public School systems
- Senior Citizens
- Soper Public Schools
- SOSU
- Southeast Counseling Center of Oklahoma.
- Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust Board
- Wal-Mart

For More Information:

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