

Love County Child Abuse Prevention Task Force and Turning Point Partnership

Love County

Coalition Priorities:

- ◆ **Physical Activity/Nutrition**
- ◆ **Substance Abuse Prevention/Tobacco Prevention**
- ◆ **Mental Health Access**
- ◆ **Responsible Sexual Behavior**
- ◆ **Access to Healthcare/Health Disparities**
- ◆ **Economic-Community Development**

About Us...

A Child Abuse Prevention Task Force that has been meeting monthly since 1991 became the Turning Point Partnership. In 2007, the group contributed significant volunteerism and time preparing for June's mock plague exercise in Love County. The exercise developed and tested emergency response capabilities for widespread health and other catastrophes. The partners identified their key Turning Point community policy/social issues as 1 - Substance Abuse/Tobacco Prevention. 2 - Addressing Teen Risky Behaviors.

Partners:

Ardmore Area Prevention Network
Bethel Union Baptist Church
Community Children's Shelter
CASA of Southern Oklahoma
Department of Human Services
Family Shelter of Southern Oklahoma
First Christian Church
First United Methodist Church
Greenville School System
Juvenile Services
Lake County Nursing Home
Leadership Love County
Love County Chamber of Commerce
Love County Children's Review Board
Love County District Attorney
Love County Health Department
Love County Multidisciplinary Team
Love County Sheriff
Love County System of Care
Marietta City
Marietta Lions Club
Marietta Police Department
Marietta School System
Mental Health Services of Southern Ok.
Mercy Health/Love County Hospital and Clinic
OSU Extension Services
Thackerville School System
Turner School System

Key Activities:

- ◆ With Mercy Health/Love County Hospital, hosted the first joint meeting of the four Healthy and Fit Schools Advisory Committees to present an outline of winning ideas being implemented by like committees elsewhere in Oklahoma. Guest presenter Chris Kirby described the Farms to Schools program. Area Health Department administrator Mendy Spohn offered the schools staffing for their committees and the services of a public health school nurse.
- ◆ With a \$5,000 Turning Point/WIC grant from the Health Department, launched a weekend Farmers Market in Marietta during the summer.
- ◆ With backing from Mercy Health/Love County Hospital, secured "Winston Man" Dave Goerlitz, who turned from cigarette advertising model to tobacco critic, for the annual 8th grade health fair.
- ◆ Organized a promotion of the 24-hour helpline, 2-1-1, in Love County. With backing from Mercy Health/Love County Hospital, printed 2-1-1 telephone stickers, affixed them to 2-1-1 explanatory letters, and distributed 10,000 copies in Marietta Monitor, as take-home items for school kids and workers, and as stock items for county agencies. Hosted the area 2-1-1 steering committee.
- ◆ For December, made plans for public analysis of health/social implications of "liquor by the drink," which will be on the ballot in Love County on January 8, 2008. Is "big alcohol" guilty of the same shameless come-ons to kids as "big tobacco" and as harmful and as deserving of disengagement, for health reasons, by the public.

Significant Outcomes:

- ◆ RECEIVED TURNING POINT/WIC GRANT TO IMPLEMENT FARMERS MARKET
- ◆ SYSTEM OF CARE IMPLEMENTATION
- ◆ LEADERSHIP LOVE COUNTY INITIATIVE
- ◆ LOVE COUNTY VICTIM ADVOCATE OFFICE