

# Pottawatomie County Turning Point

Pottawatomie County

2007

## Coalition Priorities:

1. More opportunities for poor families to get medical help
2. Keep communication lines open among health professionals

## About Us...

The Pottawatomie County Turning Point Coalition started with a breakfast meeting in spring of 2006 at the Shawnee YMCA. Concerned citizens came together to talk about the health needs and priorities for Pott County and decided that there was a need for a health-focused coalition to represent the needs of individuals of all ages. Neil Hann, Chief of Community Development from the OK State Dept. of Health talked about the impact of poor health on the Pottawatomie County community. Larry Olmstead told the group about the history of Turning Point and Jan Tipton of Gateway to Prevention and Recovery agreed to serve as Interim Chair of the coalition until the bylaws were in place and officers were elected. This happened in April of 2007. Gay Faulk was elected president with Susan Morris as Vice-President and Jan Tipton as Secretary.

The membership started out researching how to get a free health clinic for northern Pottawatomie County, southern Lincoln County and then decided to pursue this but do something short term that would draw attention to Turning Point in the community. So, it was decided to sponsor a quarterly roundtable meeting of all health providers in the county so all could stay abreast of the services available and to sponsor a health fair in the beginning of 2008.

We wrote for and received a mini-grant that year (2006) which carried out an idea conceived by the Shawnee School Nurse, the Shawnee School Superintendent, the Director of the Pott County Health Department and the Director of Training and Prevention at Gateway. For more information on this mini-grant, see "Key Activities."

We also wrote for and received a mini-grant in 2007 that helped implement the Girl Power! Health Conference for Shawnee Schools. (see Key Activities)

## Partners:

OSU Extension	Pottawatomie County Health Department
Gateway to Prevention & Recovery	Youth & Family Services
Unity Health Center	Success By Six
Dept. of Human Services	Ocean Dental
	Pottawatomie County Schools
Shawnee Housing Authority	

## Key Activities:

- ◆ Pottawatomie County health providers' round table
- ◆ Activities and Nutritional advice for pre-school parents
- ◆ Girl Power! Health Conference

## Significant Outcomes:

- ◆ By-laws were written and officers elected.
- ◆ Two hundred fifth-grade girls received health information and fitness pointers at the Girl Power! Health Conference
- ◆ The first Pottawatomie Health Services Roundtable was a success
- ◆ Eight families learned about nutrition and activity expectations of their preschoolers.

