

Partnership for Change Coalition

Atoka & Coal Counties

2008

Coalition Priorities:

1. Tobacco Control
2. Teen Pregnancy Prevention
3. Methamphetamine Prevention
4. Reduce Health Disparities
5. Youth Leadership & Empowerment
6. Community Development
7. Methamphetamine Prevention

About Us...

Partnership for Change is an active group of individuals working to improve the health of citizens of Atoka and Coal Counties. Since its development in 2001, the partnership has maintained a successful collaborative effort striving to meet the needs of the families and communities of both counties.

PFC has not only networked to pull local resources but has through grants and other funding opportunities brought much needed resources and services to their communities. They have successfully implemented a comprehensive tobacco control program that has provided cessation resources, youth development and empowerment, tobacco free policies and environments, developed community education campaigns, provided youth and student education and even prevented tobacco sponsorship in their area. This year they brought national presenter Rick Bender who spoke to hundreds of students from the community about the dangers of tobacco use. PFC partnered with the Coal County Fireman's Association to provide a campaign to education on the dangers of smoke including secondhand smoke and provided free smoke detectors. Recently the partnership was awarded funding for a youth special project through OCCY which will allow the coalition to send area youth to the 2 Much 2 Loose Training and bring the underage drinking initiative back to area schools. They have held town hall meetings and are working on passing the Social Host Ordinance to prevent underage drinking. The coalition is currently partnering with the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse to implement a Methamphetamine Prevention Grant in Atoka County and have started Too Good For Drugs curriculum in 3 schools in the County. Through the Meth Prevention Project they have seen many new partners and sectors of the community become involved in the coalition's efforts.

Partners:

DHS
The Oaks—APRC
SWAT
PSI -Postponing Sexual Involvement
Kountry Kids Daycare
Choctaw Nation
Coal County Health Department
Area Schools
Atoka Chamber of Commerce
Atoka Memorial Hospital
Coalgate Hospital
Coalgate Register
Big Five Community Action
INCA/Jamm Transit
Kiamichi Technology Center
OSU Cooperative Extension
Atoka County Health Department
Dept of Mental Health & Substance Abuse
Atoka County Times
Ameristate Bank
Area Churches
2 Much 2 Loose
Phoenix Gate
Coal County Fireman's Association
Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth



Tobacco prevention speaker Rick Bender and Tobacco Committee Members before Rick presented to hundreds of local students.

Significant Outcomes:

- ◆ New key partners were recruited
- ◆ Methamphetamine Prevention Program was implemented
- ◆ New tobacco control policies adopted in the community
- ◆ Town hall meeting on underage drinking and follow-up activities
- ◆ Partnership with and funding from OCCY

Key Activities:

- ATOD Prevention Activities
- Tobacco Control
- Media Campaigns
- Meth Prevention Activities
- Girl Power and Wise Guys Conf

