

Harper County Turning Point Partnership

Harper County

Coalition Priorities:

1. Underage Drinking
2. Youth Access to Alcohol
3. Physical Activity
4. Senior Housing

About Us...

Harper County Turning Point Partnership had great success with their initial project, the opening of a health department in their county in 2003. Harper County was one of only seven counties in Oklahoma that did not have a health department. The partnership is currently working on developing an Senior Housing Complex. The Harper County Development Authority, created to act as the governing board, meets once a month to work on the senior housing project. Plans for the complex have been approved, developer secured, and are awaiting final approval of funding based on market analysis.

The youth committee's work on underage drinking continued with the "social host" ordinance passing in both Harper County communities, and Every 15 Minutes program held at Laverne school by their 2M2L Club. Every 15 minutes a student was "killed" throughout the day and once the Grim Reaper had gotten them they could not talk the rest of the day. An assembly was held at the end of the day and included letters written by the students' parents. The school and 2M2L Club felt that it was a great success.

Partners:

Bank of Laverne	Laverne Lumber Company
Buffalo Public Schools	Oklahoma State Department of Transportation
Laverne Public Schools	Buffalo Economic Development Director
City of Laverne	City of Buffalo
Leader Tribune	Northwest APRC
Harper County Journal	Buffalo First Baptist Church
Harper County Hospital	Department of Human Services
Oklahoma State Department of Health	Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth
Turning Point Staff	Laverne Police Department
OSU Extension	
Senior Citizens	
Local Citizens	
Harper Co. Sheriff's Office	
Oklahoma Highway Patrol	

Key Activities:

- ◆ Held Every 15 Minutes Program at Laverne School
- ◆ Media campaign on underage drinking and youth access
- ◆ Met with Laverne and Buffalo town boards and community citizens on "social host" ordinance
- ◆ Promoted 2 Much 2 Lose in Laverne and Buffalo schools
- ◆ Worked with community partners to apply for Safe Routes to School Grant
- ◆ Implementing Body Recall classes three times per week in both communities

Significant Outcomes:

- ◆ Dirt work is completed and cement has begun to be poured for Recreational Trail
- ◆ Laverne and Buffalo passed "social host" ordinance
- ◆ Utilized OCCY funds for Youth Rec Center in Laverne
- ◆ Received SAMHSA Grant to host Town Hall Meeting on Underage Drinking

