

Washington County Wellness Initiative

Washington County
2008

Coalition Priorities:

1. Mental Health
2. Transportation (Poverty & Access to Health Care)
3. Adult Preventative Care
4. Child/Adolescent Preventative Care
5. Access to Health Care

About Us...

The Washington County Wellness Initiative have been steadfast in their efforts to connect uninsured and medically indigent people to health care services and health insurance. Recognizing that merely referring people with complex medical and social needs to care is often insufficient, this initiative assist in outreach, coordinate and integrate care, and help clients use limited resources efficiently. The WCWI put together an access to healthcare survey that has offered new insights about the community and challenges they face.

The Mental Health Workgroup put together the counseling project making possible short-term counseling and psychological evaluation for adults (18 years & up) who are unable to receive services due to financial restrictions. Referrals are received from various professionals, organizations and concerned citizens. Youth Leadership is modeled after the Chamber of Commerce Adult Leadership classes. Designed to get 8th-9th graders ready for high school requirements of leadership and volunteer hours for college. It has been active for four years, its a one week summer class with a daily curriculum and go to local organizations and government to learn and help. WCWI was one the coalitions chosen for the Cherokee Nation Anti-Drug Network Grant. They are analyzing substance abuse consumption patterns and linking them to related causes and consequences and addressing underage and childhood drinking prevention and reduction, as well as substance-abuse issues across the lifespan. The poverty alleviation coalition set its' long term goals by addressing policy issues that impact individuals in poverty such as interest rates, felonies, housing, earned income credit replicating the pilot project with other businesses/organizations within the community

The community identified their concern with transportation on four local surveys/focus groups including the Bartlesville Regional United Way Community Needs Assessment, the WCWI Washington County Poverty Alleviation Project, Community Health Needs Survey and the Angelou Economics Bartlesville Competitive Analysis Report. . The community is facing issues on increasing gas prices, addressing global warming, tourism/Work Force development and the growing number of people in poverty. When the WCWI was divided into sub-committees the poverty, health care access and mental health all chose transportation as their first priority to work on. They came together to form the Transportation Coalition. Fixed routes were developed, realistic budgets were made and the coalition received a Venture Grant and hired a consultant to put all the pieces together. Currently, the project is process of sponsors and future sustainability.

Partners:

Washington Co. Health Dept.
Bartlesville United Way
Bartlesville Literacy
Chamber of Commerce
Washington Co. DHS
Family Care Services
Youth & Family Services
Delaware Tribe
Bartlesville Public Schools
OSU Prevention Services
Mutual Club
ConocoPhillips
Casa Hispana Hispanic
Outreach Center
KKI Technologies
Cherokee Nation Behavioral
Health
Mary Martha Outreach
Office of Juvenile Affairs

Dewey Public Schools
Oklahoma Wesleyan
University
Tri-County Technology
Salvation Army
Success By Six
Board of Health
Bartlesville Family YMCA
Red Dirt Peddlers
Green Country Independent
Living Resources
Eldercare
City Ride
TCTC
Workforce Oklahoma
County Commissioners
Bartlesville Even Start
Systems of Care

Key Activities:

- Walk this Weigh-Trail Development
- Diabetes Management Program
- Poverty Simulation
- Family Life Symposium
- Corporate Wellness
- Body Healthy
- Auto Repair Project
- Mental Health Workshops
- Youth Leadership



Significant Outcomes:

- ◆ Identifying the first priority of the CAN grant to work on underage drinking
- ◆ Over 2,000 surveys regarding Access to Healthcare
- ◆ Walk this Weigh Trail
- ◆ Mental Health Referral System Established