

# **TURNING POINT INITIATIVE COMMUNITY REPORT ON PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES**

November 2002

## **KINGFISHER COUNTY**

- 2002 Activities
  - Assessment of community to identify existing community groups and/or meetings. Surveys were sent to all the local schools, county fair and churches.
  - Developed County Health Survey
  - Distributed survey throughout Kingfisher County including: county fair, all county schools, churches, etc.
  - Partnered with the Trails Committee to work on increasing physical activity in the community.
  - Kingfisher County Collaborative (KCC), which began in 1997, identified the need for the school system to have access to a school nurse, school-based social worker and mental health professional.
  - The KCC developed before and after school programs tutoring programs.
  - School Nurse position established providing nursing services to children at the Kingfisher Public School in partnership with the Kingfisher County Health Department and the school system.
  - The Department of Human Services and the Kingfisher School Administration partnered to hire a school-based social worker.
  - In 2000, a Mental Health Professional was hired by Wheatland Mental Health to begin working with children at the schools.
  
- Outcomes
  - 365 surveys returned at this time
  - Increase in awareness of public health issues in the community.
  - Partnership of strong, dedicated individuals committed to address the health issues of the community.
  - The school nurse has implemented many presentations at the elementary, middle school, high school and at a private school. Presentations included topics such as: Seat belt safety, drunk driving, and hygiene. She helped with activities for Red Ribbon Week. Vaccinations were reviewed and letters sent to parents for state reports. The nurse provided teaching pamphlets for parents and talked to local coaches about first aide. She planned home visits, attended conferences, workshops and meetings, completed vision and hearing referrals, and conducted CPR classes. HIV/AIDS education, integrate health plans, screening tests, and poisoning education are just a few projects to be conducted in the future. As school nurse, she has served approximately 150 students.
  - The School Based Social Worker has helped the school system and children by obtaining eyeglasses and finding providers for dental care.

She arranges for home repairs, housing and utility assistance, free and reduced meals, tutoring, employment assistance, furnish clothing, shoes, and school supplies are just a few of the many services provided to the students and parents of Kingfisher community. She conducts the program, “Bullying Prevention” and assists the school counselors in classroom presentations. She serves an average of 25 students per month.

- The Mental Health Professional provides child advocacy groups and parent resources; family, individual and group guidance counseling, and behavioral health services. She serves an average of 20 students per month.
  - The tutoring programs have helped with resolving truancy issues, provided health education presentations on topics such as smoking, alcohol abuse, violence prevention, drug prevention, character building and parenting skills
  - The KCC partnered with a local dentists and optometrist to provide services for disadvantaged children in the Kingfisher community.
- Future Plans
    - Expand partnership
    - Apply for Active Living by Design Grant
    - Work on Safe Routes to Schools and to get a trails system in King
- Participants
    - Kingfisher County Department of Human Services
    - Kingfisher County Health Department
    - Russell-Murray Hospice
    - Kingfisher Hospital
    - Kingfisher Public Schools
    - Kingfisher Chamber of Commerce
    - Ministerial Alliance
    - Kingfisher Trails Committee
    - Kingfisher County Clerks Office
    - OSU Extension Office
    - Wheatland Mental Health
    - St. Peter and Paul Private School
    - Business Community
    - Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth
    - Concerned Citizens