

# Osage County Osage County Turning Point 2004

- **Activities**
  - Conducted youth health fairs in Pawhuska and Wynona with 10 schools participating in the events.
  - Hired a grant writer to help with the application process of the Community Health Center 330 federal funds.
  - Educated and advocated for a one penny sales tax increase to fund a public health department.
  
- **Outcomes**
  - Over 500 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders participated in the Youth Health Fairs. Several speakers from the state participated by conducting various workshops for the kids. The focus was on healthy lifestyle choices. Each participant received a goody bag full of donated items from the community.
  - Osage County Interlocal Cooperative received \$383,191 PEP grant for physical fitness activities with the Osage Tribe and local schools.
  - On July 25 the citizens of Osage County defeated a measure that would have secured one-third of a penny sales tax to fund the public health department. Because of this, the public health nurse and turning point coordinator was pulled from the county and moved to Washington County. Other measures on the sales tax included additional funding for 911 services and money for improved roads and bridges.
  - The coalition will submit the 330-grant application in December. The community board is in place and has secured a building in Fairfax. Several town hall meetings and newspaper articles have occurred in October to inform and engage the community in the process.
  
- **Future Plans**
  - Open the Community Health Center by spring of 2005!
  - A group of citizens have begun the initiative petition process to redirect current sales tax to fund a public health department.
  - Planning will begin on addressing the senior health issues that face the county.
  - Summer plans to begin working on possible Walk This Weigh activities.
  
- **Participants**
  - Osage Nation
  - Pawhuska Chamber of Commerce
  - City of Barnsdall
  - City of Wynona
  - City of Fairfax
  - City of Shidler
  - Youth Services of Osage County
  - Osage County Sheriff's Department
  - OSU Extension
  - Osage County Public Health Nurse
  - Fairfax Hospital
  - Pawhuska Public Schools
  - Local legislators
  - Medical community