



About Us...

Originally Woodward’s coalition was named Partners Acting as Change Agents (PACA) and began in 200 through grants that allowed the coalition to hire a program director and other paid staff who collaborated with many partners to address the coalition’s goals. The group experienced much success during this time and the majority of the work was done through multiple committees that met monthly to address certain issues.

When the grant ended the PACA group merged with NWCare, an established Systems of Care coalition, and became Woodward Area Coalition. Currently the coalition is a diverse group of individuals from many different sectors of the community. Last year we distributed a community health status assessment throughout the county.

We are using the results to guide us in the development of new priorities for our coalition. Teen pregnancy and substance abuse issues were top concerns for our area. Recently the coalition applied for funding through the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth to address the teen pregnancy issue with one of the Woodward County schools. The coalition and school partnered this past year utilizing every available resource to provide training to parents on how to talk to their teen on issues affecting teen pregnancy.

The coalition has two active subcommittees , substance abuse and teen pregnancy/mental health. The substance abuse subcommittee is working on a responsible drinking campaign for adults and the looking into an ordinance that would require all al-

cohol retailers to go through the Responsible Beverage Sales and Service training.. The other subcommittee is working on the teen pregnancy issue and also a mentoring program for children with mental health issues.



Girl Power! participants learning self defense...always a favorite!

Woodward Area Coalition(WAC)

The mission of the Coalition shall be to promote safe and healthy lifestyles among youth and families in Northwest Oklahoma and prevent substance abuse and other high-risk behaviors through increased public awareness, education, program development, policy change and community collaboration.

Partnership Priorities

- Substance Abuse Prevention
- Children’s Health
- Teen Pregnancy
- Obesity



Community Profile: Strengths and Challenges

One strength of the coalition is its longevity and the length of time different partners have been involved in the coalition. There are multiple sectors represented but has struggled in the involvement of the business sector including the hospital. They have partnered with the coalition on a couple different projects but have not become fully involved. Woodward is the hub of Northwest Oklahoma and there is opportunity to do great things on

improving the health outcomes in Woodward County. This will take time and as Woodward begins the Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnership (MAPP) process, the coalition will begin at the partnership development phase and work on engaging partners from the sectors of the community that are not being represented.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people could change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

-Margaret Mead

Description of Assessments

Last year the coalition completed a community health status assessment. Using the results of the assessment and a facilitated strategic planning day, the group created the current subcommittees to begin specifically addressing those issues that came to the forefront

The coalition will begin undergoing the MAPP process within the next year and begin working toward a Community Health Improvement Plan and ultimately improve the coalition for everyone's benefit.



Featured Intervention / Project

The rural Woodward County town of Mooreland has had an alarming rate of teen pregnancies over the last 5 years. The coalition is focused on prevention and hope to see a reduction of teen pregnancies.

Mooreland school joined with the Ministerial Alliance, along with other community members to acknowledge teen preg-

nancy is a problem among the youth. The coalition worked with these partners to apply for funding through OCCY's special project funding. Although the funding was not awarded the group continued to work



Teen Pregnancy Prevention Project

and were able to host a Parent's Let's Talk Train the Trainer and then provided this training to the community. They also obtained Reducing the Risk curriculum for 8th through 12th grade and it was taught this past school year. This was

all done without any formal funding.

Currently they are also in the process of forming a peer driven SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) group and a parent support and education group called Parents in Power.



Impact

- Substance abuse committee researching ordinances on responsible sales and service of alcohol
- Held train the trainer workshop on Parent's Lets Talk for Mooreland community
- Sponsored ASIST (suicide prevention) training
- Addressed social norms regarding mental health issues
- Engaged local 5th and 6th grade girls in making healthy and safe choices
- Promoted physical activity and nutrition to community through Lose to Win campaign sponsored by Woodward Regional Hospital

Contact Information



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Organizational Members

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| Lighthouse Substance Abuse Services | Woodward News |
| Area Prevention Resource Center | Woodward County Health Department |
| Department of Human Services | OSDH Community Development Turning Point Staff |
| Woodward Public Schools | Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth |
| Living Word Fellowship | Oklahoma Federation of Families |
| Office of Juvenile Affairs | |
| Head Start | |
| Local citizens | |
| Western Plains Youth and Family Services | |

Partnership Outcomes



Girl Power! event in Woodward

- 500 people attended Back to School Bash/ Family Fun Fair
- GirlPower! impacted 70 5th and 6th grade girls from around the Woodward area
- Over 500 people participated in Lose to Win and lost over 3,000 pounds
- Over 30 professionals attended the ASIST training
- Systems of Care reached multiple families through wraparound services