



Washington County Wellness Initiative

Washington County

2012

About Us...

The **Washington County Wellness Initiative** was established in 2004 to strengthen and transform the public health infrastructure in Washington County through community based action. The Wellness Initiative has 190 members representing over 20 different community sectors.

The Washington County Wellness Initiative in partnership with the Washington County Health Department have been involved in the Mobilizing for Action Through Planning & Partnerships (MAPP) process and developed a shared community **VISION**, "*Washington County is an educated, holistic, safe and neighborly community where everyone has: access to physical and mental health services; access to progressive and caring community services and resources; an opportunity to be informed and involved.*"

Multiple community assessments were conducted to determine current public health gaps. Wellness Initiative members created goal statements, identified strategies and developed actions which resulted in the development of a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

Highlights from the Community Health Priority areas include:

The launch of CityRide Circuit, a flexible, fixed route bus system that provides rides for .25 cents.



The **Washington County Affordable Housing Coalition/Committee** became incorporated as a non profit business in Oklahoma. Their mission is to "*Mobilize community partners to increase access to affordable*

housing through committed action."

Residents of Vision Onward's **Pathway Transitional Housing** program participated in a money management and savings program which resulted in a combined total savings of over \$31,000. All residents transitioned into stable housing upon



completion of the program.

The **Suicide Prevention Coalition/Committee** trained over 2,000 ConocoPhillips employees in QPR, which is a gatekeeper program that helps individuals recognize the warning signs that someone may be suicidal.



Partnership Priorities

- Access to Health Care
- Affordable Housing
- Hispanic Needs
- Mental Health: Suicide Prevention/Substance Abuse
- Poverty
- Lifestyle/Prevention

The **Washington County Anti Drug Network** committee took four of its Young Adult Coalition members to participate in the Students Against Destructive Decisions conference in Los Angeles, CA. These youth are an outstanding example of young people working to promote healthy behaviors.



Project Prom, a poverty initiative aimed at helping youth attend their high school prom, provided prom dresses, tuxedos, hair appointments, restaurant coupons and more to help ap-

proximately 30 students experience prom this May.



The **Access to Health Care** committee took a lead role in initiating the development of a County Health Improvement Organization (CHIO). A CHIO is a mechanism for deliberate, intentional coordination of community-based, primary care



practice transformation and improvement with significant community participation.



Casa Hispana celebrates its seventh year of service to Washington County !

The **Preventative Health Partnership** committee works to promote safe and healthy lifestyles through activities such as Safe Routes to Schools, Joint Use Agreements, Tobacco Free Schools and Parks, promotion of the Oklahoma Certified Healthy Programs and community nutrition education.



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