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**STATE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ATTEND YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP
TO REDUCE ALCOHOL-RELATED PROBLEMS**

More than 100 Oklahoma high school students attended a three-day leadership camp Aug. 11-13 designed to reduce alcohol-related problems in their communities. Held in Oklahoma City, the leadership camp was sponsored by the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, and the Oklahoma Highway Safety Office.

Throughout the three-day event, students and adult sponsors planned strategies to reduce underage drinking and driving, alcohol-related car accidents, and other alcohol-related problems such as school absenteeism, lower academic performance and sales of alcohol to minors.

When youth leaders return to their communities, they will initiate community action plans to combat underage drinking and alcohol-related problems. Support will be provided by statewide networks of ODMHSAS-funded Area Prevention Resource Centers, OHSO "Project Under 21" networks, and other local prevention workers and volunteers.

Youth leaders and their sponsoring organizations, as well as the communities they represented, included:

Commerce – Zeb Burt and Angel Riggs, sponsored by Turning Point;

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Youth Leadership Camp/2

Dustin – Nathan Benson, Jackie Harrison, Paige Jack and Andrew Marshall,
sponsored by the John Crow IV Memorial Foundation;

Elk City – Michael Baldares, Leann Dillingham, Ashley Griego, Michelle King
and Jeremy Wright;

Fairland – Lacy Caudill, Cody Clark and Reid VanHoose, Turning Point;

Grove – Trent Vaughn, sponsored by Turning Point;

Indianola – Vanessa Brown, Greg Ford, Laci Ketchum, Rusti Key and Lacey
Reasnor, sponsored by Indianola School;

Lawton – Tara Collins, Tara Spencer, Megan Spray, Kellen Allen, Maggie Yi,
Jason Hines, Meagan Peters, Paris Rodriguez, Christi Williams and Jonathan Wilson;

Noble – Jessica Anthony, Ashley Veal and Mark Nipper, sponsored by Noble
Community Coalition;

Norman – Allison Lachner and Gabe Scott, sponsored by David McCalmon; and
Travis Barnes;

Oklahoma City – Blair Cole; Tye Newin, Rachel Shadoan, Brooke Washington,
Megan Goodwin and Ivy Tran, sponsored by A Chance to Change; Marissa Briggs,
Jerrell Mason, Eric Buford, Brandon Durham, Daniel Reid, Edwin Reid, Leslie Brown
and LaRay Hayes, sponsored by Eagle Ridge Institute; Trenton Bell, Angela Bizzell,
Demontrie Heard, Evan Hooks, Brandi Browne, Cecily Long, Tracye Williams, Demesha
Heard, Lemeka Oakes, Chancey Stevenson, Chandra Alexander, Courtney Alexander,
Je'Char Carey, Angela Cramer and Mina Fiberesima, sponsored by Northeast Church of

(more)

Youth Leadership Camp/3

Christ; and Brittney Brown, Ranneitha Buford, Ricketa Cooper, Tiara Hardman, Manual Liberty and Lacey Montemayor, sponsored by TLC Foundation;

Picher – Kyle Chrz and Whitney Diveley, sponsored by Turning Point;

Purcell – Brent McCalmon, Kyle Norlin and Myles Pedlow, sponsored by David McCalmon;

Sapulpa – Danielle Dunn and Courtney Thompson, sponsored by Sapulpa School;

Shawnee – Kaydie Gourley and Aja Tainpeah, sponsored by Gateway to Prevention and Recovery;

Tahlequah – Billy Davis and Sarah Pierce, Cherokee County Youth Coalition;

Tulsa – Chris Bullis, Joshua Bullis, Moises Echeverria, Don Jefferson, Ladonna Jefferson and Christopher Zimmons, sponsored by Community Service Council/East Central High School; and Billie Denton, Amy Shaver and Shelby Wetherington, sponsored by Palmer Drug Abuse Program;

Woodward – Sarah Hill, Jourdan Meade and Chelsea Finely, sponsored by Parents Acting as Change Agents;

Wyandotte – Bradley Barnard, Chandley Barnard, Kiesha Barnard, Kilie Barnard and Shelby Clemons, sponsored by the Wyandotte Nation;

Yukon – Sara Bergman, Tyler Deckard, Danielle Hogle, Alice Horn and Nathan Newport, sponsored by Yukon Public Schools.

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