



The STARS Are Shining Brightly at CSC ***... leading the way for a better Tulsa!***

As we review the Community Service Council's many accomplishments for 2001, several stand out as special tributes to quality work by Council board and staff members and important community partners in fulfilling the Council's mission and achieving our community goals this year.

Improving maternal/infant health

- ★ Tulsa received a four-year, \$1.1M/year continuation federal Healthy Start grant to support the Family Health Coalition's ongoing work to improve prenatal and infant health outcomes.
- ★ The Coalition established Tulsa's first Hispanic bilingual services committee to improve health outcomes for the rapidly growing Hispanic population.

Preventing substance abuse, violence, smoking, and suicide by young people

- ★ CSC's East Tulsa Prevention Coalition, sponsored by the Area Prevention Resource Center, received a five-year grant for almost \$400,000/year to reduce substance abuse in the highly culturally diverse area of east Tulsa. Participants include more than sixty groups and individuals representing education, civic, religious, health, and other sectors throughout the area.

Preventing drunk driving, especially among young people

- ★ A record high 5600 students, primarily freshmen, from nine high schools participated in CRASHS Court, an award winning initiative to reduce drunk driving.
- ★ The DUI System Planning Committee completed its report on improving local efforts to prevent drunk driving. As a result of the Committee's work, Tulsa was chosen by the Federal Drug Court Program Office to send a team for training in early 2002 to enhance our prevention effort.

Preventing HIV/AIDS

- ★ The Tulsa Community AIDS Partnership completed its seventh grant cycle with the National Community AIDS Fund to support prevention and treatment programs. Tulsa's seven-year link with the Fund is the longest running local partnership with the Fund nationwide, and Tulsa received a commitment for an eighth year.

Enhancing early childhood care and education

- ★ Both Union and Tulsa Public schools successfully validated a new school readiness assessment tool and process, now being used to assess all kindergartners for 2001-02 in both districts. Commitments have been received from additional districts to consider using the tool for next school year.
- ★ The Child Care Resource Center's United Way supported Success By 6® initiative to provide technical assistance to child care programs to improve their quality "star status" has been very successful. Eleven centers have obtained their two star status, and eight have received accreditation through the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Several new programs are receiving technical assistance to reach both one and two star status, and some with "two stars plus" are moving toward three stars and accreditation.
- ★ The Leadership Committee for the Oklahoma Partnership on Early Childhood Education held its first meeting in November. The Committee includes representation from public, private, and philanthropic sectors, and broad geographic participation. It will provide leadership for statewide efforts to improve early childhood development through the four key strategies described in the report of the 2000-01 Governor's Task Force on Early Childhood Education.

★ The first data report on trends and indicators of well being regarding young children will be published shortly, through support by the Metropolitan Human Services Commission. Some information will cover just Tulsa County and some will cover all 13 counties participating in the statewide Success By 6® initiative.

Preserving and supporting families

★ The Tulsa Alliance for Families (TAF), supporting over 400 very low income families with a network of health, literacy, education, and crisis assistance in the Mark Twain and Eugene Field neighborhoods, is in the final round consideration for a Robert Wood Johnson grant to further its health promotion and literacy efforts focused on preschool age children. The grant would be matched by the local Temple Foundation. TAF is also being considered for national recognition through the Metropolitan Life Foundation's program to further comprehensive family support efforts in neighborhoods.

Community integration of persons with disabilities

★ Major progress is being made in planning for additional services in Tulsa County consistent with the federal "Olmstead" judicial decision that will help promote additional community services for persons with a broad array of disabilities.

Addressing emerging needs and opportunities

★ CSC's 65-member committee published its report on the growing Hispanic population in the Tulsa area. Follow-up steps have included several presentations to various civic, health, social service, business, and educational groups on the study's findings and recommendations. Special focus is being placed on engaging the education and health sectors.

Linking people early with needed help

★ The summer heat claimed no lives in Tulsa this year, due greatly to the outstanding work of the Tulsa Heat Coalition, a unique crisis prevention partnership in Oklahoma.

★ Planning for the new 211 telephone access service has led to a proposal with state level groups to use the Tulsa area as a pilot to guide statewide implementation of the initiative during the next several years.

Responding to community emergencies

★ The Tulsa Human Response Coalition met at 3 p.m. on September 11 to begin planning for local response to the tragic events of 9-11. After several meetings and initial actions, the Coalition was transitioned into a new community mobilization group, the September 11th Coalition, to provide guidance and support for long term response.

Linking volunteers and promoting volunteerism

★ Technology is greatly impacting the volunteer referral process with at least 20% of all new volunteer referrals made through the Tulsa Volunteer Center's website. Work will begin soon on a software program to add interactive capacity to the website to significantly increase the self-referral process, supported by person-to-person contact as needed.

★ AVID Readers, through which youth and adult volunteers read to young children in child care, Head Start, and other early learning settings, has over 150 volunteers reading to over 300 children. AVID's new family literacy pilot programs at Eugene Field and Mark Twain elementary schools are highly successful, and are receiving strong support from teachers, principals, and parents. Planning is underway in Oklahoma City to replicate both of these AVID initiatives.

Using technology to advance CSC's mission

★ Through increased use of its websites and through the recommendations of CSC's new IT Work Group, the Council is enhancing its capacity to utilize today's technology to better link with and serve the community in effective new ways.

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