



## “Prevention and Recovery 77” Talking Points

- Twenty-six percent of all Oklahomans have a mental or addictive disorder.
- The fact of the matter is, saving lives saves us money, and in our current economic climate we need to save as much as we can. Studies show that for every dollar invested in prevention, \$18 can be saved. (2008, HHS SAMHSA)
- Oklahoma employers spend more than \$600 million extra a year in medical costs for the 200,000 Oklahoma workers dealing with depression and addiction.
- Public awareness efforts pave the way to reversing negative trends of these issues. Events like this help raise awareness about the need for treatment and the prevention of addictive disorders and give a hopeful outlook at how wellness and recovery is a reality in Oklahoma.
- Success rates for other medical treatments, such as angioplasty for heart disease, are around 50%. Compare this to the treatment success rate for severe mental illness: The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) says treatment success rate is 60 percent for schizophrenia and 80 percent for depression.
- Prevention and Treatment work! Research over the last two decades has proven that drug and alcohol addiction is both preventable and treatable. Studies show drug treatment reduces drug use by 40 to 60 percent and can significantly decrease criminal activity during and after treatment. Research use among youth declines as the perception of risk and social disapproval increases – a key component of prevention.
- Americans rank prevention as the most important health reform priority. (*Trust for America's Health and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*)
- For every \$100 spent on substance abuse and addiction, only \$2.30 is spent on prevention, treatment, or research while \$97.13 is spent on the burden of substance abuse to public programs. (*Oklahoma estimates, Shoveling Up II*)