



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 14, 2021
For Immediate Release

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Wagoner Community Hospital Awarded An RCORP Grant To Examine Substance Use and Opioid Use

The Wagoner Community Hospital recently applied for and was awarded a Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) Planning Grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration. The purpose of the grant is to expand the capacity of rural communities to engage high-risk populations and provide Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) prevention. The primary partners for this grant are Cherokee Nation Behavioral Health, Crooks Behavioral Health Services, Wagoner Family Service Council, and the Reckless Saints of Nowhere.

Suzanne M. Salichs, Ph.D., joined the Wagoner Community Hospital team in December 2020 to lead the administration of the grant. During January and February, she will be coordinating a Community Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis and will draw from local expertise to design sustainable approaches to reduce the burden of opioid and alcohol use and abuse in Wagoner County. The hospital team will develop a Strategic Plan and Action Plan based on results of the Community Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis.

“Wagoner Community Hospital is excited to receive the RCORP Grant and undertake this important work with valued community stakeholders to address the issues surrounding substance use and opioid use in Wagoner,” said Mr. Jimmy Leopard, CEO, Wagoner Community Hospital.

Community stakeholders such as law enforcement, emergency services, primary health providers, substance use providers, recovery providers, health departments, child welfare agencies, and persons in recovery are invited to participate. If you are interested in getting involved, or for additional information, please contact Dr. Salichs at (918) 614-5523.

This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$200,000, 100 percent funded by HRSA/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

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