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Wagoner Community Hospital Awarded A Rural Communities Opioid Response Program Grant

The Wagoner Community Hospital applied for and was recently awarded a Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) Implementation Grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). This grant focuses on reducing the morbidity and mortality of substance use disorder (SUD), including opioid use disorder (OUD), in high-risk rural communities. Primary partners for this grant include Cherokee Nation Behavioral Health, CREOKS Health Services, Muscogee Nation Behavioral Health, Reckless Saints of Nowhere, and the Wagoner County Family Service Council.

This grant is a multi-year initiative by HRSA aimed at reducing the morbidity and mortality associated with opioid overdoses in high-risk, rural communities by strengthening the capacity of multi-sector consortia addressing (1) prevention—reducing the occurrence of substance/opioid addiction among new and at-risk individuals, as well as fatal, substance/opioid-related overdoses, through community and provider education and harm reduction measures, including the strategic placement of overdose-reversing devices, such as naloxone; (2) treatment—implementing or expanding access to evidence-based practices for SUD/OUD treatment, such as Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT); and (3) recovery—expanding peer recovery and treatment options that help individuals start and stay in recovery, and overall allow more pathways to recovery.

This is the second grant Wagoner Community Hospital received from RCORP. The first grant, the RCORP Planning Grant was awarded on August 31, 2020, and is an 18-month grant set to conclude on February 28, 2022. As part of the RCORP Planning Grant, a Community Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan was created. Several key findings from the Needs Assessment have been developed and implemented including increased substance prevention education, additional treatment options, and enhanced recovery and support services.

“The Wagoner County Substance Use Consortium has collaborated with partners and community stakeholders to create a comprehensive Strategic Plan and have already added essential services. This RCORP Implementation Grant will ensure that all strategies are successfully implemented which will benefit our community greatly by increasing SUD/OUD prevention, treatment, and recovery services,” said Mr. Jimmy Leopard, CEO, Wagoner Community Hospital.

If you are interested in additional information about this grant, please contact Dr. Salichs at (918) 614-5523.

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