

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**For questions or more information please contact:**

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**Local Survey Results Released**

The Red Rock Regional Prevention Coordinator (RPC) would like to update local communities in the area that schools in Oklahoma recently received results from a statewide survey called the Oklahoma Prevention Needs Assessment (OPNA). The survey was offered to every school in the state in the spring of 2018 and was given to 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders to assess risk and protective factors among youth shown to be correlated with substance abuse. The OPNA results are a vital source of information for communities and prevention providers as they allow for concerned parties to tailor their prevention efforts to the highest need(s) in the community and effectively allocate resources.

The Red Rock RPC receives regional results which includes the counties of Beckham, Blaine, Caddo, Custer, Dewey, Greer, Kiowa, Roger Mills and Washita. Among those counties, the results indicated upsetting numbers of youth reporting substance abuse. Regionally, 23% of youth reported drinking alcohol in the last 30 days, 18% of youth reported riding with a driver drinking alcohol in the last 30 days, and 10% of youth reported misusing prescription drugs in their lifetime.\*

“The numbers for our region haven’t improved when compared to 2016 results which is why it is vital to continue prevention efforts in our area,” states Lynsi Mayfield, RPC Director. The Red Rock RPC works with local community coalitions to help prevent substance abuse in Western Oklahoma and if you are interested in getting involved with a local coalition, please contact the RPC at 580-323-9736.

Red Rock RPC’s Mission is to encourage individual responsibility, positive behavior, and personal growth; strengthen families and communities; promote a drug-free society through education, training, prevention, research, advocacy, and environmental strategies. Red Rock RPC is funded through the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

*\*2018 Oklahoma Prevention Needs Assessment*