

THE FACTS

ON OLDER OKLAHOMANS, MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE



The Oklahoma Mental Health & Aging Coalition is an alliance of individuals and organizations working to improve the availability, accessibility, and quality of mental health and substance abuse services for older Oklahomans through training, education, and increasing public awareness.

FACT 1: 13.21% or 456,000 Oklahomans (21.27% of all registered voters) are age 65 or older. By 2030, 20% of all Oklahomans will be 65+ (Oklahoma Department of Commerce).

FACT 2: More than 1 in 4 older adults will experience a mental disorder (Bartels 2001).

FACT 3: As many as 25% of all adults 65+ misuse or abuse alcohol, illicit drugs or prescription medications (SAMHSA 2005).

FACT 4: Alcoholism, depression, and pathological gambling are linked to suicide in older adults (SAMHSA 2006).

FACT 5: Untreated mental disorders cost more than \$300 billion annually in the U.S. (SAMHSA 2006).

FACT 6: Mental health treatment reduces, not increases health care costs; treatment of depression often facilitates recovery from other medical illnesses (ODMHSAS.org).

FACT 7: Approximately 500 Oklahomans commit suicide every year; 18% are senior suicides (DHHS/ODMHSAS).



For more information contact info@omhac.org

**IT'S TIME WE TAKE CARE OF THOSE
WHO TOOK CARE OF US**

TREATMENT WORKS, PREVENTION WORKS, RECOVERY IS NOT AGE LIMITED

Oklahoma Mental Health and Aging Coalition www.omhac.org



Member of the National Coalition on Mental Health and Aging www.ncmha.org

