# **Healthy Voices Healthy Choices**

2020

Current Projects Overview

## **PROJECT NAME: Partnership For Success**

**PARTNERS:** Safe Alaskans, Office of Substance Misuse and Addiction Prevention; Recover AK, Real About Addiction, Anchorage Area Opioid Task Force

### PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The aims of this project are to raise awareness among the larger community about the dangers of sharing medications and the risks of overprescribing to young adults. This project also aims to bring prescription drug misuse prevention activities and education to schools, communities, parents, prescribers, and their patients. Goals of this work is intended to reduce the number of prescription drug/opioid overdose-related deaths and related adverse events among people ages 18 and older. The coalition participates in many of the activities associated with recovery, prevention, and treatment of substance misuse, including drug take back events, Red Ribbon Week, Recovery Month activities, media campaigns, trainings, and other activities designed to engage the community.

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

YEAR	ACTIVITIES		
Ongoi ng	Increase knowledge/awareness in community through events, trainings, media, etc		
	Drug Takeback events, Red Ribbon Week, Recovery Month Events		
	Distribute Pill Pods/Safe disposal throughout community at events & locations		
	Develop and participate in media related to project		
YEAR 4 & 5			

# **PROJECT NAME: Bystander Intervention Training**

## PROJECT OVERVIEW:

This project is targeted at improving the mental health of youth and young adults in the Anchorage area. HVHC, in conjunction with Anchorage Collaborative Coalition – ACC works to increase awareness and to grow the number of community members who have a better understanding of bullying and the consequences. The coalition also works to Increase the baseline percentage of community members who are aware of the available resources for those suffering from or witnessing adult bullying in the Anchorage bowl. HVHC coalition members have been trained in safe "bystander intervention" strategies, and participants/Youth Ambassadors involved in this project are now able to "train-the-trainer" and help others to spread the knowledge across the Anchorage area. These trainings are now conducted in a variety of settings such as schools, churches,, workplaces, and any setting where bullying might occur. HVHC has created the "Start the Conversation" kit to help promote discussion around bullying and information on available resources. The coalition hosts community events like "Family Night," "Father-Daughter Ball, and the "Mother-Son Gala. HVHC works on increasing protective factors and lowering ACES scores across the State.

#### **ACTIVITIES**

YEAR	ACTIVITIES		
2020	Create, print, and distribute START THE CONVERSATION CARDS, arrange and conduct 'Family Nights' and other events across the community		
	Bystander Intervention Training 1 hr & 4 hr; Train-the-Trainer; Media & promotional materials		
	Policy and advocacy work promoting bullying prevention in the workplace; Community assessment surveys and sustainability planning.		

**ACTIVITY NAME: HVHC Emerging YOUth Leadership Academy** 

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS: Masonic Lodge, ANTHC, Recover Alaska,

#### **ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION:**

Healthy Voices, Healthy Choices conducts the Alaska Emerging **YOU**th Leadership Academy throughout the State. The training program is for youth ages 13-24 years old and their designated adult mentors. The academy is designed to provide an in-depth understanding of leadership qualities, prevention strategies (i.e. alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, prescription medications), social issues (i.e. suicide, bullying, homelessness) and effective advocacy skills (i.e. public speaking, media literacy, community assessment and evaluations). The peer-to-peer approach and the importance of creating connection within communities remains a primary goal of the leadership academy. The training provides youth and young adults with the opportunity to take action, develop effective messaging, and make a difference in their home communities. The materials and sessions are developed using data driven information, and HVHC aims to incorporate best practices that lead to increasing protective factors and positive community change.

#### **ACTIVITY HISTORY:**

YEAR	DATES	VENUE	
2017	July 30 – Aug 4 <sup>th</sup>	LaVerne Griffin Youth Recreation Camp – Wasilla, AK	
2018	July 8 <sup>th</sup> -13th	LaVerne Griffin Youth Recreation Camp – Wasilla, AK	

## EVENT NAME: Father/Daughter Ball & Mother/Son Galas

**PARTNERS/FUNDERS/SUPPORTERS:** Alaska Native Heritage Center, Alaska Industrial Hardware, Alaska Impact Marketing.

## **EVENT DESCRIPTION:**

The purpose of these annual events is to provide a forum which promotes positive, encouraging, healthy, supportive and engaging family relationships. This type of family relationship is crucial in a young person's life and in establishing their sense of value and worth. It is our heart and mission that our children understand their value and worth and that they know and experience family & community support. The event involves many community organizations and there is always an exciting and attractive theme for the event. Volunteers put together decorations, food, prizes, and tables related to the theme. There is music, dancing, photos, and fun. The events have been growing exponentially each year and are a primary fundraiser for the coalition and partners.

#### **EVENT HISTORY:**

YEAR	EVENT/THEME	DATE OF EVENT	VENUE
2016	Father/Daughter Ball "Enchanted Evening"	February 5, 2016	Alaska Native Heritage Center
2017	Father/Daughter Ball "Mad Hatter Tea Party"	March 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Alaska Native Heritage Center
2018	Mother/Son Gala "Willy Wonka"	April 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	Alaska Native Heritage Center
2018	Father/Daughter Ball "Candyland"	April 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	Alaska Native Heritage Center
2019	Mother/Son Gala "A Night in Neverland"	April 12 <sup>th</sup> or 13 <sup>th</sup> (tentative)	Alaska Native Heritage Center
2019	Father/Daughter Ball "A Night in Neverland"	April 12 <sup>th</sup> or 13 <sup>th</sup> (tentative)	Alaska Native Heritage Center