

Appendix D

Village School Student Survey Regarding Community Health Problems and Solutions



Village 1	336
Village 2	338

Village 1

These are themes emerging from a brief student survey conducted by the NSB Health Department in Spring, 2010. These were open-ended written questions, and students were not given answers to choose from. Survey responses were anonymous.

What do you feel are important health problems in your community? (17 responses)

Health Problems in Community	Number of students mentioning problem
Alcohol	10
Smoking	9
Adults smoking around kids	2
Drugs/marijuana	9
Harassment/threatening/teasing/abusing	6
Other	
Cancer	1
AIDS/HIV	1

What things do you feel are affecting health in your family or community? (17 responses)

Things affecting health in community/family	Number of students mentioning
Smoking	13
Adults smoking around kids	3
Kids/teens getting tobacco from adults	2
Alcohol abuse	6
Drugs/marijuana	5
Other	
Junk food	1
No helmets	1
Problems with access to health care	1
Physical abuse	1

Do you have ideas about how the Borough can help improve health in your community? (18 responses)

Community gatherings/discuss problems with community members:

- "Talk to people about drugs, harassing other people, and alcohol abuse."
- "Talk to the adults about harassing other people's kids, because most times the kids who get harassed don't tell their parents, and they keep it in and the kids who get harassed develop some kind of behavior problem. Convince people to at least consider to stop smoking in their houses."
- "Have a meeting with all the people in the community about kids having tobacco."
- "Have community gatherings about making our village a healthier community."

Improve enforcement and eliminate importation of tobacco, alcohol, and drugs:

- "Not sell any tobacco anymore."
- "Not sell any tobacco products or anything illegal in the village."
- "Take all the tobacco, alcohol, weed, and beer away. Let the kids quit getting scared because of this."
- "Let police search people who enter a town."
- "To ban all the drugs and get a dog to sniff the drugs and alcohol."
- "Security at the airlines in barrow to keep them out of the towns."

Restrict tobacco in public places/around children:

- "Stop letting people in public and kids zones smoke there."

Improve access to quality health care:

- "More doctors coming through the villages of Alaska. More dental help."
- "Get better workers for the clinic."

More access to healthy foods:

- "Healthy things to eat."
- "Village store."

Make better individual choices/personal responsibility:

- "Don't smoke cigarettes."
- "Don't smoke weed."

Improve environment:

- "More healthy environments."

Enforce helmet laws:

- "Enforce the law of the helmet."

Provide more activities for teens, adults:

- "More activities and other things, so that teens and adults don't do drugs."

Village 2

These are themes emerging from a brief student survey conducted by the NSB Health Department in Spring, 2010. These were open-ended written questions, and students were not given answers to choose from. Survey responses were anonymous.

What do you feel are important health problems in your community? (17 responses)

Health Problems in Community	Number of students mentioning problem
Smoking	7
Alcohol	7
Drugs/marijuana	8
"Sickness"/respiratory/"germs"	6
Soda/unhealthy foods/nutrition	4
Cancer/chronic diseases	3
Teenage pregnancy	1
Bad sleeping habits	1
"Failure to communicate"	1
Health care, preventive care access	1

What things do you feel are affecting health in your family or community? (17 responses)

Things affecting health in community/family	Number of students mentioning
Alcohol abuse	13
Drugs/marijuana	11
Smoking	7
Second-hand smoke	2
Unhealthy foods/fatty or oily foods/soda	4
"Failure to communicate"	2
Lack of discipline, not focusing on academics, "playing games and cell phones"	2
Pollution	2
Germs	2
Snowmobile/ATV accidents	1

Do you have ideas about how the Borough can help improve health in your community? (16 responses)

Eliminate importation of drugs, alcohol, and cigarettes to the village:

- “Yes, they can stop all the people from bringing drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, and all those stuff. Even medication.”
- “By not sending drugs and alcohol to the village.”
- “Stop selling smokes in our stores, stop bringing weed and alcohol in our village.”
- “By stop selling smokes to people and selling weed, jugs.”
- “Stop selling smokes to stores.”
- “Stop selling cigarettes.”

More health fairs:

- “Have like health fairs.”
- “They can have health fairs annually.”
- “Continue health fairs.”
- “Having annual Health Fairs. It was always nice to have little workshops at the clinic like for menopause or other health issues.”

Sports/activities:

- “They can have special health camps. They can try and have year round sports.”
- “They can make a snowmachine/ATV track.”

Community Health Meetings:

- “Yeah...having annual health meetings.”

Improve access to healthy foods:

- “By bringing in healthy food to Wainwright.”

Adults setting good examples, focus on family:

- “Set the example by not smoking or abusing alcohol, emphasize commitment to family, spouses, and children.”

Tobacco quit line:

- “People can start a quit line.”

