

2020-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

WYOMING FAMILIES FIRST



Wyoming Families First

ABOUT US

Wyoming Families First (WFF) Brighter Future Project is funded through the federal United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration of Children and Families: Title V Competitive Sexual Risk Avoidance Education Grant Award. The program is geared towards vulnerable youth referred from local juvenile courts and social service agencies from all over Wyoming.

MISSION

Wyoming Families First believes that strong and healthy families are our state's most important asset. WFF is a Non-Profit (501c3) organization committed to strengthening individuals and families through enrichment, education, training, case management and resources that increase self-sufficiency and wellbeing.



OBJECTIVE

Through the Brighter Futures project, Wyoming Families First (WFF) objective is to empower teen participants to make informed healthy choices while developing needed skills that support their health and well-being and ensure their ability to achieve future success and goals.

GOALS

Using a preventative education approach, we aim to teach adolescents the consequences of engaging in risky behaviors, sexual and otherwise. In addition to offering curriculum instruction, teens have the opportunity to build positive competencies through the utilization of a Positive Youth Development (PYD) framework and student-led community service projects designed to help participants:

- Develop healthy life skills,
- Increase individual protective factors that reduce risks,
- Make healthy decisions, engage in healthy relationships,
- Set goals that lead to self-sufficiency and marriage before engaging in sexual activity.

WHO WE SERVE

WFF collaborates with the Rite of Passage Meadowlark Academy, Youth Alternatives, and WY Goodwill Independent Living Services to bring Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (SRAE) into the classroom for youth referred from local juvenile courts and social service agencies from all over Wyoming and out of state.

SUPPLEMENTAL PROGRAMMING

Participant-led Community Events/Projects That Promote Connectedness To Peers, Adults, And Community While Building Leadership Skills And Abilities

- Youth generated an ongoing list of activities for community led projects including but not limited to participating in a leadership building Ropes Course, donating hygiene bags to a local homeless shelter and handmade fleece tied blankets to the Blankets for Laramie County Youth program, Unaccompanied Youth, and local animal shelters.

Supplemental Student Activities & Guest Speaker/Activities

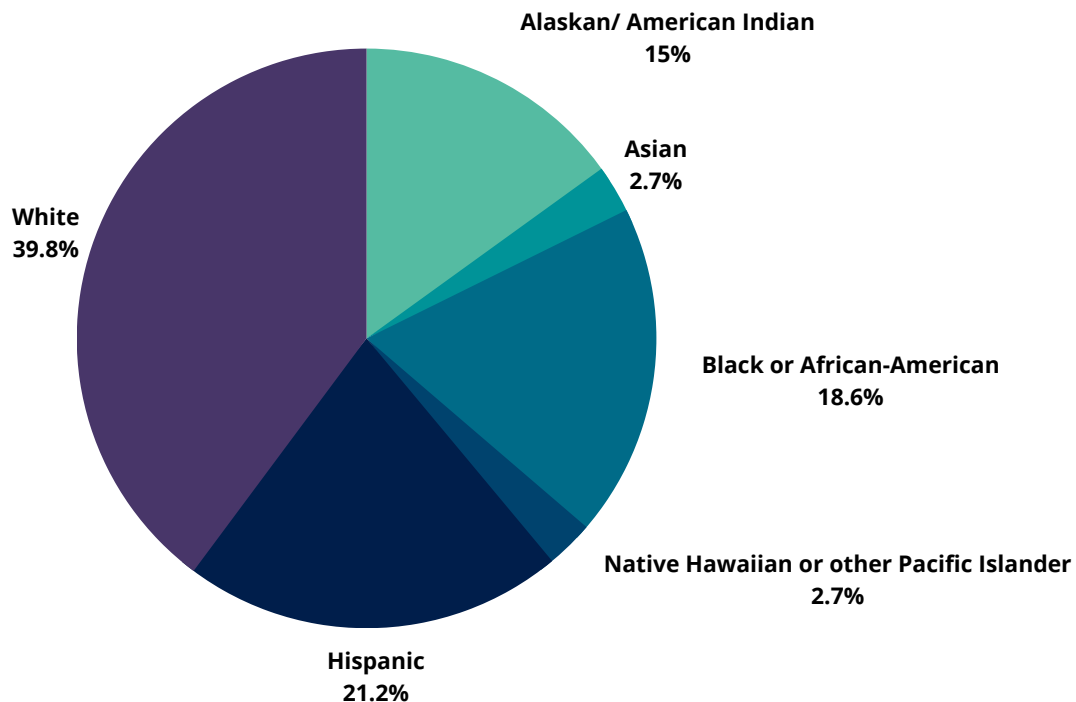
- 2021 & 2022 Brain Awareness Week
- Wyoming Department of Health Guest Speaking Event "Substance Use/Abuse and Why it Matters."
- Recover Wyoming Guest Speaking Event(s): Lived Experience with Addiction & Recovery

Analysis of available student satisfaction outcome data for student participant-led community events/project and guest speakers indicates an overall "very satisfied" and "satisfied" satisfaction rate with the following feedback as 'What I Especially Like....':

- "I especially liked the goggles; they were fun and cool."
- "It was a cool experience."
- "Being able to see something thru a different perspective."
- "The fun activity of the drunk goggles."
- "How she told us the stuff she did at our age."
- "How involved and serious she was about talking to us."
- "She explained her life and made me feel better."



PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS



| | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| MALES 62.5% | AGE 15 TO 18: 51.25% |
| FEMALES 37.5% | UNDER THE AGE OF 15: 48.75% |

2020-2022 STUDENT REFFERALS

- Campbell County
- Laramie County
- Out of State
- Carbon County
- Sweetwater County
- Fremont County

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 75% reported they are "More Likely" to manage their emotions in healthy ways since being in the program.
- 73% reported they are "More Likely" to resist or say no to peer pressure since being in the program.
- 84% reported they are "More Likely" to make plans to reach their goals since being in the program.
- 91% reported they are "More Likely" to better understand what makes a relationship healthy since being in the program.
- 86% reported they are "More Likely" to talk to a trusted person/adult if someone makes them uncomfortable, hurts them, or pressures them to do things they don't want to do since being in the program.
- 83.33% post-survey Agree or Strongly Agree versus 78.57% pre-survey that "I am able to communicate my thoughts and feelings in a relationship."
- 83.33% post-survey Agree or Strongly Agree versus 64.29% pre-survey that "I have skills necessary to form a lifetime committed relationship."

The following is a snapshot of what students are saying about project/program satisfaction 'What I Especially Like....':

- "The information about STD's"
- "Being able to meet you guys"
- "Talking about the AIDs and doing the activities"
- "The STD activity"
- "the games"
- "How we learned about we should know someones sexual background"
- "All of it"
- "Swinging on the ropes"
- "when we did the drunk goggles."
- "the patience Ms. Gabby has for us."
- "When we did the job application"
- "Getting to know all the STDs"
- "We covered a lot of important REAL life topics"
- "The whole class"
- "Everything"
- "the social aspect."
- "the std activity"
- "The Ropes Course activities"
- "The teamwork exercises"
- "The kids here"

OUR PARTNERS:

Rite of Passage Meadowlark Academy

<http://meadowlark-academy.com/>

Youth Alternatives

<https://www.youthalternatives.net/>

Goodwill Wyoming Independent Living Services

<https://www.goodwillwy.org/>

SafeHouse Services

<https://www.wyomingsafehouse.org/>

**Wyoming Department of Health, Communicable
Disease Unit Prevention, Public Health Sciences Section**

<https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/communicable-disease-unit/>

LOCATION OF SERVICES



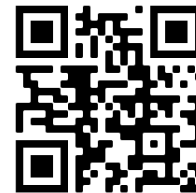
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