

## **Youth Advisory Board Meeting April 24, 2022**

The Healthy Habits Campaign initial concept was reviewed. I would like to gauge how many YAB members are interested in being the talent of this campaign. If you are interested in being featured in the campaign, please let me know by May 13<sup>th</sup>. We want to make sure that North Dakota youth, specifically this board, are the talent featured in this campaign. Please consider being part of the campaign. The survey for this campaign is being developed and is in draft form. The survey will be sent out in the next couple of weeks to get your feedback.

Bev presented on the Health Equity Ambassador program. If any individuals are interested in hearing more about the program or have interest in participating, please contact Bev at [banaele@nd.gov](mailto:banaele@nd.gov) or 701.328.4872.

Due to the in-person meeting planned for June 25 during the McQuade's Softball tournament, it was proposed to move the in-person meeting to July 16. Please let me know by May 3 if you will be able to attend on July 16. We will have the ability to have both in-person and virtual options if you can't get here in person.

One of our Public Health Associates, Ruth, is developing sexual health education materials for a website called Parents Lead, which is under the North Dakota Department of Human Services. The goal is to encourage parents and guardians in ND to start conversations about sexual health early by giving them the necessary information and skills to have those conversations. Ruth has done a lot of research on comprehensive sex education, evidence-based curriculums, barriers to parent-child communication about sexual and reproductive health. Research findings indicate that parent-child communication improves safe sex practices among adolescents and has helped delay initiation of sexual activity among teens. This project will include age-appropriate, medically accurate information regarding sexual health, human development, relationships, contraception's/HIV prevention, gender identity, sexual orientation and best strategies for parents to support their child. Ruth would appreciate the opportunity to work with YAB and get your input, suggestions, and assistance on the content she has developed and will develop in the future. Please reach out to Ruth if you are interested in the Parents Lead task-force group [rnwatu@nd.gov](mailto:rnwatu@nd.gov).

I am still looking for a couple of more people to join the mental health task-force. Please let me know by May 4 if you are interested.

We have had two back-to-back meetings with low attendance. I want to remind all of you that you are allowed two absences, as this should be a priority. We had over 150 applications to be on this Board and only took 35. There was a lot of interest in this Board and the people that didn't make it on, probably wish they had their voices heard as all of you do. If you can't make the commitment to be at the meetings, please let me know and we can start recruiting new members. It is also an expectation to participate in one of the task-force groups. If you are not on a task-force at this time, please consider joining one of the above mentioned. I appreciate everyone that is at the meeting each and every time! It is important so the voices of this community are heard.