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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

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Teens invited to join Youth Alliance for a Healthier Alaska

Group dedicated to providing teen perspective on Alaska health issues

(Anchorage, AK) — YAHA, the Youth Alliance for a Healthier Alaska, is accepting applications for new team members. Alaska youth between the ages of 14 and 18 are encouraged to apply.

Members of YAHA advise the state's Adolescent Health program — and other Alaska Department of Health and Social Services public health programs — in an effort to give the “teen perspective” on state social services designed to improve the lives of adolescents statewide.

“We're looking for energetic teens, from diverse backgrounds and areas around the state,” Sophie Wenzel, Adolescent Health program manager, said. “Any teen who is interested in health and is enthusiastic about shaping how our state responds to youth issues would be a welcome addition to the team.”

Teens on the YAHA advisory committee help make decisions, provide insight, and give advice on a wide spectrum of adolescent health topics. YAHA members review materials created for teens by various division programs and community partners. The group meets once a month for two hours during the school year. For their time and commitment, YAHA members receive \$10 gift cards for each hour of service.

Applications are available on line at <http://www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/wcfh/adolescent/yaha.htm>.
Deadline for applications is April 26, 2010.

For more information contact Sophie Wenzel, at sophie.wenzel@alaska.gov, or (907) 269-3466.

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