

William J. Streur
Commissioner
P.O. Box 110601
Juneau, AK 99811-0601
www.hss.state.ak.us



Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 6, 2011

Contact: Greg Wilkinson, (907) 269-7285, Cell (907) 382-7032
gregory.wilkinson@alaska.gov

Teens invited to join Youth Alliance for a Healthier Alaska

ANCHORAGE — The Youth Alliance for a Healthier Alaska (YAHA) is now accepting applications for team members during the 2011–2012 school year. Alaska youth between the ages of 14 and 18 are encouraged to apply.

Members of YAHA will learn how to partner with a local community organization to implement and initiate an activity in their home communities to address a social challenge. Members will also have an opportunity to provide feedback on state adolescent health programs and other Department of Health and Social Services public health programs in an effort to give their perspective on state social services designed at improving the lives of adolescents statewide.

“We’re looking for dedicated, energetic, and ready-to-learn teens from diverse backgrounds all around the state,” Jenny Baker, adolescent health project coordinator, said. “Any teen who is interested in health and is enthusiastic about effecting change and providing feedback on adolescent health programs in his or her community should apply.”

YAHA convenes 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, but will be asked to volunteer some time to work within their communities. Community service hours are available.

Applications are available on line at <http://www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/wcfh/adolescent/yaha.htm>.
Deadline for applications has been extended to May 16, 2011.

For more information contact Jennifer Baker, at jennifer.baker@alaska.gov, or 907-269-4517.

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