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2016 Healthy Alaskans 2020 Scorecard shows project is on track to reach health-improvement goals

Reductions in suicide, dating violence, child maltreatment, and binge drinking among reported results

Healthy Alaskans 2020 is pleased to announce that, with four years to go before the target date of 2020, Alaska has met, or is on target to meet, 14 of its 25 goals (also called Leading Health Indicators) for improving the health of all Alaskans.

Here is a look at the 2016 Scorecard report on progress made to date (using most current data available):

- Reduced the cancer mortality rate.
- Reduced the injury mortality rate.
- Reduced the suicide mortality rate among Alaskans age 15-24.
- Reduced the rate of unique substantiated child maltreatment victims for Alaska children from birth to age 17.
- Reduced the percentage of adolescents (high school students in grades 9-12) who report binge drinking in the past 30 days.
- Reduced the percentage of adults who could not afford to see a doctor in the last 12 months.
- Increased the percentage of adolescents (high school students in grades 9-12) who have not smoked cigarettes or cigars or used chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip on one or more of the past 30 days.
- And more...

“This is very good news for Alaska,” said Dr. Jay Butler, Alaska’s Director of Public Health and Chief Medical Officer. “The progress that has been made on all of these goals shows a commitment to improving the daily lives and futures of all Alaskans. Congratulations to all the organizations, agencies, individuals and communities for all their hard work to improve the health and well-being of the people of our state.”

Details on all 25 Leading Health Indicators, and the progress made to date on each, are available at <http://ha2020.alaska.gov>.

Healthy Alaskans 2020 is a joint project of the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, and is part of the national Healthy People 2020 project to provide science-based, 10-year national objectives for ambitious — yet achievable — goals for improving the health of all Americans. To learn more about HA2020’s 25 Leading Health Indicators, or to participate in Healthy Alaskans 2020 efforts, go to: <http://ha2020.alaska.gov>.