

Meeting Minutes
SPF SIG EPI-Influences Subgroup
July 15th, 2010 from 1:40 PM-3:15 PM

People participating: Jesse Metzger, Charles Utermohle, Cristy Willer, Becky Judd, Marny Rivera, June Sobocinski and Devon Urquhart

See additional documents referenced in the minutes below:

- Description of Datasets for Influences Group ([7. 15. 2010](#))
- Epi-Influence Indicators - Summary ([7. 15. 2010](#))

Overview of Data Sources (UAA Team & Charles):

Purpose: to review all indicator data sources used by this committee to assure they are valid, consistent, reliable etc. (same criteria used by the Consumption and Consequences workgroup)

See the Data Source attachment for further details on each survey

Childhood Understanding Behaviors Survey (CUBS): CUBBS is conducted here in Alaska, and a follow up to PRAMS, when the children turn age 3. This is a written and/or phone survey doesn't include women who have left the state, or women who gave birth outside of the state. There is about a 50% response rate for CUBS.

National Children's Health Survey (NCHS): This is a national phone survey, 93,000 individuals participated on a national level last year, and 1,700 participated in Alaska. This is a unique survey in that it gets at parent's perspective of their children's environment, v.s. self-report student surveys. The parent responds to questions about one of their children (under 18) living in the household. As a national survey, we can compare AK data to that of other states. Additionally, we can obtain the Alaska data set, if we fill out a data request. The survey is conducted every four years. Charles asked whether the survey will only give data as a state as a whole or if we can get rural and regional estimates. *Note: Jodi found out that respondents can be broken out by Metropolitan statistical areas (living in Anchorage & Fairbanks) or not.*

This is a very large survey with several topics, questions are asked regarding children 0-5 and then separate questions for children 6-18. Among several other scales, this survey has a social competence scale, might be useful for SEL indicator; parenting scale can be created; there is a neighborhood support/connection scale that might be useful at some point.

National Survey of Drug Use and Health (NSDUH): NSDUH is a national face to face survey and asks questions of those age 12 and over. (Alaska sample size?) This survey is computer assisted. NSDUH is completed in private, which encourages parents to be honest about their answers, including their drug use. NSDUH is updated every year and asks about drug, alcohol and tobacco use. Cons to this survey is that people may not be honest when responding, as they are being asked questions such as, "do you sell drugs out of your home". Because they're being asked in person, there is no anonymity. Cristy Willer noted that there have been positive responses to this survey.

School Climate and Connectedness Survey (SCCS): The SCCS has distinct differences from YRBS, please see June xx minutes for a side by side comparison.) There is a student self-report survey and a staff-self report survey. There are nine scales, only one relates to risk behaviors. The risk behavior questions ask about observed behaviors among other students rather than self-report behaviors; this is done so that active parental consent is not required. School districts participate in the survey voluntarily; they are not randomly selected like YRBS. The survey has a high participation rate. The statewide data set is weighted for rural/urban representativeness. Charles suggested we might want to re-weight the data, to address grade and gender participation differences, noting that some risk behaviors increase as grade levels increase. Participating school districts their own data, which may be helpful to future grantees.

Adding Questions to existing BRFSS: (see document for a full review of the survey). If we would like to add future questions to the BRFSS (example questions about family connections and support) workgroup members might want to attend planning meetings in August or September.

Indicator Sub-Committee Reports (See summary of recommendations attached)

“Subject matter expert” sub-groups provided indicator recommendations. Each recommendation was discussed and the whole group decided/agreed on a primary and secondary indicator for each factor.

Process for recommending indicators:

The 2007 Epi-Influences Workgroup conducted the Lit. Review and identified the priority influences (risk & protective factors) for adolescent alcohol/substance use. Our current group has reviewed the eleven priority influences and refined and updated the indicators selected in 2007. To do so, we assigned each of the factors (risk or protective) to a group of “experts” who have subject matter expertise. They looked at each factor, its definition based on the research and reviewed current and new/suggested indicators using a scoring process.

Each indicator was scored based on three criteria: 1. Accuracy; 2. Changeability (able to measure actual change in the population statewide, during the project time frame); 3. Relevance (to the Alaska adolescent population.) Accuracy had a double weight, and the other criteria were single weight. Each subgroup was asked to recommend one or if needed two statewide, population-based indicators to be brought forward to the whole group for discussion. *(Local indicators were not considered at this time)*

Attachments Please review all attachments before our August meeting.

Becky will draft a summary of the groups work pending Diane’s guidance on what is needed for the Advisory Committee meeting. Additionally she will create a schematic of the process. The group asked Becky to present an overview of the work, for a consistent voice in August. She agreed, as long as others would contribute as needed.

Next Meeting: We will not meet again as a subgroup, until the August 2nd and 3rd in a face to face meeting at Embassy Suites, beginning at 10 AM. Please RSVP if you have not done so. We look forward to seeing you there!