

Executive Summary

Statement of Purpose:

Research has shown there are a number of risk factors that increase the chances of adolescents developing health and behavior problems. Equally important is the evidence that certain protective factors can help shield children from problems. If associated risks can be reduced while protection is increased throughout the course of a child's development, some problems can be prevented and promotion of healthy, prosocial growth can take place.

Pasco Discovery Coalition (PDC) developed a vision in response to local data and community readiness for change. *Our Vision: Working to promote stronger youth and safer neighborhoods by combating gangs, alcohol/drugs, and teen pregnancy.*

The Community Needs and Resource Assessment Team and Pasco Coalition developed a set of "ideal" goals and objectives to provide resources, materials, support and positive outcomes over the next five-years. The coalition views their role as servant-leader and their first goal is embracing families and individuals from within the PRI community. They are the catalyst initiating change, but the change must come from within the community, we offer tools and support.

• Strategies and activities:

The coalition will continue to network and negotiate with local providers to extend knowledge and understanding of prevention/intervention and treatment options for youth and adults. We continue to gain interest and attention from local media as we become more experienced and trusted. The coalition will continue to promote smaller group activities such as community café's and forums at neighborhood venues to increase the level of awareness of youth access and use of alcohol and other drugs, and provide a forum and structure for problem-solving discussion.

• **Area to be served:** The geographic area to be served is from the southeast bank of the Columbia River; bordering on the west side to include 4th street downtown area extending north to Highway 12 and east to Pasco community. The school districts included in this community are Ellen Ochoa Middle School, Whittier Elementary School and Virgie Robinson Elementary School. The students from these schools attend high school at Chiawana High.

• Expected outcomes

It is anticipated that there will be an increase in family skill building to better manage conflict within the family unit. Pre and post testing will be part of any parenting programs that are implemented to identify this outcome. Positive outcomes are expected when utilizing evidence based programs and best practices for community coalition development. We also anticipated a decrease in substance use and abuse and related negative consequences as identified by Health Youth Survey data 2014.

The most positive outcome is the empowerment of a community visualizing changes that fit their lifestyle, values, beliefs and celebrations. All (effective) strategies used to achieve the above outcomes needs to be culturally sensitive and linguistically correct.