



# **Ferndale Cares About Youth!**

**Ferndale WA Area  
Community  
Survey 2022**

(264 respondents)

# Parents and Caring Adults are Important

Young people consistently report that parents/caregivers have the biggest influence on youth making healthy choices

Other caring, trusted, safe adults also make a positive impact on youth well-being



# Ferndale Cares About Youth Health & Safety

Ferndale adults report being concerned about youth:

- alcohol, marijuana, tobacco, vape use and prescription drug misuse
- driving under the influence
- depression
- bullying
- suicide





# Ferndale Adults

- Believe that youth alcohol use is a moderate-serious problem (67%)
- Believe youth driving under the influence of alcohol is a moderate-serious problem (56%)
- Parents believe that it would be wrong for their child to drink (97% MS; 87% HS)



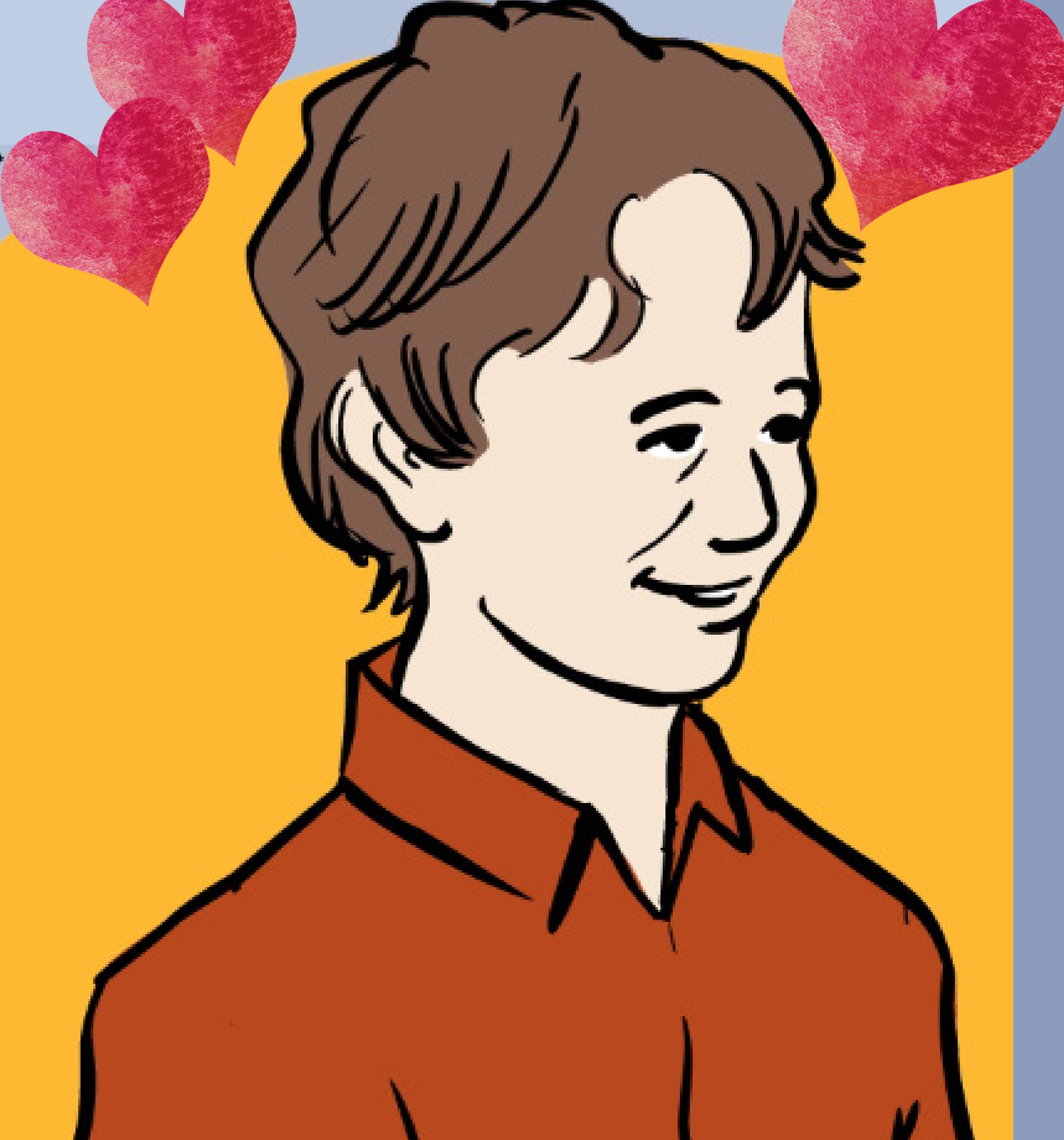
## Ferndale Adults

- Believe that youth marijuana use is a moderate-serious problem (73%)
- Believe youth driving under the influence of marijuana is a moderate-serious problem (61%)
- Believe it is risky for youth to use marijuana regularly (80% MS; 76% HS)
- **Parents** believe that it would be wrong for their child to use marijuana (95% MS; 85% HS)



# Ferndale Adults

- Believe it is risky for youth to misuse prescription drugs (94%)
- Who have prescription medicine, keep it hidden away and/or locked up (57%) and know where to safely dispose of unwanted or unused medicine (76%)
- **Parents** believe it is wrong for their youth to use prescription drugs not prescribed to them (98%)



# Ferndale Adults

Have recently talked with youth about:

- healthy relationships and friendships (78%)
- healthy conflict resolution (78%)
- technology safety (65%)
- consent (59%)
- dating (52%)
- sexual health (52%)

# Ferndale Adults

- Recognize the difference between “normal” teenage behavior and signs of depression, anxiety or substance use (86%)
- Would be able to discuss concerns about behavior/ activity changes in a non-accusatory manner (85%)
- Know where to go for help or advice if concerned about my child or another young person (81%)
- Know signs of suicide and how to ask a young person if they are considering suicide (71%)
- Would like to learn more about how to respond to substance abuse and mental health issues (63%)





# Supporting Youth

Helping youth explore ways to reach their goals and find the motivation to pursue them creates hope

Having safe, healthy connections with caring adults and peers help young people thrive, even in the face of adversity

Connections and hope help protect youth from substance abuse and poor mental well-being





# Ferndale Families are Hopeful!

Ferndale adults report they:

- Energetically pursue their goals (68%)
- Can think of many ways to get the things in life that are important to them (79%)
- Meet the goals they set for themselves (69%)

## **Thank you!**

**Community members** who live or work in Ferndale, Lummi Nation and Custer and gave their time to take this survey; and **coalition and community partners** who shared the survey with their families, friends and neighbors, including: City of Ferndale, Ferndale Chamber of Commerce, Ferndale Resource Center, Ferndale Schools and PTAs/ PTSAs, United Church of Ferndale, UnityCare NW, WSU Extension, WC Health Department, WA DOH Youth Cannabis and Commercial Tobacco Prevention and Education Program.

**Graphic elements credit:** Shew Design

## **Notes:**

1. MS: Middle School, HS: High School
2. Although the total number of survey respondents based on population size met the requirements set by the *Health Care Authority (HCA) - Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR)*, the data are not as representative as we would like. Individuals who identify as female (78%) and/or white (89%) make up the majority of respondents.

**You can help bring more community representation to this annual survey by participating and sharing it widely.**

We survey adults in the Ferndale area each year between July - November.

# Resources and more info:

*The Ferndale Community Coalition is part of the Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative (CPWI) through the Division of Behavioral Health & Recovery – Washington State Health Care Authority. Our mission is to engage the community to promote healthy youth development by addressing equity, safety and substance abuse issues. We envision a courageous community where all young people thrive.*

**Participate in the 2023 Survey (7/15/23-11/15/23):** [surveymonkey.com/r/WHFEEN2023](https://surveymonkey.com/r/WHFEEN2023)

**Stay connected:** [cityofferndale.org/fcc/](https://cityofferndale.org/fcc/) & [facebook.com/FerndaleCommunityCoalition](https://facebook.com/FerndaleCommunityCoalition)

**Join us or ask questions:** [rsnearly@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:rsnearly@co.whatcom.wa.us)

**Learn more about -**

**CPWI:** [theathenaforum.org/community\\_prevention\\_and\\_wellness\\_initiative\\_cpwi](https://theathenaforum.org/community_prevention_and_wellness_initiative_cpwi)

**CPWI Community Surveys:** [theathenaforum.org/community\\_surveys](https://theathenaforum.org/community_surveys)

**Science of Hope:** [ted.com/talks/chan\\_hellman\\_the\\_science\\_and\\_power\\_of\\_hope](https://ted.com/talks/chan_hellman_the_science_and_power_of_hope) & **Positive**

**Childhood Experiences:** [positiveexperience.org](https://positiveexperience.org)

**Risk & Protective Factors:** [youth.gov/youth-topics/youth-mental-health/risk-and-protective-factors-youth](https://youth.gov/youth-topics/youth-mental-health/risk-and-protective-factors-youth)

**Participate in the 2023  
Ferndale  
Community Survey**



[surveymonkey.com/r/WHFEEN2023](https://surveymonkey.com/r/WHFEEN2023)

**Participa en el  
Ferndale 2023  
Encuesta Comunitaria**



[surveymonkey.com/r/WHFESP2023](https://surveymonkey.com/r/WHFESP2023)