



Ferndale Cares About Youth!

**Ferndale WA Area
Community
Survey 2021**

(245 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 people risk harming others and themselves when they drive under the influence of alcohol (95%)
- Do not think it's OK for youth to drink at parties (94% MS; 75% HS)
- Do not think it's OK for parents to offer their children alcohol (81% MS; 52% HS)
- **Parents** believe that it would be wrong for their child to drink (95% MS; 83% HS) & have recently talked with their child about risks and consequences (73% MS; 70% HS)



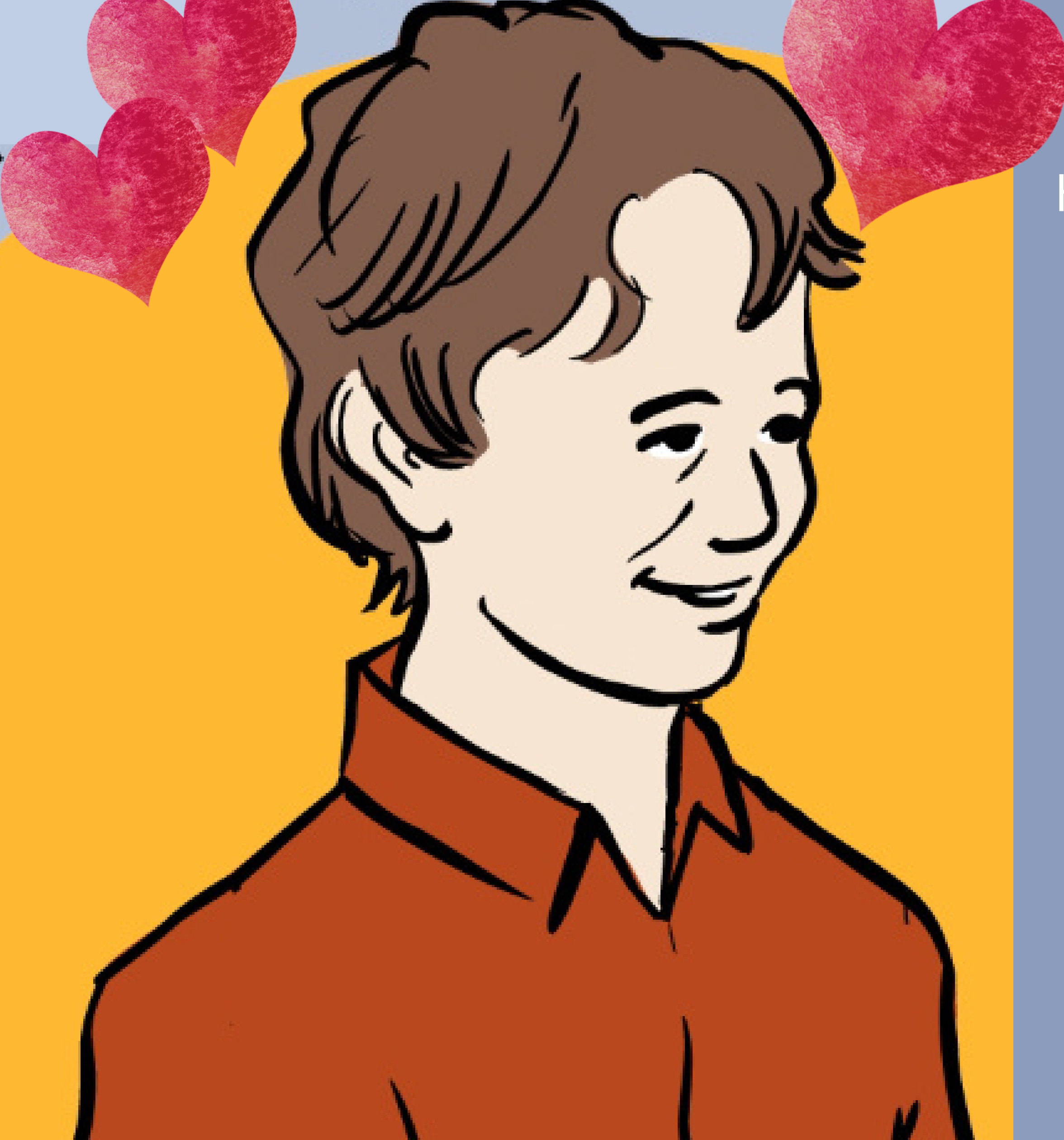
Ferndale Adults

- Believe it is risky for youth to use marijuana regularly (76% MS; 73% HS)
- Believe people risk harming others and themselves when they drive under the influence of marijuana (86%)
- **Parents** believe that it would be wrong for their child to use marijuana (98% MS; 85% HS) & have recently talked with their youth about risks and consequences (69% MS; 75% HS)



Ferndale Adults

- Believe it is risky for youth to misuse prescription drugs (98%)
- Who have prescription medicine, keep it hidden away and/or locked up (61%) and know where to safely dispose of unwanted or unused medicine (83% in 2021; 77% in 2020)
- Parents believe it is wrong for youth to use prescription drugs not prescribed to them (100% MS; 98% HS)



Ferndale Adults

Have recently talked with kids about:

- healthy relationships and friendships (79%)
- healthy conflict resolution (77%)
- dating (59%)
- sexual health (59%)
- consent (63%)
- sexual assault (52%)
- technology safety (71%)

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%)





Ferndale Parents

- Ask who youth will be with (95%) and where they are going when they go out (99%)
- Check to make sure youth parties are supervised (100% MA; 89% HS)
- Check to see if youth are under the influence of alcohol or drugs after being out at night/weekends (67% MS; 68% HS)
- Set a time for them to be home (97% MS; 89% HS) and wait up until youth get home (94% MS; 86% HS)

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 (86%)
- Meet the goals they set for themselves (89%)
- Can think of many ways to get the things in life that are important to them (95%)

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 Resource Center, Ferndale Schools and PTAs/ PTSAs, United Church of Ferndale, UnityCare NW, WSU Extension, Whatcom County Health Department, Whatcom Prevention Coalition, WA DOH Youth Marijuana 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 (77%) and/or white (81%) 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 - December.

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 2022 Community Survey (7/15/22-11/15/22): research.net/r/WHFEEN2022

Stay connected: cityofferndale.org/fcc/ & facebook.com/FerndaleCommunityCoalition

Join us or ask questions: rsnearly@co.whatcom.wa.us

Learn more about -

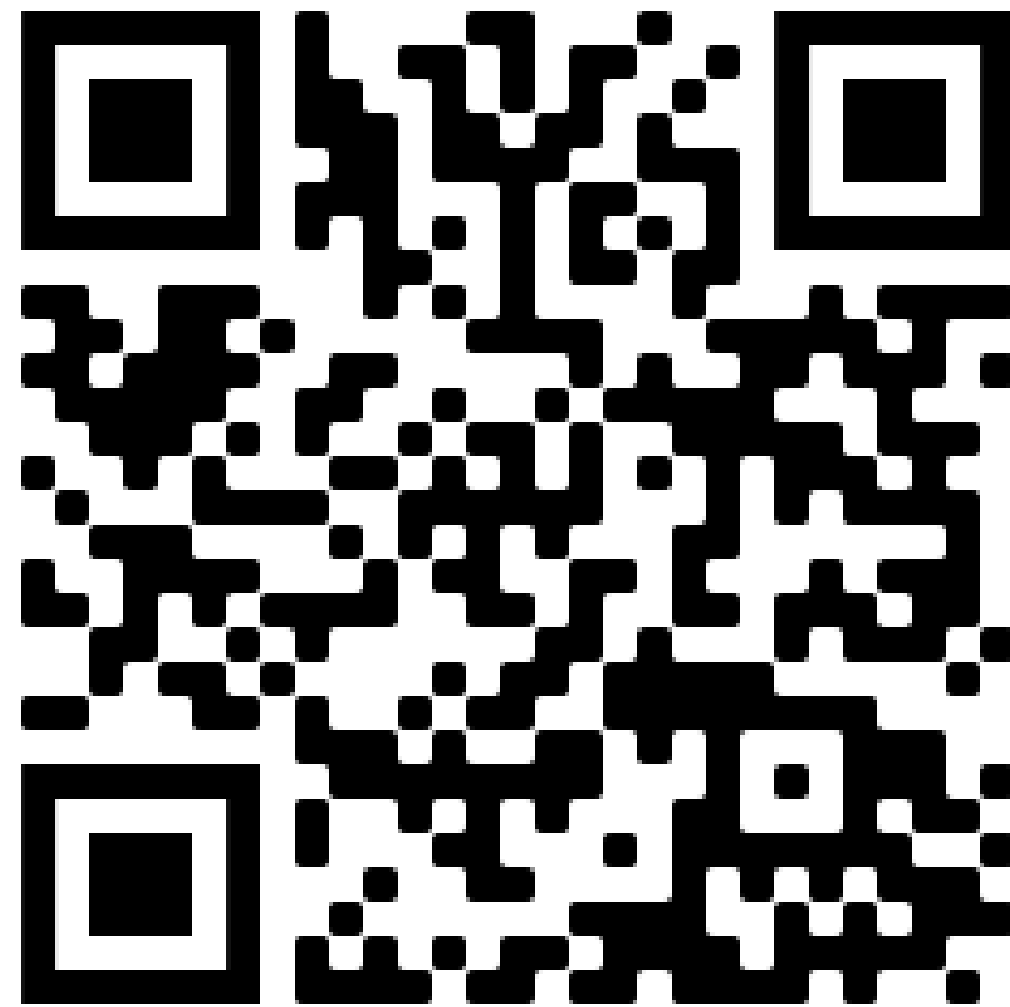
CPWI: theathenaforum.org/community_prevention_and_wellness_initiative_cpwi

CPWI Community Surveys: theathenaforum.org/community_surveys

Science of Hope: chanhellman.com & **Positive Childhood Experiences:** positiveexperience.org

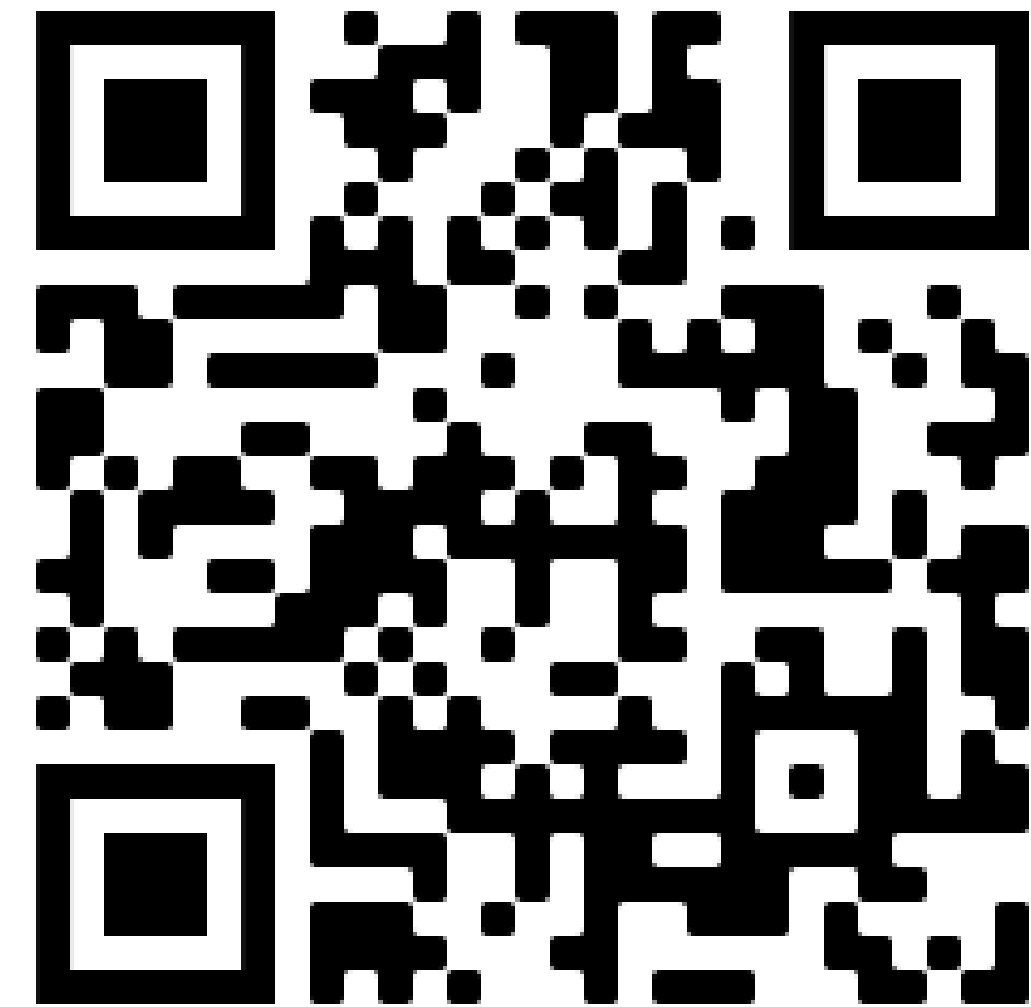
Risk & Protective Factors: youth.gov/youth-topics/youth-mental-health/risk-and-protective-factors-youth

**Participate in the 2022
Ferndale
Community Survey**



<https://www.research.net/r/WHFEEN2022>

**Participa en el
Ferndale 2022
Encuesta Comunitaria**



<https://www.es.research.net/r/WHFESP2022>