



2013/14

PROGRESS REPORT

2013-2014 COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Urban Co-Chair: Rosemarie Gjerek

Klinik Community Health Clinic

Rural Co-Chair: Colleen Tower

Northern Health Region

Peer Working Group Co-Chair: Kinzie

Peer Working Group Co-Chair: Craig

595 Executive Director: Shohan Illsley

Sexuality Education Resource

Centre – Roselle Paulsen

Mount Carmel Clinic – Tammy Reimer

Nine Circles Community Health

Centre – Mike Payne

Northern Health Region – Nancy Vystrcil

Addictions Foundation of

Manitoba – Marion Cooper

Healthy Living Seniors & Consumer

Affairs – Shelly Smith

Healthy Child Manitoba – Michelle Kowalchuk

Public Health Agency of Canada – Sande Petkau

Winnipeg Regional Health Authority – Kim Bailey

595 STAFF TEAM

Shohan Illsley – Executive Director

Carrie Pockett – Education Coordinator

Veda Koncan – Project Coordinator

Laurisa Braun – Project Coordinator

THE 595 PREVENTION TEAM

The 595 Prevention Team (the 595) is a network of over 100 member organizations interested in addressing the determinants of health and preventing the transmission of sexually transmitted infections and blood borne infections (STBBIs), primarily HIV and Hepatitis C (HCV), in Manitoba. The mandate of the 595 is to work with peers, network members, policy makers, academics, and community leaders to make recommendations regarding the development, implementation, and evaluation of STBI prevention initiatives based on evidence and best practice with priority populations. The Play It Safer Network and the Safer Choices Northern Network work in collaboration with the 595 ensuring a provincial mandate in addressing STBBIs.

VISION

The 595 is a broad and diverse network of peers, service providers, administrators, academics and policy-makers collaborating to provide province-wide access to services, materials and resources rooted in the principles of health promotion for priority populations. We are committed to using and promoting evidence-based practices. We are peer driven with peers having strong representation in all aspects of the network.

2013-2014 FUNDERS:

Health Child Manitoba
Healthy Living Seniors and Consumer Affairs
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
Public Health Agency of Canada: Hepatitis C Prevention, Support & Research Program
Public Health Agency of Canada: AIDS Community Action Program
Canadian Institute of Health Research
Northern Health Region

EXPENSES:

Salaries: 62%
Operating: 9%
Programming: 29%

STRATEGIC PRIORITY # 1: WELCOMING PEER INPUT AND MEANINGFUL PEER INVOLVEMENT!

The 595 Peer Working Group (595PWG) is a group of 20 who continue to direct the work of the 595. The 595PWG is involved in all aspects of the network from management, research, evaluation, policy development, and facilitation. The philosophy of the network is “Nothing About Us, Without Us!” The aim is to ensure that programming and activities directed at “priority populations” are designed and developed with significant input from the populations they serve.

WHAT GOES AROUND: HOW PEERS USE THEIR SOCIAL NETWORKS TO SHARE STBBI EDUCATION & INFORMATION

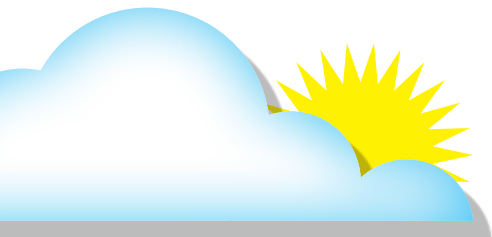
The 595PWG wrapped up their community based research project which explored how the Peers share STBBI information within their social network. The results of the research indicated that 16 of the Peers actively pass on safer drug use and safer sex information within their social networks. Additionally, all 17 Peers distribute harm reduction supplies. The recommendations from this research are:

1. Increase access to harm reduction supplies in Winnipeg!
2. Increase Peer-to-Peer distribution!
3. Increase Peer-to-Peer knowledge sharing opportunities!

PARTNERING WITH PEER BASED ORGANIZATIONS (PBOS)

In 2008, the 595 received funds to establish a comprehensive Peer Secretariat Project (PSP) that involved working with PBOS to provide administrative support and build on the capacity of their members. Through the PSP, there is a mechanism for all the PBOS to collaborate with one another. We will continue to support these organizations to build on their capacity. We currently partner with eight PBOS:

1. The 595 Peer Working Group
2. The Manitoba Hepatitis C Support Community Inc.
3. Manitoba Area Network of Drug Users
4. AYO! Aboriginal Youth Opportunities
5. Two-Spirited People of Manitoba Inc.
6. The Women's Advisory Council: Mothering Project, Mount Carmel Clinic
7. The Anti-Violence Advisory Team: Sage House, Mount Carmel Clinic
8. KIA Women's Group: Sexuality Education Resource Centre



STRATEGIC PRIORITY # 2: INCREASE THE PROMOTION AND EDUCATION OF RESOURCES ROOTED IN PRINCIPLES OF HARM REDUCTION FOR PEERS AND PROFESSIONALS IN MANITOBA.

THE 595 WORKSHOPS!

Our workshops, *Best Practice for Working with Underserved Populations*, are offered in conjunction with a consultation process with communities, participants, and service providers. Although all our workshops include consistent core information, we tailor the training to ensure that the specific community needs are addressed. This year we delivered 16 workshops to 320 participants throughout the province.

When asked to compare their knowledge before and after the workshops, almost all of the respondents (98%) indicated the presentation had increased their knowledge.

A majority of respondents said they would change their practices and/or working styles (81%) as a result of the workshops.

— EVALUATION COMPLETED BY HEALTH IN COMMON

PEER DELIVERED HCV 101 WORKSHOP

The 595 partners with the Manitoba Hepatitis C Support Community Inc. to deliver and evaluate peer based HCV information sessions in the province. Presentations are delivered to various organizations and individuals including participants in treatment programs, community members, service providers, and government employees. Twenty six workshops were facilitated in Winnipeg with 311 participants.

When asked, almost all (96%) respondents said they would share something from the workshop with someone else.

Workshop participants learned about behaviours that could transmit Hepatitis C, and 97% of respondents said they planned on changing their behaviour to reduce risk.

— EVALUATION COMPLETED BY HEALTH IN COMMON

STRATEGIC PRIORITY # 3: INCREASE ACCESS TO SERVICES, MATERIALS AND RESOURCES TO THOSE IN NEED.

We continue to offer STBBI prevention supplies for the 595PWG as well as other community members. Peers continue to provide education and support for one another regarding HIV and HCV prevention through safer drug use and sex practices.

595 NORTH:

In the summer of 2012 the 595 expanded into the North. In the transition, an Education Coordinator was hired in Flin Flon and the 595 “adopted” the Play It Safer Network. In Spring of 2013, the Safer Choices Northern Network (SCNN) in Thompson approached the 595 to implement this same model. In October, the 595 officially “adopted” the SCNN.

MANITOBA HARM REDUCTION CONFERENCE: NORTHERN STYLE!

On August 26-27 2013, The 595 hosted our 3rd conference at Bakers Narrows Lodge in Flin Flon, Manitoba. This is the first time the 595 hosted a conference in the North! There were 87 attendees, representing 20 Manitoba communities.

The keynote topics were:

- The Beginning of Caring: Mothering, Harm Reduction, & Pregnancy, *facilitated by Margaret Bryans*
- Engaging in Risky Behaviors? Or Residual Effects of the Canadian Colonial Context? Aboriginal Peoples Increased Risk of STI's, HIV, and HCV, *facilitated by Nahanni Fontaine*

Over 90% of the evaluations indicated that conference attendees had increased their knowledge and skills on the topic of harm reduction 70% intend to use the information they learned at the conference to modify and improve their harm reduction practices.

— EVALUATION COMPLETED BY C. JALLOH

HEADS UP! 2014 RURAL, REMOTE, AND NORTHERN CONFERENCE!

On September 29th -October 1st, we are hosting a conference in Thompson Manitoba. The event will focus on the challenges and success of addressing STBBIs and related issues in rural, remote, and Northern communities.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY # 4: BROADLY INTEGRATING THE PHILOSOPHY OF EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE IN STBBIS.

CUSTOMIZED HIV/HCV PREVENTION, TREATMENT, AND CARE TOOL KIT

The 595 continues to consult with organizations throughout the province to ensure policies, procedures and programing are driven by best practice evidence. In 2013 we worked with various organizations including Northern Health Region, Prairie Mountain Health, Cree Nation Tribal Health, and Ka Ni Kanichihk Inc.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY # 5: MARKETING THE 595 PREVENTION TEAM.

The 595 has membership on several community, provincial, and national coalitions. We believe in engaging and promoting Peer attendance at all levels of service delivery from grassroots to government.

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER OR IS IT?

This year, staff and peers took advantage of many learning opportunities including:

- 2013 Prairie HIV/AIDS Conference
- Addictions Foundation of Manitoba Symposium
- WRHA 2013 STBBI Conference: Sex Matters: From Precedents to Practice.
- CPR + First Aid Training
- Trauma Informed Care Workshop
- Gender Inclusion Workshop
- Cultural Activities such as Medicine Picking, Sweat
- WELARK, EAL Resource Session





2013-2014

Progress REPORT

A WORD FROM OUR CHAIRPERSONS

We are pleased to present the SCNN Annual Report for the 2013-2014 year. This past year, SCNN had some exciting new endeavors and activities occur. We began in early summer, with our network following the steps of PISN and merging into an awesome partnership with the 595 Prevention Team. This partnership was a transition that was met with both great enthusiasm and expectedly some challenges.

Despite our challenges and bumps on the road, SCNN is proud of its many successful activities, from the condom blitzes, partnering with other agencies in education opportunities, our re-launch of the 'Animal Instincts' resources and more recently, our presence and participation in Thompson's First Annual Pride Festivities.

We want to acknowledge the hard work of those dedicated SCNN members, as well as our community partners. SCNN would especially like to THANK Shohan Illsley of the 595 Prevention Team for her vision, her endless hard work, commitment and genuine interest in seeing that SCNN continue to be in essence, a sustainable community network that works towards a common goal of harm reduction and healthy communities.

Together, we are all working towards a common goal, a reduction in STBBI rates within our regions and an increase in community connectedness.

Sincerely,
NANCY VYSTRCIL
RACHELLE MACDONALD



SAFER CHOICES Northern Network

The Safer Choices Northern Network (SCNN) was formed to address the high incidence of sexually transmitted and blood borne infections (STBBI) in Thompson and surrounding communities (Northern Health Region). The SCNN is a community based organization and is based on the principles of community capacity building, defined as, “creating the conditions which enable people to respond to the needs of their community regarding HIV/AIDS, STI, Hepatitis C, and harm reduction. This may be achieved for example through increased: understanding, inclusivity, action, information, services, resources, networking, openness, knowledge, support, collaboration, skills, integration, advocacy” (Adapted from National Information and Support Network, November 1998).

MANDATE

To implement community based strategies to address STBBIs and harm reduction through prevention, partnerships and education to ultimately decrease infection rates.

2013-2014 FUNDERS

Manitoba Health, Healthy Living and Seniors

SCNN PROJECT GOALS

1. Build the Network's visibility and membership by fostering key relationships within the community.
2. Continue to provide community-based projects that increase awareness of STBBI to Youth and other identified priority populations.
3. Implement a focused social marketing campaign to increase STBBI testing.

2013-2014 SCNN WORKPLAN

1. Collaborate with the Northern Health Region to deliver outreach education and awareness activities.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & AWARENESS DAYS

The Outreach and Awareness Days are used as a way to provide testing information to our target populations where they are already in attendance. We provide food, information, resources, promotional items, door prizes, condoms and when possible, STBBI testing. We feel these events help to normalize testing, and additionally reduce stigma and discrimination.

HOLIDAY OUTREACH CAMPAIGNS

For various holidays, the SCNN members distribute Animal Instinct resources and themed

safer sex kits throughout the community of Thompson. Kits were filled with Animal Instincts condom covers, condoms, lube, candy/chocolate and testing information in Thompson. The kits, along with Animal Instincts posters, t-shirts, and coasters, are distributed to the bars, lounges, hotels, schools, and socials throughout the community.

- Halloween Campaign: Over 400 kits were distributed between October 25th & 31st
- Christmas Campaign: Over 500 kits were distributed between December 21st & 31st.

- St. Patrick's Day Campaign: Over 300 kits were distributed on March 15th.
- Valentine's Day Heart Your Parts Campaign: 800 kits were distributed between February 12th & 14th. Four hundred kits were distributed at R.D Parker Collegiate on February 14th. Additionally, youth and staff at the Northern Circle of Youth created 200 handmade "condom flowers" that were also handed out to high school students.

WORLD AIDS DAY CAMPAIGN

This year, SCNN embarked in a different creative outreach project in celebration of World AIDS Day. We hosted a Community Consultation Café on December 6, 2013. Our region had experienced a cluster of newly reported cases of HIV within a short span of time from late 2012 – mid 2013. Together, the Northern Health Region and SCNN wanted to provide a forum for open and creative conversation on HIV in the North. We set out to gather information from communities on their existing knowledge and awareness of HIV/AIDS and services and programs in our region. The goal was simply to gauge community readiness on HIV education and harm reduction. The focus of a Community Café was NOT directly to provide education or to do presentations, however there was continuous information sharing at the request of some participants by those staff members/facilitators who were better informed on HIV.

Summary notes have been compiled by SCNN Project Coordinators and brought forward to identify themes and next steps. Summative evaluation showed overall positive comments regarding the event process and the sharing of ideas and stories that transpired. There were 22 participants in total at this event. It was inspiring to have a small group of community persons share their knowledge, insight and mutual concern surrounding the emerging issue and reality of HIV in the North. This entire event was followed by a WORLD

AIDS DAY WALK which included information sharing, harm reduction supplies, resource dissemination, and hot chocolate and snacks.

HOMELESSNESS OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

In March, the SCNN partnered with staff and youth from Youth Build and hosted a Homelessness Outreach Campaign in downtown Thompson. We distributed sandwiches, hot chocolate, and 75 outreach packages, which contained a toque, mittens, condoms, warm socks, and STBBI testing information. This initiative provided a great sense of community engagement and connectedness and was mutually rewarding for partners involved and the persons receiving the outreach care packages.

MUNCH AND LEARN SESSIONS

Munch & Learn sessions allow informal discussion and a presentation on reducing risks. We provide food, resources, information, promotional items, prizes, and condoms. The sessions include information on safer sex, safer partying and access to information and resources. Between October and March, we delivered two Munch & Learn sessions, including a Test & Learn Session at the University College of the North.



2. Re-launch of the Animal Instincts Social Marketing Campaign.

The 'Animal Instincts' project and resources were first introduced in 2012 with the creation of the posters and t-shirts - "Wear Your Rubbers," "Protect Your Beaver," "Play Nice," "If you're going to BEAR it, WEAR it," and "Condoms come in ALL sizes." This resource was met with phenomenal uptake and success, regionally, provincially and even nationally.

One of SCNN's main activities this year was to re-launch the existing resources, to include more items and schwaag (magnets,

coasters, pucks, and togues). Our goal was to reach our identified target audience, YOUTH, and normalize testing, reduce stigma, share our Northern culture.

Since October 2013, we distributed the following resources in and around Thompson; 100 t-shirts, 150 posters, 2000 coasters, 900 condom covers, 1300 magnets, 80 togues, and 100 pucks.



Protect your Beaver

Be wise! Use your gifts to help bring peace to the world.

WEAR A CONDOM

Some STIs can be treated. Some are lifelong diseases. Either way you don't want to deal. Wearing a condom every time is your best chance at avoiding them.

FREE Condoms can be picked up at the following locations: community health centers, nursing stations, public health and from school counselors or nurses. If you need more information on Sexually Transmitted Infections or where to get tested, contact: Fin Flu: 204-627-1340, The Pru/OCN: 204-623-9650, Cree Nation Tribal Health Centre: 204-627-1500, Beatrice Wilson Health Centre: 204-627-7410



These posters were produced by youth for youth. The concept was done in collaboration and consultation with the Beatrice Wilson Health Board and the Thompson Bay & Lake Ojibway Health Board (2013).



Wear your Rubbers

To show respect is to share and give of yourself.

WEAR A CONDOM

Some STIs can be treated. Some are lifelong diseases. Either way you don't want to deal. Wearing a condom every time is your best chance at avoiding them.

FREE Condoms can be picked up at the following locations: community health centers, nursing stations, public health and from school counselors or nurses. If you need more information on Sexually Transmitted Infections or where to get tested, contact: Fin Flu: 204-627-1340, The Pru/OCN: 204-623-9650, Cree Nation Tribal Health Centre: 204-627-1500, Beatrice Wilson Health Centre: 204-627-7410



These posters were produced by youth for youth. The concept was done in collaboration and consultation with the Beatrice Wilson Health Board and the Thompson Bay & Lake Ojibway Health Board (2013).

3. To maintain and promote membership in the Safer Choices Northern Network.

Network membership continues to be a priority for the SCNN. In the fall of 2013, the 595 Prevention Team Inc. “adopted” the SCNN. The 595North hired a Project Coordinator to coordinate of the SCNN. To truly be a community-based, the direction of the work needed to be developed within the community. Accordingly, in November 2013, SCNN moved into the Ma Mow We Tak Friendship Centre. The Executive Director and staff at the centre have made the transition process very friendly and welcoming. If you're in the area, stop by and see us at our new space. The SCNN continues to host monthly meetings and in May 2014 we will host our first Annual Planning Meeting.

STAFF & VOLUNTEER TRAINING

The SCNN hosted various workshops and trainings that were identified as educational priorities by the community and network members. The following training was offered to SCNN members and community members:

Harm Reduction 2.0: Beyond The Needle.

1. World Café- HIV workshop
2. Hepatitis C and Harm Reduction
3. Teen Talk Service Provider Training
4. HIV Education & Training Workshop
5. Manitoba Harm Reduction Conference

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS:

Boys and Girls Club: Alyssa Harnum, Lydia Blais, Matthew Baker

City of Thompson: Annette Siddle

Faculty of Social Work: Colin Bonneycastle, Marleny Bonnycastle

Keewatin Tribal Council: Adele Sweeny, Loretta Ouskun, Roba Frost

Manitoba Keewatinowik Okimakanak: Dale Carlson

McDonald Youth Services: Brigitte Klem, Sheila Hickey-Belton

Mystery Lake School Division: Ingrid Gosselin

Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation (NCN) Nelson House: Faith McDonald, Lynda Wright

Northern Regional Health Authority: Chantal McClelland, Cynthia Lathlin, Jennifer Whalen, Leslie Sraybash, Nicole Walsh, Tanis Morrisseau-Merasty, Wanda-Lee Eveleigh

Wikamik Homeless Shelter: Christina Moody

YWCA: Joy Thompson, Nina Cordell

SCNN MEMBERS:

CHAIRS:

Rachelle MacDonald,
Northern Regional Health Authority
(Dec 2013- Mar 2014)

Nancy Vystrel,
Northern Regional Health Authority
(Apr 2013-Dec 2013)

SCNN PROJECT COORDINATOR:

Laurisa Braun



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Play It Safer Network



THE PLAY IT SAFER NETWORK

THE PLAY IT SAFER NETWORK (PISN) IS A COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION CONSISTING OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS, HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS, YOUTH, SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES, AND SERVICE PROVIDERS IN FLIN FLON, THE PAS, AND SURROUNDING AREA. THE MANDATE OF THE PISN IS TO IMPLEMENT A COMMUNITY BASED (NORTHERN MANITOBA/SASKATCHEWAN) STRATEGY TO ADDRESS SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED AND BLOOD BORNE INFECTIONS (STBBI), HARM REDUCTION AND HEALTHIER LIFESTYLE CHOICES THROUGH EDUCATION, PREVENTION, TREATMENT, AND MEDICAL AND SOCIAL SUPPORTS.

GOALS OF THE PISN

1. Continue to promote and maintain partnerships in PISN.
2. Implement a STBBI education program targeting youth.
3. Improve services for individuals living with or affected by HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C.

COORDINATING COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Christa McIntyre,
Northern Health Region

PROJECT COORDINATOR:
Carrie Pockett, *595 North*

CO-SECRETARY: Colleen Tower
Insight Mentor Program

CO-SECRETARY: Dee Harvey
Insight Mentor Program

TREASURER: Tauvia Alexander
Addictions Foundation of MB

NRHA LIAISON: Connie Beaton
Northern Health Region

A WORD FROM OUR CHAIR

It's been another exciting year for the Play It Safer Network. It was great to see everyone out at the annual meeting. I am always amazed at the number of volunteer hours our network has logged and how many activities we have accomplished. It was awesome to have the 595 Prevention Team Northern Conference take place at Baker's Narrows. What a great opportunity to have so many passionate and knowledgeable people come together in the north. I look forward to the new year and am thrilled to have a co-chair this upcoming journey. I extend my welcome to Linda Lathlin, and look forward to co-representing the Play It Safer Network in the upcoming year.



Christa McIntyre
Chair-Play It Safer Network

WELCOME NEW CO-CHAIR!

For those of you that are not familiar with me, I am a community health nurse at the Beatrice Wilson Health Centre located in Opaskwayak Cree Nation. I am a mother to five beautiful children and I'm an awesome nanny to two grandchildren. My responsibilities at the health centre mostly involve Infection Control/CDC issues. I am currently working to attain my Master of Nursing: Nurse Practitioner degree. I look forward to working with all of you this year! I am privileged to serve as the new Co-Chair for the network and to serve our community members in this capacity. I look forward to an event-filled year and anticipate that we will continue to be welcomed with open arms wherever we may go.



Linda Lathlin
Chair-Play It Safer Network

OUR GOALS

GOAL # 1: CONTINUE TO PROMOTE AND MAINTAIN PARTNERSHIPS IN THE PLAY IT SAFER NETWORK

PLAY IT SAFER NETWORK MEMBERSHIP

A number of initiatives have taken place and the Network membership continues to grow with a current membership count of 39 members. The PISN continues to host our meetings at the Primary Health Care Centres in Flin Flon and The Pas. The Network and subcommittees have had a total of 15 meetings this year to plan events and activities. The dedication and commitment of our members and volunteers is clearly validated with a total of over 200 hours contributed.

YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (YAC)

Our YAC, with a membership of seven, have stayed committed all year with various projects, activities, conferences, and meetings. The youth are from various communities in the north and offer expertise and guidance to youth programming provided by the PISN. The YAC has been involved in the development and implementation of two initiatives this

year. The YAC partnered with the schools to set up the Love Shack and provide STBBI resources and information to students. In partnership with the Northern Health Region Teen Clinic, YAC hosted a Teen Clinic Tour Night and had a total of 28 youth attend, 12 of whom never attended the clinic before.

This upcoming year we will expand the YAC to The Pas and surrounding area. This will allow us to address issues for youth in that region.

SOCIAL MEDIA

In addition to having a website, the PISN is now connected through Twitter, Linked In, Facebook, and Pinterest just to name a few. We have personalized our campaigns to include a social media component to reach our target populations.

GOAL # 2: IMPLEMENT A STBBI EDUCATION PROGRAM TARGETING YOUTH.

THE PISN WORKSHOPS!

Our workshops, based on the Teen Talk Curriculum, are geared toward youth and community members. This year we delivered 50 workshops to 812 youth, service providers, and community members. The workshops were evaluated and a report was completed by Health In Common. The evaluation report is available by request.

HEALTH FAIRS, COMMUNITY EVENTS, & MORE:

The Play It Safer Network welcomes every opportunity to be involved in community health fairs and events. The PISN members go to outlying communities and provide a display, resources, and information including the marketing of the PISN. This year we attended the following events:

- Easterville Community Health Fair-Safer Tattooing & Body Piercing
- Sturgeon Landing & Denare Beach Treaty Days
- Opaskwayak Cree Nation Indian Days
- Indian Birch Hepatitis C Walking Poker Derby
- 595 Prevention Team Northern Conference

AWARENESS EVENTS:

Hepatitis Awareness Month May 2013

We perform a social marketing campaign throughout the region including newspaper, radio, tent cards, posters, condom campaign and distribution of 500 personal item kits to our target populations.

Flin Flon Trout Festival June 2013

The PISN hosted a Love Shack at the Trout Festival this year in addition to providing condoms and posters in the bathrooms. We provided a door prize, promotional resources, SCNN t-shirts which are always popular and had a variety of games to get the adults engaged.

HIV/AIDS Awareness Week & World AIDS Day November/December 2013

We perform a social marketing campaign including newspaper, radio, tent cards, posters, condom campaign, hosted a Love Shack, a school-wide quiz and wear red day. We reached a total of 209 youth through this campaign.

Sexual & Reproductive Health Awareness Week February 2014

We distributed 450 flowers with condoms through outreach campaigns in Flin Flon and The Pas. The YAC members distributed the flowers to their peers in the high schools they attend. In addition to events planned for Trapper's Festival, The Pas members provided an outreach day during the awareness week and the flowers were distributed throughout the community.

Trappers Festival February 2014

PISN members and volunteers did a community giveaway and distributed over 500 event specific promotional items including can cozies, beverage openers, SCNN t-shirts, and PISN promotional products throughout the community and the Beer Fest at Trappers.

GOAL # 3: IMPROVE SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITH OR AFFECTED BY HIV/AIDS AND HEPATITIS C.

MUNCH & LEARN SESSIONS:

Munch & Learn sessions allow informal discussion and a presentation on reducing risks. We provide food, resources, information, promotional items, door prizes, and condoms. The sessions include information on safer sex, safer partying, safer tattooing/Body piercing, and access to information and resources. In partnership with our members we delivered a total of 5 Munch & Learn sessions this year. We reached a total of 59 participants at the following locations: Denare Beach Band Office, Sandy Bay Child & Family Agency, The Pas Insight Mentor Program, and 2 sessions at Employment Links Development Centre.

OUTREACH TESTING DAYS

The OTD are used as a way to provide testing to our target populations where they are already in attendance. We provide food, information, resources, promotional items, door prizes, condoms and testing. We feel this helps to normalize testing, and additionally reduce stigma and discrimination. We have hosted three OTD over the last year and reached 120 folks throughout the campaigns. A total of 52 people were tested.

- Flin Flon - National Aboriginal Day
- The Pas - Homeless Shelter
- The Pas – HIV/AIDS Awareness Week

AWARENESS AND CONDOM CAMPAIGNS:

This year we had members, peers and staff participate in the following events where they promoted the PISN and STBBI prevention strategies.

- National Aboriginal Day & Canada Day
- Safe Grad
- Festivals: Flin Flon Trout Festival, The Pas Trapper's Festival
- Holiday Campaigns: Halloween, Christmas, St. Patrick's Day
- HIV/AIDS Awareness Week & World AIDS Day
- Hepatitis Awareness Month
- Sexual & Reproductive Health Awareness Week

COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT:

The PISN has membership on several community, provincial, and national coalitions.

Canadian AIDS Society Rural Harm Reduction Steering Committee: To have a better understanding of the barriers and challenges people who use drugs face and how to develop effective strategies and best practices to engage the target population. The national committee attempts to connect with other folks from other rural and remote areas to share strategies.

Northern Health Region Harm Reduction Steering Committee: Through the established harm reduction policy working directly with the NHR and community partners to address Harm Reduction including the development of a supply distribution program.

FAASE (Flin Flon Area Against Sexual Exploitation): Through the direction of Tracia's Trust this committee meets on a monthly basis to address the issue of sexual exploitation of youth. The committee participates in the Grandmother's Walk, a youth initiative and an awareness week event each year to address this issue in our community.

Supply Distribution Working Group (Outside of Winnipeg): To provide a coordinated and consistent role out of harm reduction and supply distribution initiatives to priority populations in Manitoba.

STAFF & VOLUNTEER TRAINING:

This year, staff and peers took advantage of many learning opportunities including:

- CHAR (Canadian HIV/AIDS Research) Conference
- Canadian AIDS Society-Overdose prevention webinar
- Teen Talk Training
- Manitoba Harm Reduction Conference
- CATIE HIV/HCV Integration Forum
- Project DEVOTE Training
- Understanding & Working with Youth who have been Sexually Exploited
- CATIE Harm Reduction Best Practice Webinar

ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED ON THE PLAY IT SAFER NETWORK

Northern Health Region
Cree Nation Tribal Health
Beatrice Wilson Health Centre
Mamawetan Churchill River
Regional Health Authority
Flin Flon Aboriginal Friendship Centre
Community Youth Resource Centre
Employment Links Development Centre
Women's Resource Centre
Creighton School
Hapnot Collegiate
Addictions Foundation of Manitoba
Insight Mentor Program
McDonald Youth Services
CADAC
Margaret Barbour Collegiate Institute
The Pas Family Resource Centre
I Am Love In Action

TOV
THE
FU



TOGETHER
WE CAN
BUILD A
BETTER
FUTURE



THE 595 PREVENTION TEAM

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Winnipeg, MB.
PHONE: 204-783-6184
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SAFER CHOICES NORTHERN NETWORK

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Thompson, MB.
PHONE: 204-677-0336
WWW.SAFERCHOICES.ORG



PLAY IT SAFER NETWORK

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED INVOLVMENT AND SUPPORT!