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Background

In April 2023, Safe and Fear-Free Environment, Inc. (SAFE) contracted with McKinley Research Group to conduct a community needs assessment regarding interpersonal violence in Dillingham, Alaska, emphasizing informing prevention strategies. The community needs assessment included community stakeholder interviews and community perceptions survey data analysis.

SAFE partnered with a personal services contractor to conduct the Dillingham Community Perceptions Survey. There were 24 questions included in the survey. Survey respondents were asked about their views on safety and interpersonal violence in Dillingham, as well as their perceptions of risk and protective factors for victimization and perpetration.

McKinley Research Group analyzed the survey data. The analysis included assessing open-ended questions for common themes and concepts. Most of the questions on the Dillingham Community Perceptions Survey were open-ended. The questions in this document list verbatim responses to these questions.

Findings from the survey are presented in a separate document. This document is provided as a supplement to the assessment.
WHAT ARE SOME OF THE PROBLEMS IN OUR COMMUNITY THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED IMMEDIATELY?

- Activities for our children. 2) swimming pool - most of our population spends time in the water, but do not know how to swim. 3) recreation center. I realize 2 and 3 cannot be met immediately but these are things the community has needed for a long time. My husband grew up in Dillingham and when he was of school age there were many things to do in Dillingham, a theater, a recreation center. What happened? Post-COVID pandemic tension still not resolved/healed, 2.) alcohol/drug abuse with a growing problem of drugs such as fentanyl, 3.) many employers unable to fill positions in their workforce which means service delivery is very difficult, 4.) housing is lacking so many employers are not able to attract employees from outside the community, 5.) the cost of living continues to rise. 6.) a decline in volunteerism. housing; 2. need more grocery stores; 3. elder care; 4. drug abuse
- A lot of drugs that needs to be addressed.
- Alcohol use
- Alcoholism, drug use
- Assisted Living Facility, homelessness, drug and alcohol abuse, get people back to work.
- Child abuse and substance abuse
- City income (like a fish tax), Self-development education (Self-care mentally and physically),
- Drinking and driving
- Drinking, suicide, jobs, lack of money to run City and lack of Services, sewage lagoon, landfill, maintenance of roads, employees.
- Drug abuse
- Drug abuse, sexual assault, alcohol abuse
- Drug abuser, domestically violent humans
- Drug addiction, healing from trauma, good health care
- Drug Addiction/Alcohol/ Need youth center for our kids
- Drug and alcohol abuse (x2)
- Drug and alcohol addiction and all the problems that stem from it
- Drug and Alcohol addictions
- Drug dealers
- Drug dealers & users
• Drug epidemic
• Drug overdose, suicide
• Drug use
• Drug use/overdose - lack of competent law enforcement - lack of preventative services/resources - lack of housing - lack of community resources in general so that qualified, competent individuals can stay and work and invest in the community.
• Drug/Alcohol abuse, lack of community events/facilities
• Drug/Alcohol Abuse; Suicide Prevention; Housing Availability
• Drugs (x6)
• Drugs and Economy
• Drugs and housing
• Drugs that cause death or overdose
• Drugs, Alcohol, Theft, etc.
• Drugs, alcoholism, abandoned children/teenagers.
• Drugs, domestic violence, and lack of community engagement.
• Drugs, housing, domestic violence
• Drugs, Vaping, Alcohol, and Domestic Violence
• Fentanyl use
• Generational trauma, alcoholism, drug addiction
• Heroin
• Heroin and meth usage amongst the youth
• Homeless men/Drugs
• Homelessness for men
• Homelessness, alcohol, drugs, more activities for youth and community
• Homelessness, alcoholism, and drug use
• Housing
• Housing instability, substance misuse, domestic violence
• Housing so the homeless have a safer environment to be in if violence is happening to them.
• I think Dillingham has a drinking and drug problem and doesn’t know how to address mental health issues.
• Illicit drug use, suicide prevention, overall mental/emotional/behavioral health
• Interpersonal relationship skills and being able to express your feelings.
• lack of caring from local government, historical trauma that impacts mental health, substance misuse, interpersonal violence.
• Lack of community, things to do, price gouging, fentanyl.
• Local law enforcement, drug use, domestic abuse
• More drug enforcement, more things to do for the youth.
• Negativity and lack of community. small groups support each other but the community doesn’t chip in to help each other unless those in need are from a prominent or well-respected family.
• Historical traumas and inappropriate behaviors passed from generation to generation.
• Education system
• Availability of resources to prepare youth for adulthood. basic life skills training.
• Timely, confidential availability of self-help resources."
• No housing for homeless people. There needs to be a shelter for these people.
• Not enough youth activities.
• Not too sure
• Opioid addiction, alcohol abuse, Elder disrespect
• Opioid crisis
• Parenting skills need to be developed for success of students behaviorally and academically.
• Police chief, pay increases, prevention programs with momentum and not a silo of certain people. BB entities all come to the table and work together. Stop known drug dealers NOW.
• Racialized trauma: that includes opioid overdose deaths.
• Rape opioids violence
• Safety
• Street drugs
• Substance abuse
• Substance abuse; domestic violence; lack of community and child/family enrichment, consistent week to week activities, and life opportunity development
• Substance Misuses
• That everybody has access to all resources not just native people. Trauma recovery support - wraparound services.
• Domestic violence that is fueled by the alcoholism.
• The drug problem and a recycling program need to be in place.
• The POTHOLES.
• Thieves, drugs, and sexual abuse.
• Too many druggy thieves who can’t work
• Transportation
• Use of mind-altering substances
• Venues for recreational activities. Even just a simple safe jog path around Dillingham Park to encourage people to keep active.
• Would love to see a drug dog in our community.
WHAT DO YOU SEE WITHIN THE COMMUNITY REGARDING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT OR OTHER VIOLENCE?

- Homeless assaulting each other and others. 2. Most of the teen danger comes from their homes and relatives. 3. Drugs are everywhere and the older kids hang out late at night in areas not so safe. 4. Could we get a K-9 unit at the airport? 5. Maybe we could do an alcohol ordinance like Bethel? 6. Keep up the cultural projects. We love Culture Camp. Yet how could we involve our teens? Basketball Camp? Maybe more family movie nights? 7. There is no easy answer. But if we had adults that have been raised here being a safe buffer for school hours. Like elders that want to volunteer time in classrooms or parent involvement to bring culture into the classroom. Safe adults - ones the students pick for their classrooms. 8. I know SAFE has MySpace, but we need a more neutral place to hang out at. Like maybe the Willow Tree until 5 pm. Hot dogs and soda or something. Then again, we would need safe adults to be volunteers. 9. It will take all of us to reverse the damage that was brought to Bristol Bay in the early 1900s.

- A lot of violence
- Alcohol/drugs
- All
- All the above are an issue and seem to hold true to the nationwide statistics concerning our region.
- Any of it involves alcohol and drug abuse.
- Average amount
- Because I work at the hospital, I see plenty of assault victims.
- Controlling
- Domestic violence behind closed doors. This girl in an abusive relationship tried to talk to me and I blocked her after calling CPS for her boyfriend’s son. Who was witnessing the abuse behind the closed doors.
- Drinking/drugs usage during violence/sexual assault. Inner family cycle domestic violence/assault
- Drug abusing, do nothing humans.
- The homeless are most vulnerable.
- I do not see it.
- I don’t personally see it but I hear about it and am aware that those things go on
- I don’t see much, we mostly stay home and keep to ourselves. Only what we hear
- I feel like systemic violence is more of an issue and the root of physical and relationship violence.
- I have not detected domestic violence among my close friends or family but have seen signs that it is a problem in the community through court cases that appear to be about violence that is growing in magnitude.
- I know it exists; but I do not see it often. Only through hearsay.
- I really don’t hear much.
• I see a lot of domestic violence in the stone more than I should.
• I see a lot of domestic violence. More emotional abuse than anything. And emotional abuse is tough especially for women with children. The courts really won’t do anything about it.
• I see a mix of everything.
• I see more in younger adults with domestic, dating, and sexual violence issues.
• I see the prevention side of things.
• I think it’s a big problem here.
• I think it’s always been a presence and drinking and drugs don't help.
• I worry about my kids when they are out.
• I’ve seen a lot within my family, neighbors, and community. DV against a family member and the victim is still in close contact with the abuser. A lot of closed eyes, turned backs and court system fall through.
• I don’t know.
• Increased violence across our country is very concerning to me.
• Interpersonal violence within social groups appears pervasive and often underreported. youth learning these behaviors as acceptable or normal because they see their parents and household members committing these acts of violence.
• It happens far too often
• It is a problem
• it is an ongoing problem
• It is overlooked too often
• It is normalized.(x2)
• It is present in many relationships.
• It is too widespread.
• It’s hidden; still a topic that is not openly discussed.
• It’s pretty normalized.
• It’s shameful if talked about or denied.
• Lack of self-awareness and alcohol
• Lots and lots of violence. People need to be held accountable for their toxic behavior and taught in school how to treat people.
• Most of it is substance abuse related.
• Most often alcohol induced or family trends.
• Mostly during fishing season, a lot more violence and assaults. Not sure if it has anything to do with more people in the area or just locals losing trust when outsiders are here.
• My job exposed me to know that it is prevalent.
• n/a
• need more info for our younger kids to be prepared when they start to experiment with substances, alcohol and drugs.
• Need to stop.
• No respect among young adults or respect from the Male gender.
• Nowhere for victims to go. No housing.
• Not being reported
• Not sure.
• Not sure how to answer.
• People hurting each other when drunk.
• People put up with it
• People want to ignore it's happening.
• Physical violence with/without influence of substances
• Rape and dating violence.
• Rape, molestation, child molestation, men and woman putting their hands on each other.
• Repeat offenders never seem to stay locked up or get the help they need.
• Sadness and people feeling like they have no choice but to stay in their often violent situations. Not to mention the children
• Seems to start at a young age once kids start dating. There seems to be a "silent" acceptance of being OK with having no "firm" commitment to a relationship and that girls allow themselves to be treated as "as needed" individuals.
• Some domestic violence within homes.
• Taboo talking about experiences, not believing survivors of violence, judgement toward people who are victims of violence in difficult situations where they might not have other choices. not taking survivors seriously and not condemning perpetrators enough.
• There is too much of it, lots of untreated trauma.
• This is a concern but I haven't heard of recent situations regarding violence or assaults.
• Too much (x2)
• Too much of it (x2)
• Too much of it - I feel safe b/c I don't engage in activities or people that would lead to DV, but I work with many, many people who do. We need DV offender and victim psychoeducational programs, and we need law enforcement who are properly trained to mitigate this issue.
• Toxic - we see it all.
• Under reported, under prosecuted.
• Using drugs, drinking liquor.
• Usually drinking related. but it's more complicated. We live in a fishing town with a strong party culture.
• Violence dating violence.
• Way too much i.e., hitting, drugs, and sexual assault.
• We have made great inroads over the years; however, most were reactive services as opposed to preventative.
CAN YOU THINK OF ANYTHING THAT MAY MAKE A PERSON IN DILLINGHAM MORE LIKELY TO COMMIT ACTS OF VIOLENCE? IF SO, WHAT ARE THOSE THINGS?

- Addictions of all sorts
- Alcohol (x5)
- Alcohol and drugs (x4)
- Alcohol and drug abuse (x2)
- Alcohol and drug use (x2)
- Alcohol and drug use, daily frustrations, childhood trauma
- Alcohol and hard drug use
- Alcohol consumption, severe drug addiction.
- Alcohol, trauma related aggression, manipulation and gaslighting. No stoner is abusive.
- Alcohol, drugs and no accountability
- Alcohol/drug use, cases not being fully prosecuted will encourage continued abuse
- Alcohol/drugs
- Alcoholism and narcotics
- Anger issues
- Being intoxicated and not being in your right mind. Emotions get more out of control
- Being under the influence of alcohol/drugs or coming from generations of abuse.
- Drinking (x2)
- Drinking too much
- Drinking, drugs, disorders, trauma, and lack of babysitting and healthy housing
- Drinking, lack of work and not keeping occupied, poor judgment, lack of self worth
- Drug abuse, alcohol abuse
- Drug abuse, unstable home environment
- Drug and alcohol abuse
- Drug and alcohol use, unrealistic expectations for relational partners.
- Drug use; isolation; peer pressure.
- Drug/Alcohol abuse (x2)
- Drug/alcohol abuse and feening for drug/alcohol but can't get their fix
- Drugs (x3)
- Drugs alcohol bad upbringing never taught right to respect woman too spoiled
- Drugs and alcohol (x8)
- Drugs, alcohol (x2)
- Drugs, alcohol, and upbringing
- Drugs, poverty, mental health or poor morals.
- Drugs
- Excessive alcohol, and unmonitored drug consumption
- Exposure to violence, ACES
• Frustration and insecurity
• Get the kids home by 10 so we do not have them running around.
• History of abuse cycle, substance abuse, pedophilia abuse increased by lack of child and adolescent programs.
• Impacts of historical trauma lack of resources for help (that’s same for a lot of places though)
• lack of accountability; minimal law enforcement action and a lax justice system.
• Learning it from other people and seeing that there may be no repercussions. Not learning how to express their feelings in healthy manners.
• Low self-esteem, unsolved trauma, too much time on their hands, for example no working due to a lack of education, criminal background, no transportation
• Mind altering substances: use of and need to acquire.
• No
• No activities
• Not enough activities.
• Parent’s or family members who drink alcohol or do drugs. People who are impoverished. There are a lot of reasons/
• People who are able-bodied but are not working and contributing to our community.
• Poor living style
• Poverty, trauma, substance abuse, isolation
• Raging alcoholism and poverty.
• Substance abuse
• Substance misuse, trauma, personal stressors, lack of access to resources, lack of community intervention/support.
• Substances and boredom
• The continued use of drugs and alcohol, and promoted acts of violence within homes
• Tweaking, triggered, untreated mental illness, knowing the cops can’t do anything about it, knowing you only get a slap on the wrist when you get caught,
• Unresolved grief being oppressed for generations not having resources to meet basic needs
• Unresolved trauma
• Upbringing, exposure to violence
• Yes. Personal insecurity and alcohol abuse.

CAN YOU THINK OF ANYTHING THAT MAY MAKE A PERSON IN DILLINGHAM LESS LIKELY TO COMMIT ACTS OF VIOLENCE? IF SO, WHAT ARE THOSE THINGS?

• A community talking center or line
• Active, working community members.
• Alcohol
• Alcohol and Drugs
• Anger classes, healthy management practices and hopefully a better economy in the future. Times are tough and it's not helping those with little to nothing.
• Anyone over 21+ years should probably smoke some weed.
• Being held viable for their actions
• Better community and place to stay.
• Better treatment facility.
• Church affiliation; community support groups
• Community activities that are of interest, more exercise opportunities to release/regulate emotions.
• Community involvement
• Community involvement, entertainment available.
• Community outreach, education
• Community shaming
• Community watch men
• Confidence, hope, and security
• Consequences for their actions. community support and treatment that addresses some of the hurt inside them that they are directing at others.
• Counseling, sorting out genuine feelings.
• Counselling & healthy family units
• easier access to behavioral health, example not waiting 3 to 4 weeks to get an appt or an assessment, more local advertising with contact numbers, more family-oriented community activities.
• Educating about violence to all ages. Before they start to date.
• Education and guidance"
• Education, police response/follow through and prosecution to the fullest extent possible.
• Educational indoctrination and cultural shift in its view of substance abuse/ violence. Opportunities to become more enriched in upper/middle class lifestyles and responsibilities. Laws/statutes that make it very difficult for residents to partake in violent acts.
• Feeling heard, removing barriers & shame when reaching out for resources & lots of outreach as to what is readily available to assist people.
• Feeling supported and safe.
• For younger adults more sober activities like a Rec center, movie theater, bowling, swimming pool etc. Also more access to mental health care and outreach to help with the stigma against mental health care to show how important and normal it is to need help
• Fresh air and community events
• Get a job, drinking sociably and just leaving relationships that are volatile.
• Getting a job, be part of or participate in subsistence activities, get treatment, stop drinking, take classes to understand reasons for violence.
• God
• Going to church, praying, getting help.
• Good family, good role models, school, community events.
• Good parents.
• Good self worth and love of yourself, good morals and ethics
• Greater accountability for violent actions and less community acceptance of those behaviors
• Have multiple venues of “exit” (Areas where one can express any joy, love, or even anger) where each individual is able to have a safe haven to express in a creative way. e.g. Weekly painting, chess competition, volleyball, basketball, archery, kickboxing, dancing, etc.
• Having housing food good health care love and support from family and community no matter what is happening in life.
• Having support and encouragement to further their education after high school. More healthy recreational activities available to the community.
• Healing
• Healthy outlets, safe places to get together and talk and do crafts, family activities not just things at the bars.
• If they sober
• If they were sober.
• informing the youth more often about what drugs and alcohol can do to you.
• Job, good support systems, positive activities,
• keep them occupied/swimming pool, recreation center, theater.
• Laws that protect Alaska native women against rape, dv.
• Local law enforcement, programs that offer resources on intimate partner violence like SAFE
• Love
• More activities for adults and teens too many spend a lot of their free time drinking.
• More community activities
• More community activities, better counseling for addiction
• More community engagement, a tribal justice program.
• More community/social activity areas, a place for people to be able to do things without having to spend money.
• More opportunities, anger management, & youth groups. A rec center is much needed. A movie theater, pool, & accessible work out rooms are needed.
• More sober activities for both adults and children
• More sober healthy activities to do.
• More social events (x2)
• More to do
• More to do, more community engagement, treatment centers, job opportunities
• N/A
• No (x2)
• Not using mind altering substances. Dealing with issues directly rather than numbing oneself.
• Our local police department should be better at arresting the drug dealers.
• Perhaps they’ve experienced violence in their own lives and don’t want to repeat that behavior.
• positive community activities, educational access, resources to address trauma and SUDs.
• Secure housing and community involvement
• sober activities, recreational center, traditional activities, drug abuse recovery programs
• Sobriety; getting counseling; taking responsibility for oneself.
• Spiritual beliefs, coping skills, anger management, mental health counseling, confidence building.
• Staying clean and sober. Storytelling, dancing, healthy relationships, community togetherness. We need more safe summer programs for families as a whole.
• Stronger community shunning
• Teaching people about alternative ways to handle situations that might get them in trouble, breaking the circle of learned behavior.
• The answer is blowing in the wind.
• Therapy, seeking family help, strong mentality.
• Treatment programs
• Unsure
• Working, spending time with family
• Yes. Self-love, vulnerability, responsible drinking, counseling, communication, and ego awareness.

WHAT THINGS ARE PRESENT IN THE COMMUNITY THAT CAN HELP PREVENT VIOLENCE FROM HAPPENING?

• ?
• AA meetings, church
• AA, Celebrate Recovery, Behavioral Health, SAFE
• Alcohol
• All the LE agencies and awareness of family and friends of the perpetrator.
• BBAHC, BBNA, BBEDC, BBHA, City of Dillingham, ALL local churches, DCSD, all local businesses: come together, begin planning family-oriented community activities, as more healthy things are happening, the more community members will begin volunteering.
• Better community

Can't expect violence from starting. It's bound to happen anytime soon. The abusers have to come forward in order TO BE HELPED. If not, then we may or may not know when the violence will stop.

• Church and the arts, school programs.
• Churches, Counseling,
• Community cook outs
• Community involvement
• Community support groups (both direct and indirect) such as SAFE, strong church groups that are active in the community and other groups that encourage education and alternative activities.

• Counseling
• Counseling services,
• Counseling, supportive community, nature, and positive role models.
• Cultural activities. Church. I'm not sure what else.
• Cutting down the trees in town. No hiding places for mischief. Always do things as a group.
• Drugs
• Drugs and alcohol
• Emotional support from friends and community members
• Family activity days - starting at the beginning. Mommy & me
• Family events promoting safety.
• Having a tight family connection
• Honestly, calling people out on Facebook and keeping those that act up in that way held accountable for their actions.
• Honestly, there are venues for when "after the act", but none that I can noticeably see that is geared towards "prevention."
• I'm not sure.
• Isolation, hopes, prayers.
• It's not what is available, it's what the individual decides to do. You can have everything available, and they might still conduct acts of violence.
• Jake's place
• Jake's place, community education
• Jobs, social services, Senior Center, Senior housing, churches, schools, university, subsistence activities, airlines & travel opportunities, hospital, stores, police, housing, and financial assistance. We are fortunate to have so many opportunities.

• Law enforcement
• Law enforcement, faith based, SAFE.
• Law enforcement, prevention programs that educate.
• Make use of the Littlefoot build for activities to be held at?
• More gathering events to build bonds.
• More social activities, getting people to socialize.
• MySpace and SAFE
• MySpace for kids...idk what for adults
• Not a whole lot. I feel that we can work on our public outreach.
• Not enough morals teaching disciplining from a young age. kids not taught right raised in tough households. lots of lack of parenting
• Not much
• Not much to be honest, maybe the crisis lines
• Not much we need a community center.
• Not sure
• Nothing
• Nothing
• Nothing, SAFE does try and educate.
• Our ancestral community structure and teachings
• Our community would be lost without SAFE. I am so thankful for this organization. I wish we had something similar for young men and teens who are suffering from DV and SA in their homes by. But I am extremely grateful for SAFE.
• Police presence
• Pot shops
• Psychiatry
• Really, there is nothing in this world that can prevent violence. It is a person commuting this act. Try Love, but it takes years of love in families to change behaviors.
• SAFE (x4)
• SAFE and family intervention
• SAFE and hospital
• SAFE for sure, but how about a skateboard park at the ice rink in the summer. Swim program at Aleknagik in summer. Give kids hope, adults too but mainly kids
• SAFE outreach building, AA etc.
• SAFE shelter
• SAFE, behavioral health and substance abuse treatment programs, 'safe' homes - families that welcome others into their home when fleeing violent or potentially violent situations. Community members that don’t tolerate behaviors that lead to violent tendencies.
• SAFE, but that's mainly for women. High school events, summer events, community members who spy on people and tattle to their parents, or family.
• SAFE, education efforts, sharing of resources, opportunities to heal and learn.
• SAFE, MySpace, behavioral health, jakes place, psychiatry for outpatient services and subsistence activities.
• Sober activities
• Some resources, Jake’s Place & SAFE to name a few. Prevention is everywhere too.
• Strong community with strong moral values
• Stronger community involvement and shunning
• The admission of the person to know their actions.
• There are a variety of activities that do not include substance use. Sports activities, subsistence activities.
• Too few things.
• traditional activities, drug abuse recovery programs
• Unknown
• Violence comes in many forms, physical, mental, individuals who do it must make that decision within themselves not to do it. They need to understand where it comes from.
• We need the youth center back for our kids.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE BARRIERS VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE EXPERIENCE IN SEEKING HELP?

• Abusers will put their victims through anything to keep their victims in their possession. Making the victims think there’s no way out of this situation and making the victims hopeless and continuing the violence behind close doors.
• Anonymity
• Ashamed, too drunk to remember.
• Bad cops.
• Being afraid of what others would say.
• Being scared.
• Confidentiality
• Connection with their abuser, lack of resources, lack of support, lack of information for what can help.
• Don’t know where to get help.
• Don’t want to ask for help.
• Embarrassment (caring what other people think), Pressure from family, Lack of self worth, Insecurity.
• Embarrassment, lack of economic options.
• Embarrassment, shame, feeling like no one will care or can do anything.
• Everyone is taught to just keep quiet most times or they immediately blast it on social media and other people make fun or judge them and it gets worse
• Everyone knows each other. It’s a pretty small community.
• Everyone knows everyone, not knowing there is help.
• Family dynamics, financial dependence, lack of housing availability.
• family members, not being self sufficient.
• Family traditions, no place to live.
• Fear (x3)
- FEAR from repercussion. And specially for males, the stigma of being seen as weak if they report it
- Fear of retaliation. If someone reports and nothing is done, then the abuser is more empowered. I see this in child abuse.
- Fear that their abuser will only spend and night in jail. Court dropping charges or lesser charges.
- Fear, embarrassment, shame.
- Fear, nowhere to turn or go.
- Fear, stigma, lack of confidence in standing up for self and lack of knowledge about available resources.
- Feeling discouraged and shamed for asking for help.
- Feeling ill-equipped to live without their perpetrator.
- Generational violence in family is harder to break. Lack of self-confidence
- Guilt, shame, fear, & embarrassment. Also, not knowing what services are available or unable to focus to remember who to call.
- I love the time is domestic, so they have no place to go or no support, or like the education to where to find the support.
- I do not know.
- Insecurity in housing, income, food, etc - dependency
- Knowledge; strength; told to be quiet.
- Lack of available education and resources. Prominent drug/ETOH abuse with few (not enough) choices for treatment. No active/healthy bridge programs for those coming out of incarceration to transition back into the community in a healthy way. No DV psychoeducation programs for offenders/victims available in region that meet court order requirements.
- Lack of confidentiality or the perception of.
- Lack of places to go or people to turn to lack of money bear such as race age gender.
- Maybe lying
- Mental health problems, fear, no access or awareness to help.
- Mistrust
- N/A
- No one believing them.
- No resources for counseling or mental health. That or no advertising for any of it. I’ve never seen a mental health flier in my entire life in Dillingham.
- No safe place to hide.
- Nobody listening, law enforcement not working diligently enough, also people need to cry out for help more and louder.
- Not being able to get help.
- Not being heard. Justice not served. Being scared that if they talk then they will continue to be abused.
• Not feeling they are worthy.
• Not finding their voice, or finding a way to speak up for themselves.
• Not having someone they can trust in
• Not knowing how to define help. Lack of Social acceptability in changing situation. Pride.
• Normalization of violence
• Not wanting to share, afraid of recourse
• Other family members
• Privacy
• Relatives, mostly.
• Repercussions - Small community means everyone knows your business, make situation worse, affect others close to the situation.
• Reputation among families in a small town
• Safe
• Scared
• Scared of abuser getting away with it. Not being believed. Scared of law enforcement. No one they trust.
• Scared to be ashamed and or alone.
• Self-shame, lack of trust in the systems we have in place, hopelessness, settling with the situation because they feel as if they have no way out
• Shame (x2)
• Shame and fear of not being believed.
• Shame and guilt; Not aware of how to get help. Many victims of domestic violence don’t realize what is happening to them and think it’s a normal thing.
• Shame, legal process, housing options, access to birth control, financial assistance: it is NOT available equally to everyone.
• Small town everyone know everyone and guilt.
• Stigma
• Stigma of speaking up, people not believing survivors. no consequences for their abusers making it scarier to speak up. feeling like they don’t have options, or don’t have the support they need.
• Stigma, murder, small town distrust
• Talking to service people and doctors
• The courts
• The possibility of becoming homeless, having no income, the lack of convictions or accountability on previous cases in the state of Alaska devouring people from calling the police, worries of not being believed, the small-town shit talk on victims of violence
• There are no consequences for perpetrators.
• There is no housing for them to go to. The only option is safe or friends family.
• They are no longer in control of their own lives, the perpetrators are.
• They feel trapped in a relationship, immediate place of safety not available, threats.
• Victim blaming and lateral violence and oppression.
• What family or friends will say or do. Embarrassed or ashamed. They feel that they did something to deserve it. There is a barrier for new people or teachers coming in. Southwest regional school has a book all their teachers have to read before they start school. We need teachers to be here in early July to do community involvement and get to know the culture.

**ARE THERE EVER SITUATIONS IN DILLINGHAM WHERE PEOPLE TOLERATE VIOLENCE? WHAT ARE THOSE SITUATIONS?**

• ?
• Act as normal
• Alcohol situations
• Because some people feel they don’t want to get their families trouble, or no clear communications, some people don’t know how to communicate what they are feeling. The legal system needs to be understood.
• Between family members
• By the bars and liquor stores.
• Child abuse and neglect. Sexual violence against children
• Domestic violence
• Downtown in the summer. Schools where students have been exposed to different things. We need more aides that love our students. But not follow students around all day. The aide becomes one-on-one with their teacher. So, the students get a different team for every class. It also helps teachers and students get the most out of their day.
• Drinking
• Drinking situations.
• Families not seeking help or shelter elsewhere.
• Family
• Family groups that chose not to expose other family members out of fear of shame or criticism.
• Family members, lack of self-worth, respect
• Fear of being alone
• Heck yeah - it happens in families constantly. It’s part of the “norm” here.
• I believe so. In private settings. Within specific groups if people who tolerate or participate in violence.
• I can only speak for myself, my motto is: see it, hear it, report it, advertise more openly about the importance of all of us as a community to be more involved
• I don’t know. (x3)
• I don’t know. I guess it has been normalized in family dynamics.
• I have seen schools tolerate bullying.
• I imagine family members turn a blind eye at times to violence within there family
• I plead the 5th amendment.
• I'd say so. Attitudes of people looking the other way because they think a victim chooses to stay with an abuser and it’s pointless to speak out or stick up for them and call the police
• If people feel they have no options, they tend to stay. We really need outreach services to unite & work together & be loudly proactive, getting the word out...we are not necessarily "meeting people where they are at". The question is "who are we not reaching?" & why aren't we...start there.
• I've never experienced any.
• Lots of people don't understand that fighting in front of kids is abuse, they think it's okay as long as the kids aren't physically getting hurt. People think it's normal, so they don't say or do anything.
• Maybe when they have nowhere to go, or no way out.
• N/A (x3)
• No (x2)
• No other place to go, not wanting to enter a shelter and/or leave their family
• No positive reason. Plan an escape.
• No where else to go, don’t know they are experiencing violence
• Not knowing how to break free.
• Not personally aware of anything.
• Not sure (x2)
• Probably. Families with children and not wanting to split up. Places to go after or where to live.
• Relationship
• Relationships (x2)
• Relationships, families
• Relatives.
• Several situations where cops take a long time to respond to DV, no follow though from law enforcement and court system.
• So many families with children and elders have at least one active alcoholic in the household that makes everyone unsafe.
• Standing up against serious crimes
• They don't have anywhere to go and don't think anyone will help them.
• Uncertain
• Unsure (x2)
• When family members or friends know violence is happening but unsure how to give support with regulars to the victims wishes
• When it's a police officer or the person has more influence in a small town and fear of retribution
• When it's their friend or family or someone they think of as a respectable community member committing the violence - making excuses for them, or not believing that they would do something like that. Or when the survivor is someone, they view with less respect. People make jokes about domestic violence in relationships which normalizes it.

• When the perpetrator is known to be the sole/majority breadwinner

• When their family members do it, people who are related to highly respected individuals, when they do it themselves, or when someone does it TO them and the victim "loves them."

• Within the family

• Women are prone to stay in abusive relationships due to homelessness, and not being able to be independently supportive with self due to the abusive partner not letting the victims be independent. Causing them to be in an endless pattern.

• Women tolerate because of socioeconomic situations.

• Yes! when they’re bystanders. occurs when the victim feels threatened or is scared to report for any number of reasons, including perceived self-guilt. Alcohol seems to often be a variable in these situations and excuses are made... "it’s ok, they were drunk," or "They’re really stressed." Going through the court system (i.e., protective orders) to get someone to stop harassing or stalking can be exhaustive and hard on the petitioner.

• Yes, among married and unmarried couples.

• Yes, domestic, sexual, drug addiction, and bullying.

• Yes, every day at work and school as well as in relationships.

• Yes, fear of retaliation.

• Yes, for some it’s a norm in a sense or a blind eye is turned. It’s hard to feel comfortable to intervene but it’s important we start taking care of one another.

• Yes, in crowds where all are abusing drugs and alcohol.

• Yes, there are many cases, especially sexual abuse of minors.

• Yes, when it’s a house party and they are too drugged up or drunk to give a fuck.

• Yes, when people are ‘popular’ people are afraid to speak up.

• Yes, when you depend on your partner for housing, financial, and food.

• Yes. In their homes.

• Yes. Male to male silverback gorilla fighting. Male on female lack of submission violence. Female on male disrespect violence. Parent to child disrespect, lack of submission violence. Child to child disrespect, silverback gorilla, lack of submission violence. Violence comes in all forms but in my opinion can be narrowed down to three subcategories most of the time: Violence from disagreements in money, sex, and family.
IN YOUR OPINION, WHAT ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS YOU THINK CAN BE DONE IN DILLINGHAM TO HELP PREVENT VIOLENCE FROM EVER HAPPENING TO SOMEONE IN THE FIRST PLACE?

- A big thing is having healthy activities for families to do things where the parents don’t need to have childcare to join. I would love to see a community center where people can do crafts and activities together as a family or where kids can be there, I would even donate things to something like that. A safe drug and alcohol-free place.
- A larger police presence more proactive police force that actually patrol the main roads but even cruising the secluded neighborhoods especially while people are working or late at night.
- A safe place for humans to socialize.
- aa or rehab center
- Acceptance of self
- Address racism trauma oppression and lateral violence
- Awareness
- Awareness and education
- Being educated and a change in the Alaska legal system
- Better OCS services, more services for men, more services for women who experience emotional abuse.
- Build a bigger jail/ add more officers.
- Community education regarding conflict resolution skills
- Community outreach, teach children about violence prevention and emotional control.
- Create opportunities for community to maintain healthy lifestyles via money, sex, and family. Educate the community in these areas.
- Dillingham is a relatively small community where everyone knows or even related to everyone. Yet, there is not a regular community meeting to openly discuss present and ongoing issues, and hopefully, strategic planning on how to resolve these without the fear of repercussion.
- Don’t know (x2)
- Drugs and alcohol
- Early childhood education around healthy relationships and those relationships being modeled.
- Educate about right and wrong from childhood age, assure community resources are well known and accessible.
- Educate both sexes.
- Educate young people early. Plus educate how to safely get away.
- Education (x3)
- Education and an increased sense of community investment and pride.
- Education and good self-worth and morals
- Education and intervention
• Education awareness, maybe even limiting alcohol sales
• Education individuals and families on all levels.
• Education on available resources. People being aware of what is happening to friends or family members and intervening.
• Education, advertisement.
• Education, community involvement.
• Education. Making sure people understand that violence is not the norm.
• Gathering evidence from the beginning to use against the accused during court for domestic violence. If victims can catch them hands, then the perpetrators should catch a fkn case.
• Give them a place to get help and be one of those people.
• Good upbringing.
• Having a caring community.
• Healing trauma & intergenerational trauma.
• Healing. Community connection and support. Education on how to heal trauma and how trauma impacts a person.
• I am not sure.
• I wish I had an answer for this one.
• Improve the following: education system; availability and accessibility to healthy food, water, shelter, and stable economic opportunities. reduce household overcrowding. Develop a culture where violent behaviors are consistently not tolerated. enforce violations of smaller crimes.
• In the trenches outreach. Make it easy for people to reach out, which means, normalize those conversations & make access equal to anyone seeking help or answers. Dillingham is cosmetically UGLY. Looks rundown & dirty & has for decades. The whole town needs a coat of paint. If your own town looks rundown & the powers that be, can't use their efforts to create beauty, what message are they sending?
• Letting people know there is help.
• Looking for situationships where a couple or family member is using and abusing alcohol and lashing out on spouse, family etc.
• More active activities for people to attend.
• more arrests and awareness for victims
• More awareness events.
• More education about how each person involved is affected.
• More people speaking up.
• More shelters, treatment options.
• More things to do.
• N/A
• No alcohol.
• Not drinking heavily around your family members.
• Outreach and making it comfortable to talk about.
• Outreach/prevention/education. Mental health care.
• Parents talk to your babies early. Early childhood development for all preschoolers. Library programs and more early childhood programs for families. When they become teens, it is harder to reach them.
• People being nicer to each other.
• Prevention materials and information being brought to the school district and talking with kiddos and their families about healthy relationships and what they can do if they recognize violence in the community.
• Psychoeducation and early intervention preventative programming would be a good start. But I believe this community will not solve the violence problem until all those in leadership positions (all the "BB's" and the city and the tribes) can get together and work towards a solution for much of the underlying problems in this community which need to be addressed in unity and harmony. Leaders collaborating and working together; this is the key. Everyone needs to stop fighting with each other and work together. I think when that can happen, healing will begin and be possible. But, until then, everyone will sit in their own corner doing their little part, thinking they’re right and everyone else is wrong, and it won’t ever be enough to address the monumental problems of this community.
• Self-improvement education. Developing self-love.
• Separating yourself from people likely to commit violence.
• Spreading awareness. And a safe place for victims.
• Stay away from the alcohol drug crowd. Has someone ever hit someone high on weed?
• Staying sober.
• Stopping the generational trauma and abuse.
• Stronger consequences, more victim protection, longer jail times.
• Supporting family/community ties.
• Take control of your life. Make better choices. Take responsibility.
• Talk early and often about this - this needs to start earlier and more than one conversation a year in school.
• Talking feelings out. Making sure that people are aware that those type of things are not okay.
• Teach our youth to speak up. Not to keep quiet. If someone tells you not to tell your parents, it is always a bad thing.
• Teach people to choose their companions, friends, and associates wisely. Teach people to conduct themselves in ways that limit their vulnerability.
• Teaching boundaries and healthy habits and relationships in school before they become an abuser. Making sure someone with anger issues gets classes offered if they are caught causing violence.
• Unknown
• Work with families to learn and support them in breaking the cycle of violence/poverty/etc.
• Zero tolerance. Speak up, speak out.

CAN YOU THINK OF ANY PROGRAMS OR EFFORTS THAT CURRENTLY EXIST IN DILLINGHAM TO PREVENT VIOLENCE FROM HAPPENING? WHAT ARE THOSE PROGRAMS?

• ?
• 4-H, after-school programs, Myspace, BBAHC Color run DLG 842Rocks. Middle schoolers want a skate park. But the insurance for one would be crazy.
• AA, church services.
• AA, churches, safe etc.
• BBAHC and SAFE are doing what they can.
• BBAHC, BBNA, tribe, SAFE
• BOAT. Everything SAFE does. Local treatment programs at the hospital.
• Churches?
• Counseling. Positive role models.
• Counseling; SAFE.
• I am not sure.
• I can’t think of any.
• I don’t know (x5)
• I feel like the programs that are trying to be involved with the community doesn’t really work out or make a noticeable difference on the community. Victims are still punching bags later on. Make that make sense.
• I think there might be things at the hospital or at SAFE, or at school.
• I’m starting to see wellness gatherings happening and I think it is great.
• Jake’s Place, SAFE Programs, Opioid Prevention, Curyung Tribal Council, BBNA, & many more.
• More Community activities.
• MySpace. Children’s therapy groups.
• N/A
• Need programs. Possibly BBNA.
• No (x6)
• No, all I know is the programs that SAFE offers.
• Not necessarily.
• Not really
• Not sure. (x2)
• Not sure if any program can prevent violence.
• Not sure, maybe programs through BBAHC? Not sure what they offer anymore, I know they’re active in opioid addiction prevention.
• Opioid prevention work from BBAHC staff SAFE & tribes
• People don’t want to see the cause of their own actions.
• Perhaps something available through BBNA or SAFE
• Police department
• SAFE (x13)
• SAFE and behavioral health
• SAFE and fundraising efforts to support SAFE.
• SAFE and hospital, hotline
• SAFE has a shelter - it’s hush hush though it seems. It just exists. Get it out into the community.
• SAFE has prevention programs. 4-H use to have more activities for kids that help them.
• SAFE has some, churches occasionally.
• SAFE is doing the best they can to offer support to those who are already experiencing violence. I’m not sure what their preventative programming entails, though. And I don’t think I’ve seen really anything else on the preventative side. This would require the leadership in this community to ask, “Why DV exists at all?” and then be willing to hear ALL the answers to that question, and hold the space for all the possible solutions, and not just fixate on one.
• SAFE is it as far as I know. Perhaps some assistance from local churches.
• SAFE shelter and their afterschool program. The Christian youth center.
• SAFE, BBAHC
• SAFE, BBAHC’s Bristol Bay Counseling Center, Opioid prevention program; Jake’s Place
• SAFE, Behavioral Health, Jake’s Place, BBAHC, BBNA.
• SAFE, hospital inpatient, etc.
• SAFE, Jake’s Place
• SAFE, MySpace, SISTRS, AA, Al-Anon
• SAFE, school sponsored activities to educate/engage youth, 4H activities that promote a sense of pride and responsibility, large number of churches and many have associated activities to promote human kindness & respect,
• SAFE and BBNA’s tribal men’s wellness program.
• Sisters
• Sisters’ meetings. AA meetings.
• This one survey ;)
• Unsure
• Youth center game nights.

WHAT ARE SOME POSITIVE ATTRIBUTES ABOUT DILLINGHAM THAT COULD HELP EFFORTS TO PREVENT VIOLENCE?

• A lot of helpful willing people.
• Beautiful place, community support.
• Buddy system when walking around town. Church.
• Can’t think of any.
• Childcare services.
• Close community.
• Community building w/culture. The fish project throughout town is very powerful and has lasted a long time. The fish are everywhere and it’s obvious many participated. Continue these projects.
• Community- everyone wants to help their neighbors.
• Community togetherness. People coming together here in our town is always a positive thing
• Community, school, elders.
• Dillingham is innately beautiful. Mother nature has blessed these lands with so much. A focus on the actual improvement of the city as a whole with the help and participation of its residents with advice (without political agendas) from those that are knowledgeable on how to do it.... This city could be a safe haven for all seeking shelter from oppression or persecution.
• Education, awareness.
• Fishing, camping, picnics, Kanakanak Beach. We miss the Twin Lakes for toddlers. Would make a safe place for young families.
• Getting outside and enjoying our beautiful surroundings.
• Good community effort.
• Healing.
• How much the community cares about victims and how much they dont care about abusers.
• I believe the people of this community genuinely want a healthy community and are trying. I just don’t think they know how to get there, and the perspective is limited.
• I don’t know (x2)
• I’m not sure anymore honestly.
• It is a small community and people like to help each other.
• It is easy to get involved in wholesome activities. Volunteers are always needed.
• It’s mostly a tight knit community. There are a lot of people that care.
• Kind people, engaging community
• A large segment of the population appears to be invested in the community. Post COVID pandemic, folks are still sort of emotionally tired but willing to help.
• Lots of jobs and opportunities.
• More options for traditional healing or getting back into the Subsistence Way of Life.
• Nature, culture, family, friends.
• No alcohol.
• None.
• Not sure (x3)
- Noted previously.
- Our love for each other's kids and families.
- Outdoor events, sports.
- Peaceful, outdoors activities
- People are willing to help.
- People want to help but don't know how to let others know they are willing to help
- People who care & want to make changes need to be allowed to.
- Police department, social pressure that condemns violence/abuse
- Positive role models.
- SAFE
- Small community with a big heart. We all want to be better for each other and are hopeful for healing and growth. Resources for healing and safety available.
- Small community; captive audience; demonstrated ability to take a position, unit, and stand together to fight for a cause (i.e., Pebble mine, borough formation).
- Small town atmosphere people try to watch out for each other.
- Staying home and not going to bars.
- Strong community, if more people could be educated and had the willingness to help.
- Strong community with people who care about each other. With that being said, sometimes people with their miserable lives only have gossip to keep them going and that's what they do. I think the stigma around “fucking up” needs to go down or something. It is good to be accountable for your actions, but the extreme shame factor is utter bullshit.
- Strong religious base.
- Stronger and longer sentences.
- Subsistence
- Surveys
- That we have SAFE, behavioral health and law enforcement.
- The community.
- The community and Native values.
- The companies and people coming together.
- The native culture traditionally doesn’t condone violence, more culturally based events.
- There are many spiritual resources here for the community, which could make a difference. Behavioral health services are possible, but more clinicians are needed to manage the waitlist. Talking circles are also helpful.
- Traditional Alaskan Native activities
- Train police about domestic violence situations. Over and over.
- Unknown (x2)
- Unsure
- Walking and community gathering
- We are a strong town when we combine resources and help together collaboration :)

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• We have a beautiful town, in my opinion it’s the crown jewel of our state, we have wonderful people in our community, we can all come together, someone just has to steer us together.
• We have a good sense of communication, but we need to start working on creating a stronger connection to feel safe about reaching out for help.
• We have a strong cultural influence.
• We have a strong, tight-knit community. More public awareness of the problem might help get people together on the issue.
• We have the BBAHC mental health here and SAFE.
• We used to have places for youth to play. Now we have overgrown unmanaged fields, toys and play sets in poor conditions.

WHAT QUESTION WOULD YOU HAVE LIKED TO HAVE BEEN ASKED? AND YOUR ANSWER TO IT.

• ?
• Are you willing to volunteer to assist? My answer is yes.
• Can we afford a nice Center with activities for teens and middle schoolers? Something with an open floor plan. Could Dillingham have a strict summer curfew for kids under 17 unless out with an adult?
• Do people have hope? I believe people do & want to create a great community & at the same time, they are told “no” constantly, one barrier after another until they finally just give up, and a great majority take their future & family OUT of Dillingham. So many great people have left because they just get tired of the b.s.
• Do you know how/who to report violence to? Who are mandatory reporters?
• Do you think a community center with activities like a pool or maybe even a movie theater?
• Has residents’ willingness to volunteer in the community grown or declined? My answer is that it appears to have declined and not sure if it’s related to the pandemic or other things. Volunteering is an excellent way to create pride and a sense of ownership in things within the community and in the community in general. And it provides outlets for socializing and activities that might discourage alcohol/drugs and violence.
• How can I help facilitate a community activity? How can I give input?
• How can we all better promote equity and shine a light on white supremacy?
• How can we help stop drug addiction? We can have AA like meetings and coping strategies, a ready line (phone number) for people that want to get clean.
• How can we help the youth how can we teach young men against violence towards women?
• How can YOU become more involved in our community? If people start sober family-oriented community events, not only will I attend, but I will volunteer.
• How do I feel about our law enforcement here? Do I feel they are doing their job? Answer: I’m not confident with them, they don’t take their jobs seriously, they are judgmental. They absolutely do not do their job to keep our community safe.
• How do we make this community better? Will it ever get better? How do we get the younger generations to grow up and become better community members?
• How do you survive in a violent situation and still live in the same town? For the children.
• How do you think we could teach people to improve themselves mentally and physically? Workshops involving community role models. Invite outside professional speakers who specialize in self-improvement.
• I don’t know. (x2)
• I feel like this question isn’t relevant.
• I just think that a lot of the issues in this town with addiction/violence stems from home life. And it seems to just be generation repeat. If people were being taught right from wrong, how to care for themselves and their children, basic work ethics at a young age it would go a long way.
• I would have liked to have more questions about emotional abuse and violence against children. I included my answers in the questions above.
• If I knew someone personally that have experienced any of these things and how many. I know four people who have been molested or raped as a child.
• It’s difficult not to think about how violence is committed against natives more than other populations at a much higher rate. Part of it feels tied up in racism and discrimination, and targeting of us when many of us are in vulnerable states on our own healing journeys. there are undercurrents of white supremacy and misogyny and sexism that run deep in Dillingham that go unchecked or are swept under the rug. even accepting the little things people try to brush off as jokes add up to create an environment where people feel comfortable discriminating and treating people as less than. All of it contributes to the violence.
• Kids need good upbringing. We can’t be raised to be entitled and spoiled. The other side is we can’t be raised around lack of parenting with substance abuse household. Parenting does a lot with it, I think.
• Law enforcement and court actual involvement, what have they experienced?
  • N/A (x7)
  • None (x5)
  • Not sure.
  • Nothing (x2)
• How can you protect people from violence? Tell everyone about what you see. Don’t be afraid. Keep going until someone listens to you! You survived; you are strong enough.
• Rate community needs
• Should alcohol be banned in Dillingham? Yes.
• What can we do to improve safety and decrease the increase in crime rates.
• What could be done about child abuse? A more proactive and engaged OCS department, and utilization of local resources for prosecution and family services. BBNA and CAC.
• What difference we can make?
• Where can I get help funding a recycling center for Dillingham?
• Who to call and when.
• With all this federal and state funding we seem to be getting higher numbers or do we give more merit to those doing wrong vs what people are doing good. I think we need to get strong laws for the drugs (dealers) that are coming into our region.
• Would you utilize the resources provided by SAFE if needed? Yes.

WHAT OTHER INSIGHTS DO YOU HAVE REGARDING VIOLENCE IN DILLINGHAM AND HOW WE SHOULD PREVENT IT?

• A lot of violence gets passed down through generations. Often, I’ve noticed children become aggressors like their parents or whoever they were raised by. The old saying, "you learn what you live" seems to ring true.
• Abuse
• Again, awareness
• Alcohol
• Asking questions, checking on family and friends on how they are feeling.
• BBNA, BBAHC, BBHA, tribes, city, safe, schools and other entities must work Together. Or work better together it seems one or two entities are doing their jobs and the other entities suck!!!!! Need to be all on the page on what the other is doing. My god so much money coming in for services.
• Better community would help prevent it.
• Better response times, more accurate information for victims, understanding of long court dates, courts dismissing charges and releasing abusers back into community.
• Bringing awareness around mental and physical health (personal development). Empathy for others (everybody is battling something, you’re not the only one).
• Cannot stress childhood education enough.
• Constant wellness checks from the DPD. Gives DPD to do their job.
• Continuing education. Maybe more education on bullying, especially among young people but also relevant to adults.
• Ensure that schools don’t tolerate it.
• Give people a reason to be proud, show them a good future is possible, allow them to feel safe.
• Go for the youth! Get in the schools and talk about it so kids can know what’s right and wrong from a young age and can hopefully speak up if those things ever happen to them or someone they love.
Healing, connection, and community strength are the roots of prevention.

I am a mandatory reporter and HAVE tried reporting a possible child abuse situation. Tried calling the number for CPS that I found online. Voicemail. Tried multiple days. No answer. Even asked counseling at the hospital what number they would use. Voicemail. No answer. No follow up. Which is downright shameful.

I am a survivor of domestic violence, we can, and we do overcome, let’s all come together and get love grown in our community, not for a select few, but for all of us, lets educate.

I don’t think it’s possible to “end violence” in any city, completely. Substance use and anger issues will always be a problem, especially when individuals who struggle are not open to getting help with mental health needs.

I thank you for all that you do. It is definitely a bigger problem than the general population is willing to accept.

I think a lot of the violence that happens is because of learned behavior. If we figure out how to break the circle, maybe there will be less violence.

I think effort should be placed on mental health, and assistance. You can’t fix a problem unless you address where / how it started.

I think getting away from that substance abuse. I think we need to it takes a town to raise a kid. help some of those kids who seem to not have a chance. Especially if it’s a family friends kid a relative a neighbor. take them to dinners lunches and teach them values. let them do chores for money. Teach them about life. It helped me I could have been an addict or a bad drunk but here I am working a job and striving for better. It is possible. we need to help those at risk.

I think people should open up more about things they experienced. More efficient and effective police

It takes the whole family; it takes the whole community to be educated and honest about what is happening.

Keep educating kids in schools.

More awareness and easy to access in a second when put in a situation of being harmed.

More community activities

N/A (x3)

Need to educate people to leave situations where violence occurs and once violence happens mandate perpetrators to take classes to help them deal with there violent tendencies.

Never give up on the children and be available for them always.

No

None (x3)

Not sure.

Nothing (x2)

Our language, culture, stories and ceremonies have all the information we need.
• People need to be held accountable and probably home life growing up could be better. Poor decisions are made, some generation after generation of local residents.
• Put people in jail longer for it.
• Restricting alcohol consumption offer more alcohol-free entertainment.
• Speak up!!
• Spread the word - more outreach. It's always the same people at these things and I wonder why.
• Start with proper education with the young. They are the future, they will either continue the cycle, or learn to rise above it and break it. Mediocre education needs to NOT be the NORM.
• stealing, buy cameras and put them around your property or in your house.
• There needs to be more effort to bring those who needs it the most. It seems like people who don’t need the activities are the ones participating in it.
• There should be a police officer devoted to responding all times like our animal control officer.
• Violence is a culture of human response. You will continue to have violence if you have a culture that accepts it as a part of life.
• We need more public infrastructure that promotes healthy community engagement. Look into the Prevention Institute’s work on Community Trauma and Resilience framework. I did my master’s thesis on this and the idea of placemaking as a way to reduce negative mental health outcomes in communities that experience community trauma. The hard part is getting stakeholders, particularly the city, to work towards making lasting and meaningful change.
• We need more things for our people to do. More outreach & just be patient & have faith things won’t always be this way.
• We need to clean up places people go to do drugs and other stuff. If they can’t hide, they will not go there? Safe places are open places.
• We should be able to put the people who are abusive on blast on all social medias, to make sure other people are aware of them.