

# Reducing the Risk: Sexual education for Pinedale, WY adolescents

Brittany Myers ♦ University of Washington School of Medicine ♦ 2015 ♦ RUOP III

## Purpose

The purpose of this intervention is to increase sexual education and knowledge of STD testing resources in Pinedale, Wyoming in hopes of decreasing rates of STDs and teen pregnancy.



Pinedale, Wyoming at the base of the Wind River Mountains.

## Methods

- Conversations with students and community members revealed insufficient sexual education for adolescents
- Clinical observations showed a lack of STD testing resources
- Introduction to the “Reduce the Risk” director and program
- Literature review identified program as a successful, evidence based, high school sexual education program

## Results

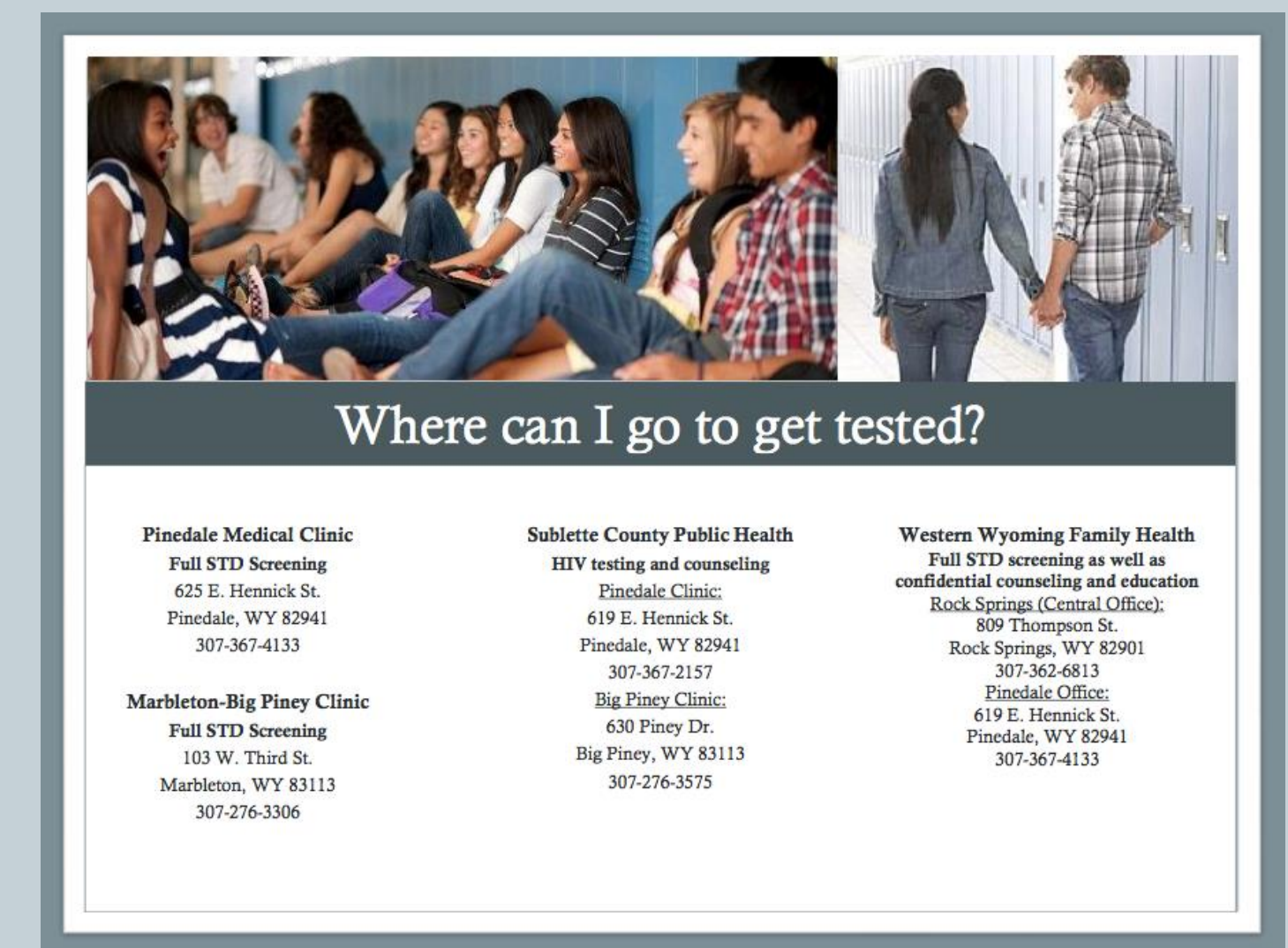
- Community health plan includes:
  - Present information about “Reduce the Risk” program to school district superintendent and high school health teacher
  - Develop and distribute brochure with current STD testing resources to the community
- Various community members, the superintendent and health teacher were receptive about the potential of implementing the “Reduce the Risk” program
- Health teacher plans on contacting the state health department for more information
- Public health, the medical clinic, and health teacher are making brochures available for students and community members

## Background

- Pinedale, Wyoming is a small town of approximately 2000 people within isolated Sublette County.
- Within Sublette County there is a 29.8% increase in teen pregnancies as opposed to a statewide increase of 2% over the past 12 years.

County	Rate from 2000-2005	Rate from 2006-2012	Rate % change
Albany	14.2	13.3	-6.5
Big Horn	47.3	35.8	-24.4
Campbell	44.9	55.3	23.0
Carbon	49.4	53.8	8.9
Converse	36.1	44.6	23.4
Crook	33.9	41.7	23.1
Fremont	59.7	68.6	14.9
Goshen	34.4	33.8	-1.5
Hot Springs	30.8	17.3	-43.7
Johnson	14.8	30.9	108.6
Laramie	50.2	49.3	-1.8
Lincoln	29.3	32.5	10.8
Natrona	51.8	47.3	-8.5
Niobrara	N/A	21.5	N/A
Park	24.7	24.9	0.9
Platte	46.0	30.4	-34.0
Sheridan	32.0	29.3	-8.6
Sublette	28.8	37.4	29.8
Sweetwater	49.7	52.1	4.8
Teton	37.0	26.7	-27.9
Uinta	43.5	42.8	-1.6
Washakie	33.9	40.2	18.5
Weston	30.0	41.3	38.0
Wyoming	41.5	42.4	2.0

County Teen Birth rates per 1,000 girls age 15-19 from 2000-2005 and 2006-2012 with percent rate change, Wyoming



Inner leaflet of STD testing resource brochure

## Discussion

- With wide-spread community and school staff support, the possibility of implementation looks positive
- Pinedale being a conservative town could raise potential concern when attempting to implement this new curriculum education
- Planning follow up with health teacher on implementation of program and usefulness of brochure in fall

## Acknowledgements

The Sublette county public health office, the Big Piney High school nurse Tonia Hoffman, and the Adolescent Health Program Manager for the Wyoming Department of health Shelly Barth, were all so helpful with by supplying me with support and advice making this project possible.