

Objectives

- Understand why and how Safe in the Village (SITV) was developed
- Understand the key messages covered in SITV

The Need

- Alaskan youth experience high rates of sexually transmitted Diseases (STDs)
- STDs increase the risk of acquiring HIV
- If not treated STDs can have long term negative health outcomes
- Good news – prevention works!
- AN youth have lack access to evidence-based sexual health programs that are culturally and age appropriate

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Overview

Goal

Create a culturally and age appropriate healthy relationship and sexual health program for Alaska Native high school aged youth

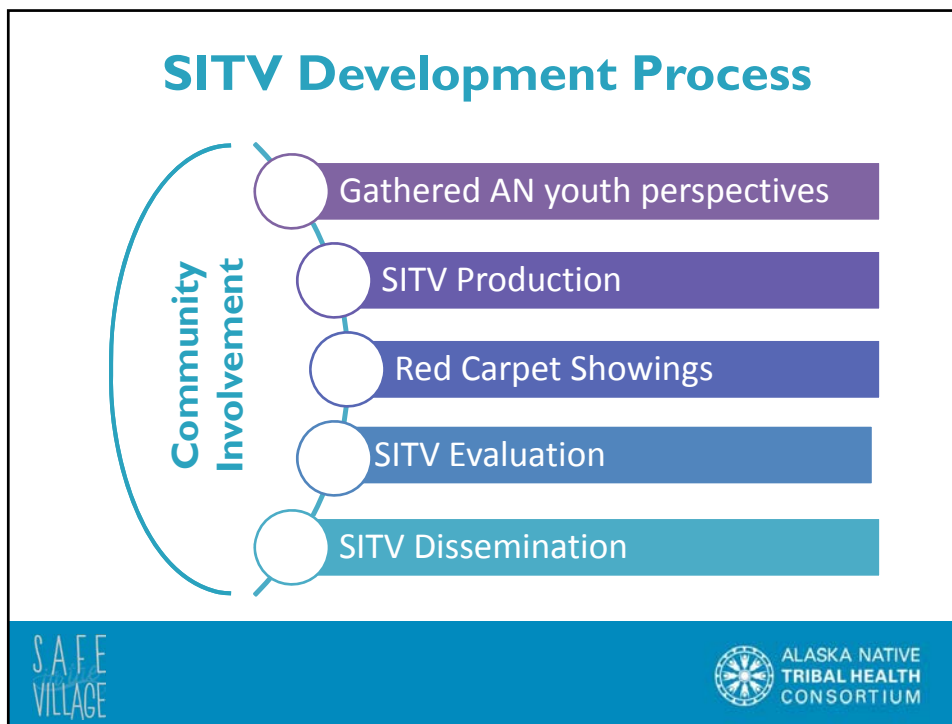
How?

- Understand sexual norms and risk/protective factors
- Use youth perspectives to develop a program that is relevant and meaningful for AN youth in rural communities
- Produce a program that is short and easily implemented
- Find out if the sexual health program changes self-reported knowledge, attitudes, perceptions and behaviors

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Gathering of AN Youth Perspectives

- Alaska Area IRB approval and tribal approvals (October 2011 to September 2012)
- In-depth interviews
 - Key prevention messages for SITV
 - Basis for evaluation
- Cultural Consensus Surveys
 - Find out how much participants agree on key prevention messages

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AN Youth Perspectives

Interviews with 97 youth ages 15-24

- ❑ Travel to 5 communities in southwestern and northern Alaska from August 2012 to May 2013

Key Prevention Messages

- ❑ **Sex and STIs** (e.g.: respect for other teen's decision to delay sexual activity)
- ❑ **Interpersonal violence** (e.g.: stand up and speak up against acts of harassment)
- ❑ **Having trusted adults** (e.g.: it's important to have a trusted adult within the family or community to talk to)
- ❑ **Alcohol abuse** (e.g.: it's ok to say no to drinking and using drugs and still have friends to hang out with)

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SITV Production

- July 2013 to June 2014
- Hired local production company Mirror Studios
- Developed script based on youth interviews
- Advisory committee reviewed script
- Once the advisory committee approved the final script filming began in Anchorage and Kotzebue
- Post-production editing

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