Youth 360 - Seward is a primary prevention program being funded through federal grant monies for the implementation of the Icelandic Prevention Model (IPM). The IPM is a model the county of Iceland began developing in the mid 1990’s when they saw their teen substance use rates reported as the highest in Europe. A wide range of stakeholders collaborated to form a data informed model aimed at reducing teen substance use. The result was incredibly successful. Iceland saw the rate of its 15/16 year old’s reporting being drunk in the last 30 days go from 42 percent in 1995 to 6 percent in 2018, impressively this number has stayed below 10 percent since 2010, the lowest in Europe. Iceland has created an open source model for any other interested appropriate entity to follow, in hopes of helping these groups reduce their rates of youth substance use, and this is what Youth 360 Seward is committed to do for Seward.

The goal of IPM project has been to “mobilize society as a whole in the struggle against drugs, with an emphasis on community engagement and collaboration leading to long-standing and gradual environmental and social change.”

Youth 360 – Seward is committed to providing no or low-cost activities and removing barriers for participation in existing activities. Activities must be high interest, youth driven and promote positive youth to youth, youth to adult and youth to community connections. We also aim to connect parents, guardians, and caregivers in positive ways and increases community understanding of the positive impacts of involvement in youth and adolescents’ lives and the benefits of delaying substance use for as long as possible.

For more information and to stay up to date on Youth 360’s program offerings follow Youth 360 Seward on Facebook and Instagram.