Community of Focus: Parkland

Communities of Focus is Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department’s effort to improve health in areas with some of the poorest health outcomes in the county. Parkland is 1 of 6 Communities of Focus.

Help share Parkland’s story.
You are the experts on your community. What matters to you may make a difference in your community’s health.

First people
Puyallup, Nisqually, Steilacoom, Muckleshoot and Squaxin tribes’ ancestors were the first to live here.

How has the area changed?
The area grew quickly in the 1880s when the railroad and streetcar reached Parkland; in the 1940s during World War II; and in the mid-1970s with the completion of the sanitary sewer system.

Who lives here?
About 34,000 people live in the Parkland zip code 98444. They work in many different jobs. They are younger and more racially diverse than Pierce County. Some are active military. Others are veterans or dependents.

Local leaders
Many are working together to make Parkland a great place. Franklin Pierce Youth First is a coalition of more than 40 organizations, for example. Who do you think we should work with?

Strengths and assets
Parks, grocery stores and markets are important, according to several surveys. What’s important to you?

Health starts where we live, learn, work, play and pray.
• What makes Parkland a good place to live?
• What would make Parkland a better place to live?
Together we can make Parkland the best place to live!

What do the data say?
Heart disease is worse in Parkland than in our county or state.
Poverty, trauma, stress, racism, air pollution, access to food and medical services, physical activity and tobacco use affect heart disease.
Fewer people in Parkland have a high school diploma, college education or jobs, compared to the county. Some people are concerned about affordable housing and neighborhood safety. These concerns affect health.

Learn more at tpchd.org/parkland. Email us at healthequity@tpchd.org.